



Christian Identity Ministries

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"Blessed be the LORD God of *Israel*; For He hath visited and redeemed *His* people, And hath raised up an horn of salvation for *us* in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began; That *we* should be saved from *our* enemies and from the hand of all that hate *us*; to perform the mercy promised to *our* fathers and to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he sware to *our* father Abraham, That he would grant unto *us*, that *we* being delivered out of the hand of *our* enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of *our* lives." Luke 1:68-75; the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic-Germanic-Scandinavian people are *ISRAEL!*

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THE BIBLE AND SELF-DEFENSE

by Rev. Brian Abshire

The increasing paganization of America has led to an epidemic of violence as rebellious men act consistently with their godless natures. Our legal system, once based on Biblical principles has now become thoroughly humanist and no longer acts as a deterrent against crime. Americans are rightly fearful of becoming the victim of assault, robbery, rape, and murder as the media constantly informs us of some latest horrendous tragedy befalling some poor unfortunate individual. Statistics show that the more one watches television, the more one fears being the victim of a violent crime and thus our PERCEPTION of the danger can be actually quite different from the reality of the danger. Never-the-less, the fear is real, the crimes are real and that fear influences every aspect of our lives.

In a large church in Los Angeles where I served as an intern for a year, an elder mentioned at a home study group meeting that one out of every ten women was raped in our community every year (and this was a "nice" suburb). I questioned that statistic until two of the twenty women present admitted that they had been the victims of violent sexual assault in the parking lot of a nearby mall; the same mall my wife and I went to every Saturday.

The danger is there, but the proper Christian response is sometimes more difficult to discern. Should we just trust God and go about our lives as some suggest? Should we buy a gun? But if we do, are we not putting our children in danger? What about all those studies that show that having a gun in the house is MORE likely to lead to someone be murdered in that home? Can Christians lawfully resist evil with violence, even taking another person's life if necessary to protect their own, or their families? Or should we just submit to being raped, beaten or murdered? After all, Jesus did not resist when He was unlawfully executed. The Apostles were nearly all martyred for their faith. Thousands of Christians went to horrible deaths in the Arenas of the Roman Empire and never lifted a finger in self-defense. Should we not do like-wise? Do we really want to become a bunch of gun-toting, survivalist types wearing camouflage fatigues like the media portrays some "Christians" as? What's a Christian to do?

THE BIBLE AND VIOLENCE

First, it is important to go back to the Scriptures and develop our theology from God's own Word. Death, violent death, is part and parcel of this world because of God's curse on Adam's sin. God warned Adam that on the day he rebelled against God, death would enter the world. And

therefore, violence in and of itself is not inherently evil, because God Himself as the sovereign King of Creation brings violent sanctions against wickedness. Lawful violence, is a judgment by God and one He uses consistently in Scripture to destroy the wicked. God destroyed the wicked world in the time of Noah by a flood. He commanded the Israelites to bring His death sentence against the Canaanites because of their wickedness. He sent the Philistines, the Egyptians, the Assyrians, the Babylonians and the Persians and others to judge and punish Israel. God Himself will kill the soul by damning unrepentant sinners.

Now some may argue that what is lawful for God to do is not necessarily lawful for man to do, and this position has a point. Life must be lived on God's terms. God creates life and He alone determines the basis on which it can be taken. But the question is, does God ever delegate this right to take life to anyone or anything else in creation or does He reserve that right purely to Himself?

The answer of course is that God DOES command one institution, the State to act as His minister of vengeance (Romans 13:1ff). God delegates the power of the sword to the civil magistrate to execute certain kinds of wicked men for their crimes. Notice this please, not all sins are considered by God to be civil crimes. There are SOME sins that He reserves the right to punish Himself. Unbelief is one of them. He does not give the State the right to execute some-

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one for not believing in Him. But He does give the State the right to execute certain categories of criminals.

