



"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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PERILOUS TIMES

These are perilous times we are all living!

Men call right, wrong and wrong, right. Darkness is put for light and light for darkness. Sweet is bitter

and bitter is sweet. The evil are called good and the good are called evil. The only sin in America today is intolerance! All other sins are of no consequence.

The most bitter, unhappy, discontented, people in the world are called, "gay"! Those for life are called, "anti-choice". There are no "drunks", just "alcoholics". There are no "whores", only "escorts". There are no "concerned citizens", only "meddling fools". Liberty is not the right to do right, but the right to do wrong.

Bigots are those who hold to America's traditional morals. America's value system is a systematic pollution by foreign culture. Education is knowing what's-not-so. The only "absolutes" folks admit too, are absolutely ludicrous.

Our heroes are sissies, or perverted sex-fiends. Our movies are trash, our singers are screamers, our music is noise, our dances are convulsions, our prophets are cons, our heroines are whores and our educators are fools. Our politicians and judges are the best money can buy! Our leaders are Media-chosen. Our preachers are Biblically illiterate, non-believers. Our traitors are freedom fighters.

We idolize the wicked and mock the righteous!

So what? Well, it can vex your righteous soul if you're a "Lot" living in "Sodom". Seeing all this from day to day is vexing to the soul.

This issue has both some of the tripe the enemies of the Cross have said and some refutation of their agendas.

Let the words of Mordecai to Esther ring in your ears, "How do you know but that you were born to the Kingdom for such a time as this?"

Share your Faith till Jesus Comes!

SOME QUOTES I'VE BEEN READING....



"I'm sure everyone feels sorry for the individual who has fallen by the wayside or who can't keep up in our competitive society, but my own compassion goes beyond that to the millions of unsung men and women who get up every morning, send the kids to school, go to work, try and keep up the payments on their house, pay exorbitant taxes to make possible compassion for the less fortunate, and as a result have to sacrifice many of their own desires and dreams and hopes. Government owes them something better than always finding a new way to make them share the fruit of their toils with others"....

"Speech delivery counts for little on the world stage unless you have convictions and, yes, the vision to see beyond the front row seats. The [opposition party] may remember their lines but how quickly they forget the lessons of the past. I have witnessed five major wars in my lifetime, and I know how swiftly storm clouds can gather on a peaceful horizon. The next time a Saddam Hussein takes over a Kuwait, or North Korea brandishes a nuclear weapon, will we be ready to respond? In the end, it all comes down to leadership. That is what this country is looking for now. It was leadership here at home that gave us strong American influence abroad and the collapse of imperial Communism. Great nations have responsibilities to lead, and we should always be cautious of those who would lower our profile because they might just wind up lowering our flag"....

--Ronald Reagan

"Granny, do all fairy tales begin, "Once Upon a Time?"

"No, darling. There is a whole series of fairy tales that begin with 'If elected, I promise'..."

--Liberty Light

The number of illegals in this country at the hour I checked (these figures change constantly): 21,436,371.

The money illegal Mexicans have wired home to Mexico City since January 2006: \$26,835,719.731 (yes, Virginia, that is *billions*, not *millions*).

The cost to American taxpayers for Social Security services for illegals since 1996: \$397,450,593,215 (yes, *billions*, Virginia...). Did someone complain about the Iraqi war costs?

The number of illegal children in public schools: 3,958,789. The cost of those kids in K-12 since 1996: \$13,960,845,272 (yes, *billions*).

The number of illegals locked up in our jails since 2001: 332,594 and the cost of those incarcerations since 2001: \$13,987,744,595 (yes, *billions*).

We hear a lot about illegals just taking unskilled jobs no one else wants or will take. Here is the number of illegals taking skilled jobs from legal Americans: 9,872,838.

How about it, Virginia, do we have a problem? *You'd better believe it!*

--*The Evangelist*, Robert Sumner

"A liberal is someone who will gladly give the poor everything you own."

--Anonymous

"In the years following World War II, 15% of Americans said drinking was a problem in their family. Between 1947 and 1997, that percentage increased to 30%. On the past decade those who said alcohol was a problem in their family averaged 33%, and in 2007 that figure jumped to 35%."

--*Monday Morning Report* 12-10-07

Are we winning the abortion battle? According to Gallup, there has been a 400,000 drop in American abortions between 1990 and 2005, and the same source says the percentage of Americans who now think abortion is wrong has increased from 45% to 51% from 2001 to 2007. That's a small start!

Eileen Smith, life-long pro-life, but only privately, is now against abortion openly and vehemently. A radical? Maybe! But she is traumatized over the death of a young vibrant, 22-year-old unmarried girl on the operating table in a clean, sanitized health center with a legal physician (licensed since 1974) doing the baby-killing at a Hyannis Clinic in the fancy Cape Cod (MA) area.

Eileen probably has a point: the victim was her daughter, Laura, the fiancée of a soldier serving in Iraq. Eileen lamented, "If my daughter had died in a car accident, it would have been on the news that night.... If she had been Michael Vick's dog, there would be a huge outcry. But because she died of an abortion, her death was swept under the rug"....

--Robert Sumner, Evangelist

"The American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG) wants to punish doctors who refuse to perform abortions or refer those seeking one to a doctor who will."

--*The Evangelist*

"Howard Dean, who is the Democrat National Committee Chairman, nominated Diego Sanchez of Massachusetts to serve on that party's platform committee.



Sanchez "used to be" a woman but had surgery to "become" a man. He will be the first transgendered person to serve on any party's platform committee....

All this talk by the politicians about "change." Make them *define* what they mean. Going from a Republic to a Communist government would be change."

--*The Evangelist*

What is so difficult to see and comprehend is that international socialist greens are pushing global warming as an excuse for stronger government control and ultimately world government.

Check out every left wing, socialist, communist Website and discover (oh-la) that all are preaching the global warming hoax. Go to GOOGLE and type in "Communist Party USA" and read all about how "greedy capitalistic pigs" are responsible for the destruction of the planet.

Incidentally, it wasn't too long ago when we discovered it was the socialists in Eastern Europe who were in fact the true destroyers of the environment. No one mentions this today.

Read Paul Kurtz and the 2000 Humanist Manifesto: "Global warming is probably on the increase, in part as a consequence of atmospheric carbon-dioxide emissions," etc. Note the word 'probably'! Let's look at it again.

--*The Summit Journal*

"Contrary to media hysteria about polar bears facing extinction, polar bear expert Dr. Mitch Taylor notes: 'Of the 13 populations of polar bears in Canada, 11 are stable or increasing in number.' Indeed the current polar-bear population of 20,000 – 25,000 is four to five times the population of 50 years ago."

--*The New American*, March 31, 2008, p.17

"We're in a cooling trend. The sun has gone quiet. Those guys in Canada and Russia are talking about an ice age; they've probably gone over the edge, but they have a point. The sun is in a very quiet phase. A cooling trend is under way.

South America has had the worst winter in 50 years. China has had the worst winter in 50 years. The United States is having a real old-fashioned winter. Alaska just finished one of the worst cold spells in a couple of decades – I didn't see any press on it at all, but it was 40 below for seven days straight in Fairbanks.

Another Alaskan community had 72 below, some of the coldest weather they've ever seen in modern times in Alaska. The Arctic ice cap that we heard all about melting last summer froze up."

--John Coleman, Founder, Weather Channel,
The New American, March 31, 2008, p. 20

"He is beside himself. He is delirious, or deranged. The reason why this report gained any belief was, probably, that our Lord had lived among them as a carpenter; that He was poor, and unknown; and that now, at thirty years of age, He broke off from his companions, abandoned His common employment, spent much time in the deserts, denied Himself the common comforts of life, and set up His claims to be the Messiah, who was expected by all the people to come with great pomp and splendor.

The charge of derangement on account of attention to religion has not been confined to our Saviour. Let a man be made deeply sensible of his sins, and spend much of his time in prayer, and have no relish for the ordinary amusements or business of life; or let a Christian be much impressed with his obligation to devote himself to God, and act as if he believed there was an eternity, and warn his neighbors of their danger; or let a minister show uncommon zeal, and waste his strength in the service of his Master, and the world, is not slow to call it derangement.

And none will be more ready to originate or believe the charge than an ungodly and infidel parent or brother; a self-righteous Pharisee or professor in the church.