This is an important point. God delegates VENGEANCE to the State. The individual cannot and must not take vengeance into his own hands, but the State can and MUST do so as a minister of God. Life belongs to God and He requires the civil magistrate to take certain lives, under certain conditions when certain men commit certain crimes. For the State to fail in this duty is to fail the God who gave their authority in the first place. God does not give this authority to the family, and neither gives it to the church. The civil magistrate that does NOT execute certain criminals will bring God's judgment on themselves and their citizens!

Think for a moment. The vast majority of violent crimes in America are committed by what are called "recidivists" or "career" criminals. These are wicked men who from a young age commit violent crime after violent crime, with "rap" sheets going back for decades. The police arrest a certain number of these criminals (State attorneys usually plea-bargaining their crimes down so as to ensure a conviction) and the courts then put them in prison for a number of years. Then, they are released, where they again rape, murder, burgle, etc., until a certain number are caught by the police and the whole merry-go-round starts all over again.

If just these recidivists were eliminated as a class, then violent crime in America would almost disappear. But modern men do not want to obey God's Law. Man's law seems much nicer, so much more gracious and forgiving than that harsh Old Testament Law of God. The poor criminal had poor potty training or a terrible life as a child and there are all sorts of reasons why he does all these bad things to so many people (and then even goes on to breed more of the same). Surely we ought to be more understanding! And so we let them commit crime after crime, never really caring for the victims and their families.

But if the State refuses to do its duty to execute violent criminals, does that mean the individual can? Are we calling for a group of vigilantes out for "street" justice and so take the law into our own hands? as some Afro-Americans are doing? Of course not. The power of the sword belongs to the State, not the individual. And therefore, no matter how severe the provocation, **we cannot win by also sinning against God Law.** The civil magistrate's abdication of his God-ordained role is NOT justification for us usurping that role.

Does that mean that we are helpless? Not at all. It just means that the average citizen is in even more danger than he would be under a just civil magistrate. And therefore, he had better be prepared for when wicked men come calling at his door. Remember this, any reasonable police officer will tell you that he CANNOT protect you from violence, only investigate and hopefully arrest the perpetrator. Maybe, his ability at finding criminals and the judicial system's process of trying criminals will act as a deterrent to other criminals (probably not as long as they are not enforcing God's penalties). But we already covered that problem didn't we, which brings us back to the issue of:

SELF DEFENSE

The same Law of God that authorizes the civil magistrate to bear the sword against unlawful violence also gives the individual the right of self-protection. Please though, notice the difference between self-defense and vengeance. Self-defense protects one BEFORE a crime is committed

while vengeance is the response AFTER a crime has been committed.

Self-defense is the lawful use of force (i.e. violence) against an attacker. The case law is found in Exodus 22:2-3 wherein the situation is given of a robber entering a home at night and the homeowner struggles and kills the person. In that case, the homeowner is NOT held liable for the person's death (i.e. there is no "blood-guiltiness"). Now as in all of Old Testament case laws, this is a judicial decision handed down by God to demonstrate a universal moral principle. As we meditate on this specific situation, we are to gain wisdom to know how to apply the same principle in other, related situations not specifically covered (Josh. 1:8).

Clearly, this case law gives the homeowner the right to defend his own life and property. The man is at home, minding his own business, probably asleep, when he awakens to find an intruder trying to get into his house. He is authorized to STRIKE the man who is illegally entering his home. The blow kills the intruder but the homeowner is considered innocent of any wrongdoing. Part of this no doubt is due to the fact that at night, in the dark, things are confused. The homeowner may be shrugging off the effects of sleep. He may not have INTENDED to kill the intruder, but that was the result. However he is NOT guilty of murder for the bad guy was in a place he was not supposed to be, at a time when he had no justifiable reason for being there and with apparently evil motives (he is called a "thief").

Furthermore, this case law illustrates that the homeowner cannot escape from the situation. He is home, probably in bed, and who knows what the bad guy is going to do. The man cannot just run away and leave his wife and children at the intruder's mercy. This is not like running into a group of young punks on a street corner hurling insults at you. In that situation you can just walk away. But you are at home, and there is no place to go. Therefore, you are authorized by God to resist evil.