At the same time, men may endanger themselves on the bosom of the deep, or in the bowels of the earth, for wealth; or may plunge into the vortex of fashion, and folly, and vice and break in upon hours of repose, and neglect their duties to their family, and demands of business, and in the view of the world it is wisdom, and proof of a sane mind!

Such is the consistency of boasted reason; such is the wisdom and prudence of worldly men!"

--Old Commentary

"New Zealand shows studies that kids who watch television more than a couple of hours (!) a day are more likely to have attention problems than those who do not...."

Centuries ago a Frenchman named Alexis de Tocqueville, wrote of America:

"Thus the Americans do not think that man and woman have either the duty or the right to perform the same offices, but they show an equal regard for both their respective parts; and though their lot is different, they consider both of them as beings of equal value. They do not give to the courage of woman the same form or the same direction as to that of man, but they never doubt her courage; and if they hold that man and his partner ought

not always to exercise their intellect and understanding in the same manner, they at least believe the understanding of the one to be as sound as that of the other, and her intellect to be as clear. Thus, then, while they have allowed the social inferiority of woman to continue, they have done all they could to raise her morally and intellectually to the level of man; and in this respect they appear to me to have excellently understood the true principle of democratic improvement."

In contrast, De Tocqueville wrote of European sentiments:

"There are people in Europe who, confounding together the different characteristics of the sexes, would make man and woman into beings not only equal but alike. They could give to both the same functions, impose on both the same duties, and grant to both the same rights; they would mix them in all things – their occupations, their pleasures, their business. It may readily be conceived that by thus attempting to make one sex equal to the other, both are degraded, and from so preposterous a medley of the works of nature nothing could ever result but weak men and disorderly women.

As for myself, I do not hesitate to avow that, although the women of the United States are confined within the narrow circle of domestic life, and their situation is in some respects one of extreme dependence, I have nowhere seen woman occupying a loftier position; and if I were asked, now that I am drawing to the close of this work, in which I have spoken of so many important things done by the Americans, to what the singular prosperity and growing strength of that people ought mainly to be attributed, I should reply: to the superiority of their women."

--The View of Alexis de Tocqueville

Oh, that it was still true! (George L. Faull)

Here is Lenin's View:

"We must now say proudly and without any exaggeration that part from Soviet Russia, there is not a country in the world where women enjoy full equality and where women are not placed in the humiliating position felt particularly in day-to-day family life. This is one of our first and most important tasks...Housework is the most unproductive, the most barbarous and the most arduous work a woman can do. It is exceptionally petty and does not include anything that would in any way promote the development of the woman.... The building of socialism will begin only when we have achieved the complete equality of woman and when we undertake the new work together with women who have been emancipated from that petty stultifying, unproductive work.... We are setting up model institutions, dining rooms and nurseries that will emancipate women from housework.... These institutions that liberate women from their position as household slaves are springing up where it is in any way possible...Our task is to make politics available to every working woman."

In his 1920 International Working Woman's Day Speech, Lenin emphasized:

"The chief thing is to get women to take part in socially productive labor, to liberate them from 'domestic slavery', to free them from their stupefying [idiotic] and humiliating subjugation to the eternal drudgery of the kitchen and the nursery. This struggle will be a long one, and it demands a radical reconstruction, both of social technique and of morale. But it will end in the complete triumph of Communism."

Here is Lenin's Comrade, Trotsky's view:

"Socialization of family housekeeping and public education of children are unthinkable without a marked improvement in our economics as a whole. We need more social economic forms. Only under such conditions can we free the family from the functions and cares that now oppress and disintegrate it. Washing must be done by a public laundry, catering by a public restaurant, sewing by a public workshop. Children must be educated by good public teachers who have a real vocation for the work. Then the bond between husband and wife would be freed from everything external and accidental, and the one would cease to absorb the life of the other. Genuine equality would at last be established..."

Me thinks that their goals have been accomplished in America....

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Dear Brother Faull,

Isn't it true, if an Evangelist has done his work right, and ordained good elders in the Church that he works himself out of a job, and is no longer

needed? In other words, does a local Church need an Evangelist if you have a qualified Eldership?

Answer:

In years past, I thought that an Evangelist was unneeded in the local Church if a qualified Eldership was functioning correctly. In the past few years, I have come to see how wrong that concept is.

The apostles and prophets were the revealers of God's Truth. The Evangelist and pastor-teachers are the teachers of that body of truth that the apostles and prophets revealed in the Word. **Ephesians 4:11**

In light of **Ephesians 4:12ff**, the Evangelist and Elders have a mutual ministry, namely:

- ↳ Both are teachers of the saints to perfect them to the work of the ministry.
- ↳ Both are to mature the saints to unity.
- ↳ Both are ones who equip the body to edify itself to love.

How can an Evangelist do his share of these things if he is not in the local Church?

We have made a great error in calling the Books of **I and II Timothy and Titus**, "Pastoral Epistles". These men were Evangelists, not Pastors!

Let's see what an Evangelist is told to do in **I Timothy**:

HE IS TO:

Protect the Doctrine of the Church

I Timothy 1:3, "As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,"

Teach Believers How to Pray

I Timothy 2:1-2, "1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

Teach Women How to Dress

I Timothy 2:9-10, “9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.”

Administrate as to Those Who Can Teach

I Timothy 2:11-15, “11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.”

Set Elders and Deacons in Office

I Timothy Chapter 3

Warn of False Teachers and Remind the Brethren of Them

I Timothy 4:1-6, “1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: 5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. 6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.”

Teach How to Treat Old Men, Young Men, Old Women, and Young Women

I Timothy 5:1-2, “1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat *him* as a father; *and* the younger men as brethren; 2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.”

Administrate the Support of the Eligible Widows

I Timothy 5:3-10, “3 Honour widows that are widows indeed. 4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. 5 Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. 6 But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth. 7 And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless. 8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. 9 Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old,

having been the wife of one man, 10 Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.”

Teach About the Young Widows

I Timothy 5:11, “But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry;”

See That Elders are Paid

I Timothy 5:17-18, “17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. 18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer *is* worthy of his reward.”

Receive Accusations Against the Elders and Handle Sinning Elders

I Timothy 5:19-21, “19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses. 20 Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear. 21 I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.”

Ordain Men to the Eldership

I Timothy 5:22, “Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.”

Teach Servants and Masters How to Behave

I Timothy 6:1-2, “1 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and *his* doctrine be not blasphemed. 2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise *them*, because they are brethren; but rather do *them* service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.”

Warn Those Who Want to Be Rich

I Timothy 6:9, “But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.”

Charge Those Who are Rich

I Timothy 6:17, “Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;”

In light of this, several modern misconceptions about Evangelists are here disproven. Learn that:

An Evangelist is Not a Preacher With a Fast Car and Seven Sermons.

An Evangelist is Not Ever Going to Work Himself Out of a Job by Training an Eldership.

There are always new converts he is to equip to the ministry and to help mature to the statue of Christ and help perfect them to be edifiers of each other.

Many Who are Calling Themselves “Pastors” Because They Feed the Flock:

Have failed to realize that this is as much the ministry of an Evangelist as it is the Elders, and they are not doing a “Pastor’s” work when they counsel, teach and administrate (set things in order) and Evangelize the lost.

An Evangelist is Not the “Flunky” of the Elders.

He sets them in office and sees to it that they are paid if they labor in the Word. He is the one who receives accusations against elders, and publicly rebukes those who sin.

An Evangelist Does Some Administration.

He protects against false doctrine, insists that women cannot teach men or have authority over men, sets the Elders and Deacons in the Church, sees that the widows are widows indeed, sees that the Elders are paid, and rebukes leaders who are out of order.

An Evangelist is Not Just a Church Planter.

He may stay for several years, as Timothy did. His work is both within and without the Church. The Elder’s responsibility is with the flock, not the lost.

Those Who Say, “There is No Such Thing as an Evangelist Teaching an Assembly of Christians”, are in Great Error.

It is obvious that he is a teacher of the sound Word and doctrine. He charges, teaches, rebukes, reproveth, exhorts, reminds, commands, and preaches the Word to the Saints, as well as evangelizing the lost.

Alexander Campbell’s Philosophy of the Ministry has Greatly Hurt our Churches.