But also notice this: implicit in this case law is what the modern courts call "reasonable force." The man is held innocent if the situation is at night, where he is at a disadvantage. But what happens if the situation happened during the day? Presumably, the man would have more control, and therefore would be less likely to ACCIDENTALLY kill the intruder. Hence, the homeowner is authorized by God to use force, but only the amount of force necessary to subdue the intruder. If the intruder is simply trespassing in places where he has no business being, simply shouting at him, may make him go away. If the intruder is trying to steal from the homeowner, then he can be chased, caught, wrestled to the ground etc. If the intruder threatens the homeowner or his family with a club, knife, sword, handgun, whatever, HE has escalated the situation and therefore the homeowner is authorized by God to resist, even to the point of the bad guy's death. However, you cannot kill a man simply because he crosses your front yard, or even because he broke into your house. You especially cannot kill him when he is running away.

Some will argue that this is Old Testament and irrelevant for modern Christians. Time and space are too short to demonstrate just how foolish this hermeneutic is (God says "ALL Scripture is given by inspiration of God and profitable.... and that was written about the OLD TESTAMENT). However, just note this one fact. When Jesus was preparing His disciples to continue the ministry after His death, he told them to take along a sword (Luke 22:36).

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Furthermore, Jesus thought having a sword was SO important, that if a man didn't have one, he should even sell his clothing to obtain one.

Now swords are mighty useless pieces of steel for most purposes. You can't use them for camp knives (too long). They are totally inadequate for hunting (too short). Swords are good for one thing only, to kill people. And Jesus told His missionaries who were entrusted with evangelizing the ancient (dispersed Israel) world that they were necessary parts of their ministerial equipment. Can you imagine any modern missionary board REQUIRING their new missionaries to obtain a firearm before going overseas? But that is what Jesus commanded.

Now Jesus was NOT sending the disciples out as mercenary soldiers. Their main task was to preach the Word, not become avengers of evil. The swords were for self defense. Simply having one would be enough to make robbers think twice about attacking a lonely missionary on an isolated stretch of Roman road. Interesting that firearms are used literally MILLIONS of times a year to prevent violent crime WITHOUT A SHOT BEING FIRED! Research is now appearing to justify concealed carry permits. When states allow their citizens to carry arms, they find that the crime rate goes way down. Criminals may be wicked, but they are not fools. Why should they risk their lives attacking a person who may be armed? The cost of crime just went WAY up. Better to move to another state where private carry of firearms is feared and so the sheep are much easier to fleece.

However, convincing the politicians of this fact is difficult. They fear armed citizens because it threatens their power over our lives. So what if citizens die daily from violent crime! To admit that they cannot protect you is to implicitly give up their right to CONTROL you. And controlling the people is the politicians first and most important goal.

Some will also argue that Jesus said "resist not evil" and that all a Christian can do is submit to a vicious criminal. But please examine the context here again in Matthew 5:38ff. First, Jesus NEVER taught against the law (cf. Matt 5:19ff) and therefore we cannot think that He is contradicting Himself just a few verses after saying that heaven and earth will pass away before the Law will. Instead we ought to understand that whenever Jesus appeared to be overturning the Old Testament Law, He was in reality overturning Pharisaical interpretations of it. A whole body of literature had grown up around the Law that often negated what God Himself had required (now known as the Talmud). It was these fallacious interpretations, replacing God's inspired Law.

Secondly, the context here is NOT about things that endanger one's life, but rather one's dignity. The Pharisees had taken a basic principle of jurisprudence (an "eye for an eye") and used it as the basis for personal ethic. They therefore confused the role of the State and the individual. The specific "evils" Jesus spoke about here are indignities, not dangers. A slap, a lawsuit, being forced to carry a Roman soldier's baggage an extra mile, etc., are all wrong, sinful and painful emotionally to endure. But they do not put you or your family in real physical danger. Hence He was not contradicting the Old Testament principle of self-defense, because He was NOT giving a new law, simply returning the old Law back to its original meaning. The State STILL has the power of the sword (Rms f13:1ff) and the individ-

ual STILL has the authority to protect himself and his family.