He hated anything that smelled of “clergy” or a located minister. In my judgement, he ran so far from Rome that he passed by Jerusalem.

God in His Wisdom, left Elders to oversee the flock, and He left Evangelists to be a checkmate and helpmate to the Elders in the local Church. A Church after the New Testament order has an Evangelist, Elders, and Deacons.

The Church’s work, message, and motivation will suffer without a capable Evangelist to set the Church in order.

This is a trust given and should be earnestly kept!



THE HAND OF GOD IN HISTORY

Is God alive? Does He care? Is He even aware of what is going on on this earth? Does He ever interfere?

The providence of God is often seen in Scriptures. The Scriptures bear out the fact that God moves quietly behind the scene, to accomplish His Will and Purpose. It is not by accident Joseph saw that though his brothers had meant to do him evil, God had meant it for their good, to save the family alive. **Genesis 50:20**

Mordecai, overhearing the plot to kill the king, so that he would be elevated in the king’s eyes, was not a coincident. **Esther 2:22** Nehemiah’s being a cupbearer before a mighty monarch, who would grant the Jews the right to return to Jerusalem, was the hand of God in history. **Nehemiah 2** Mordecai saw that Esther was born to the kingdom for such a time as she lived. **Esther 4:14** Daniel recognized that it was God who removed kings and set them up. **Daniel 2:21**

Job recognized that God is a manipulator of kings, judges, and princes on the earth. **Job 12:12-23** David said, “For promotion cometh neither from the east or from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: He putteth down one, and setteth up another.” **Psalms 75:6-7**

Jeremiah was told to tell mankind that God made the earth and gave power to whom He pleased, just as He had to Nebuchadnezzar. **Jeremiah 27:5-6** Nebuchadnezzar found out, after eating grass as an ox for seven years, that “the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomever He will.” **Daniel 4:17; 5:21**

But do we recognize the extent in which God intervenes in the events of history? In this article, I would like to just briefly show you the wisdom of God in preparing for the evangelization of the world in the first century. Here are a few things that I have observed, that God has done to prepare the way for the evangelization of the whole world:

FIRST - Alexander the Great had successfully mingled western and eastern civilizations by his conquering of the whole known world. (Incidentally, the missionary journeys of Paul are strikingly close to Alexander’s route of conquest.)

SECOND - The Greek language gradually prevailed over the world, and men of all nations developed a great interest in the literature of the other nations. This universal language made communication much easier for Christians to share their faith in later years, when they were forced to flee from Saul of Tarsus.

THIRD - Palestine became a communication center from Syria, Egypt, Asia, and Africa. She became the middle of their routes. The history of Israel became widely known throughout the world by this means.

FOURTH - The Old Testament was translated into Greek because of the order of Ptolemy Philadelphus and deposited in the library of Alexandria. This Septuagint translation became popular throughout the whole world. This caused all nations to know of a Promised Messiah. He became the desire of the nations. The wise men knew of His Star, and Herod's magicians knew where the Messiah was expected to be born.

FIFTH - There was a great dispersion of Jews around the world. This called attention to monotheism, and the expectation of a coming Messiah. Over 100,000 Jews were transferred at one time throughout the world.

SIXTH - The Jewish synagogues were established as teaching points around the world. In fact, there were 460 just in Jerusalem. Over 150 remains are said to have been found in other places. These assemblies taught the Law of Moses daily. Visiting Jews were asked to address the members. These became preaching points all over the known world for men such as Paul and Barnabas. This was usually the first place they went to preach in each city to which they came.

SEVENTH - The Jews themselves, in the dispersion had begun to proselyte the Greeks. They won many from polytheism. As a result, their proselytes were set up for conversion to Christianity, when the message came to them. They often accepted the Gospel before the Jews did. This fact played a large part in the growth of early Christianity among the Gentiles who had been proselyted to Judaism.

EIGHTH - Polytheism was falling into disfavor among the Greeks. Plato, the Cynics, the Stoics, and the Epicureans were looking twice at their own beliefs. Athens even had a statue to the unknown god (Theos), while they worshipped the gods (daimon or demons), whom they thought were the spirits of dead men. Paul was able to declare that they were too religious, and told them of the one true God.

NINTH - When Rome took over the world, there was a One-World Government. Freedom to travel abroad was enhanced. Toleration of different religions was not only the norm, but enforced. This allowed Christianity to flourish in a few years. The Jews were the Christians' first foe, not the Gentiles. Only when Judaism forced its hand did the Romans' cowardly politicians begin to persecute the Church. It was strictly the politician pressure exercised by the Jews that caused Rome to turn its arm against Christianity. When Christianity was first started, there was a great freedom of evangelism around the Roman world.

TENTH - A system of roads unparalleled to that time had been devised; this made travel easier. The



world, being a One-World Government, allowed shipping

lines to be freely used by Roman citizens, such as Paul. Roman citizens also had rights that others did not have. Paul, as a Roman citizen, was used of God to propagate the Gospel message around the world. I am confident that his ability to appeal to Caesar, because of his citizenship, no doubt helped him more times than are recorded in Scriptures. Other converts of Roman citizenship would likewise benefit from this arrangement.

ELEVENTH - The gift of tongues, given to many of the Gospel in the first century, as the Word of the Lord went out of Jerusalem.

TWELFTH - The persecution of the Church, rather than being a hindrance, dispersed believers around the world with the Good News of Salvation. The Church was no longer a Jewish sect. The Samaritans believed and **obeyed (Acts 8)**. Jewish proselytes were converted (**Acts 8**). The God-fearing Gentiles, such as Cornelius, began to be harvested (**Acts 10**). The barbarians, who never knew the Word of God, were baptized (**Acts 16**). The disciples of John, who had been dispersed, were located and taught about John's King (**Acts 19**).

THIRTEENTH - The miracles that were done by the apostles and those upon whom they had bestowed the gifts, caused both Jews and Greeks, as well as barbarians, to draw nigh to listen. These miracles established the authority of the apostles and their message, and then served as credentials until God's Word was established!

Once the Word was completed and the miracles ceased, the authority lay in what the apostles had written. Just as the 400 silent years of revelation from Malachi to Christ sent the Jews to the Scriptures, so the Church in the absence of the apostles was sent out the Word for authority. They, therefore, preached the Written Word, and the faith grew wherever it was preached. When Rome took away the Word, there was apostasy. The Reformation and Restoration again gave out the Word, and the Church grew and prospered once more. Here also, God's providence was at work.

One can clearly see from these thirteen advantages that God had been moving to cause the world to receive the Gospel. When one adds to these thoughts the fact that the Jews had been prepared as a people to expect the Messiah, and to present the doctrine of monotheism to the world, we are made aware of the wisdom of God. Revelation had ceased since Malachi. This sent the Jews to the Scriptures with more diligence. Their subjection to Rome intensified their desire for the Redeemer "like unto Moses:" to come. They no doubt became familiar with the Scriptural prophecies and those passages that spoke of Him were especially dear to their hearts. When John the Immerser came, saying, "The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand" their hearts must have throbbed with emotion and anticipation. Unfortunately, the Jews expected an earthly king to put down their Roman enemies. They rejected the King. Nevertheless, He whose Kingdom was not of this world, was believed on by

3,000 souls on Pentecost. Soon 5,000 more were added. Later, a great company of the priests believed! When persecution finally came, they fled and preached the Word everywhere. Finally, the apostle to the Gentiles, Saul of Tarsus, was converted. It was about this time that they were called Christians and they began to use the universal language of Greek as they fled from country to country. They traveled those well-paved roads and took advantage of the One-World Government God had permitted. They sailed on those open ships. They used the Septuagint version of the Old Testament, which God led Ptolemy to desire. They began to preach unto men "Jesus". They arrived in town and went directly to the Jewish synagogues to declare that Jesus was indeed "the Christ." The dissatisfied idolaters listened and turned to the Living God. In one generation we are told that the truth of the Gospel had gone into all the world (**Colossians 1:6**). Paul could tell the Colossians that "every creature under Heaven had heard the Gospel" (**Colossians 1:23**).

Justin Martyr, one of the early apologists of Christianity, was able to say: *"There exists not a single race of men, barbarians, Greeks, or by whatever name they may be called, warlike, or Nomadic, whether they live in tents or wander in wagons, among whom prayers and thanksgiving are not offered in the Name of Jesus, the Crucified, to the Father and Creator of all things."*

Tertullian said to a Roman Emperor: *"We Christians are but of yesterday, and we have filled your cities, your islands, your fortresses, your marketplaces, the very camp, palace, senate, forum, and left you nothing but the temples of your gods....If we were to make a general secession, and betake ourselves to some remote corner of the world, you would be horror struck at the solitude."*

Yes, God's providence had directed a great onslaught against the kingdom of Satan. The early Church moved victoriously. They didn't pray for deliverance from persecution, they prayed for boldness to witness. God answered that prayer. Is there a lesson in this for us? There surely is! We need not worry about the events of today, nor of tomorrow. God is alive and well. He will move in His own time as He sees fit. Humanism, Communism, Catholicism, Cultism, and Spiritualism will not triumph over the Church. **Nothing shall prevail against the Church!** God is working! God may be preparing the circumstances for a great ingathering of souls. The blood of the martyrs is said to be the seed of the Church. Persecution will only ignite the fires of devotion. Remember that men can do nothing permanent against the Truth, for the God Omnipotent reigneth. He holds the future. His providence may not be seen as yet, but someday we will see its fruits. Herein is the encouragement for us:

"He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."

--Revelation 13:10

FOUND IN AN ELDERLY WOMAN'S BIBLE



A paper fell out of the elderly ladies Bible; here is what it said:

FALSE TEACHING – AVOID

1. Try them or test them – **I John 4:1**
2. Receive them not – **II John 10:11**
3. Mark them – **Romans 16:17**
4. Avoid them – **Romans 16:17**
5. Rebuke them – **Titus 1:13**
6. Have no fellowship with them – **Ephesians 5:11**
7. Withdraw yourself from them – **II Thess. 3:6**
8. Be ye separate – **II Corinthians 6:17**
9. Preach no other Gospel – **Galatians 1:6-9**
10. Let such who do be accursed – **Galatians 1:6-9**

Oh, that some Christian leaders realized these are commands to Christians as well as, "Judge not that ye be not judged."



A Testimony from One of Summit's Graduates, Mike Pemberton

"I do want to take this time to thank Brother George Faull, President of Summit Theological Seminary, for his teaching ministry. It is the notebooks and class tapes of the courses at this Seminary that is the means of training Brother Eric Mbingo and all the other preachers that Brother Eric is teaching and training. When I am away from Brother Eric and the churches there, the teaching continues every day through the audiocassettes and notebooks from Summit Theological Seminary. So through the good use of good Bible teaching, the Gospel ministry work is able to continue year-round in my absence. Brother Eric is taught daily through these tapes and notes, and he is using them to train many other preachers. When I am there with them, I will be able to answer any questions and strengthen, encourage, and work with them advancing the Lord's work by God's grace."

It was reported by Brother Pemberton that since Brother Eric's conversion 5 years ago, over 1,500 have been baptized into Christ and 20 churches have been planted. What a blessing to see the fruit of those sharing the Gospel News to those in other nations.

REPENT AND BE BAPTISTS: ~ A PARODY ~

(Parody: a humorous or satirical imitation of a serious piece of literature or writing)

The following Scriptures are for Progressive Church of Christ and Christian Church change agents who want to be more Evangelically oriented!

These Scripture labels are available to be cut out and placed in your Bible **OVER** the Scriptures referred to.

By Doing This, You Will No Longer Suffer the Complaints Such as These:

- ↪ "You think you are the only ones going to Heaven!"
- ↪ "The idea of the Restoration plea of speaking as the oracles of God and calling things by Bible names and other such pleas, are divisive!"
- ↪ "Your people are hung up on Baptism!"
- ↪ "Your ideas of the "One Church" is arrogant and belittling to other sincere people!"

Here is your chance to show that you are Loving, Open-minded, and Have Tolerance!

Rest assured that most of the Bible Colleges and Universities of the brotherhood approve these new translations and are turning out many students who hold to these new translations in their heart.

YOU CAN EXPECT:

More invitations to speak at conventions, rallies and camps if you offer these invitations to those you hope to win!

THESE NEW NON-SECTARIAN SCRIPTURES WILL:

Make your church grow and broaden your opportunities to preach on majors instead of minors.

We've "watered down" baptism (pardon the pun) so we can reach more people with the Good News of the Gospel.

Jesus wants men to confess they are sinners and he wants to come into people's hearts.

What better way can we get men and women, boys and girls, than to tell them this and then we can BAPTIZE them AFTER we get them SAVED.

Following are some Scripture Labels you may use:

"19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, *having them say the Sinner's prayer and asking Jesus into their heart* in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and, lo, I am with you always, even until the end of the world."

--Matthew 28:19-20

"*He that says the Sinner's Prayer and asks Jesus into his heart shall be saved, and he that asketh not shall be damned.*"

--Mark 16:16

"37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, *Say the Sinner's Prayer every one of you and ask Jesus into your hearts* for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

--Acts 2:37-38

"Then they that gladly received his word *said the Sinner's Prayer and asked Jesus into their hearts*: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls."

--Acts 2:41

"And now why tarriest thou? arise, *and say the Sinner's Prayer asking Jesus into your heart*, calling on the name of the Lord."

--Acts 22:16

"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, *Except a man say the Sinner's Prayer and asks Jesus into his heart* he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

--John 3:5

"The like figure whereunto *even the Sinner's Prayer* doth also now save us (*and by asking Him into ones heart* one receives a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:"

--I Peter 3:21

"47 Can any man forbid these *to say the Sinner's Prayer and ask Jesus into his heart*, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? 48 And he commanded them *to say the Sinner's Prayer and ask Jesus into their hearts*. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."

--Acts 10:47-48

"But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, *they said the Sinner's Prayer and asked Jesus into their hearts*, both men and women."

--Acts 8:12

"Then Simon himself also *said the Sinner's Prayer and when he asked Jesus into his heart*, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done."

--Acts 8:13

"3 Know ye not, that so many of us *that said the Sinner's Prayer and asked Jesus into our hearts* entered into his death? 4 Therefore we entered into His death with *him by the Sinner's Prayer*: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

--Romans 6:3-4

"17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, *but ye have said the Sinner's Prayer and asked Jesus into your hearts* as was delivered unto you. 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

--Romans 6:17-18

"12 *Having said the Sinner's Prayer*, ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses *when you asked Jesus into your heart*;"

--Colossians 2:12-13

"One Lord, one faith, one *Sinner's Prayer*,

--Ephesians 4:5

"And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing *said the Sinner's Prayer and asked Jesus into their hearts*."

--Acts 18:8

Before you use the above labels to replace the original Scriptures, note the following quotes from the "Pagan Christianity" ...

"In our day, the "sinner's prayer" has replaced the role of water baptism as the initial confession of faith. Unbelievers are told, 'Say this prayer after me, accept Jesus as your personal Savior, and you will be saved.' But nowhere in all the New Testament do we find any person being led to the Lord by a sinner's prayer. And there is not the faintest whisper in the Bible about a 'personal' Savior.

Instead, unbelievers in the first century were led to Jesus Christ by being taken to the waters of baptism.

Put another way, water baptism was the sinner's prayer in century one! Baptism accompanied the acceptance of the Gospel.

For example, when Lydia heard Paul preach the Gospel, she believed and was immediately baptized with her household (**Acts 16:14-15**).

In the same way, when Paul led the Philippian Jailer and his household to the Lord, they were immediately baptized (**Acts 16:30-33**). This was the New Testament pattern (see also **Acts 2:41; 8:12, 35-37**).

Baptism marked a complete break with the past and a full entrance into Christ and His Church, Baptism was simultaneously an act of faith as well as an expression of faith."

"As stated earlier, the sinner's prayer eventually replaced the biblical role of water baptism. Though it is touted as gospel today, this prayer developed only recently. D. L. Moody was the first to employ it.

Moody used this 'model' for prayer when training his evangelistic coworkers. But it did not reach popular usage until the 1950's with Billy Graham's 'Peace with God' tract and later with Campus Crusade for Christ's 'Four Spiritual Laws'."

(Note these last quotes are from "Pagan Christianity" by Frank Viola and George Barna [Tyndale House] pages 189-190.)