Conclusion: Some General Rules of Self-defense.

Violence is NEVER desirable, just sometimes unavoidable. The godly man seeks, in so far as it depends on him, to live at peace with all men (Rms 12:18) We do not go looking for trouble, and in so far as we can, we walk away from it whenever possible. But God does give men the right to defend themselves against aggressors. However, defense is the operative word here. As individuals, we are not empowered by God to execute criminals just because they are criminals. To take the Law into our own hands is to bring God's judgement down on our own heads.

And even if our present Judicial system does NOT do such a great job as God's minister of vengeance against criminals, it WILL prosecute YOU if you unlawfully take someone's life. The bad guys know how to work the system and besides, have nothing to lose anyway. YOU on the other hand, can lose your job, your family, your wealth, your reputation, etc. Even if you ARE eventually cleared of wrongful death and fully justified by the courts for your actions, you will likely still pay an enormous price both emotionally and financially to prove you were right.

Therefore before using lethal force against anyone, you must be prepared to prove in a court of law that you were in imminent and otherwise unavoidable danger of death or grievous bodily harm. You must be able to demonstrate that the force you used was justified by the situation and that you had no other choice but to do as you did.

Thus it is wise to take several precautions. First, secure your home! Put good dead bolts on all entrances and consider buying security screens for doors and windows. Make your home too difficult for the bad guys to want to mess with. Criminals are lazy and though NO house is absolutely burglar proof, you can make it

so uninviting that the bad guys consider invading your home too much like work.

Secondly, use good sense when outside your home. Walk as wise men, not fools. Stay away from unlit areas. Never let your wife or daughters go out at night alone. Don't take "short-cuts" through bad neighbourhoods. When outside your home, be aware of your surroundings, pay attention to people just idling in parking lots, and importantly, stay alert. Maintain eye contact with suspicious people.

Thirdly, take Jesus more seriously. The firearm is the modern equivalent of the sword. Firearms are our right and heritage as a free people. If you do not have one, GET one! But also, take the time to become proficient with it and learn how to handle it safely. Practice with it regularly so that in a crisis situation you know what to do and how to do it. Store it securely and gun proof your children (see my essay on this).

What about all those statistics showing that even having a firearm in the house increases your chance of being a victim of violence? Simply speaking when is the last time your wife chased you around with a baseball bat trying to scramble your brain? Never happened? Why? Because you are Christians, and Christians do not act this way. Guns are not mysterious objects from Hell. No gun ever levitated itself off a nightstand and shot someone all by itself. Wicked men use guns for wicked ends. But wicked men also use knives, clubs, lamp-stands, frying pans and any-

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thing else they can get their hands on for their wicked ends. Guns do not cause violence, people cause violence and use guns in carrying out their violent intents (however if you have been chased by your wife swinging a baseball bat, fear of violence from outside the home is NOT your problem anyway

Fourthly, if you carry a weapon outside your home, make every effort to obtain a concealed carry permit and comply with all regulations relating to it. But just because you are armed, does not mean that you are a cartoon superhero. Be as "wise as a serpent yet gentle as a dove." If a problem arises, make the firearm your LAST resort rather than your first. Make EVERY attempt to defuse the situation. Try to walk away if at all possible. Don't get into arguments or fights with people (Christians are forbidden from that ANYWAY) and certainly do not allow your pride to get you into a brawl (that's where the "turn the other cheek" principle comes into play) Only pull your weapon IF you are in IMMINENT danger of grievous bodily harm or death. Remember, even if the courts do let you off (questionable, but all human justice is imperfect) you are still accountable before God and you will stand before Him one day.

Finally, remember whom you serve. You live for God's glory not your own. Defending yourself and your family is your duty, but don't go looking for trouble. Instead, try to be at peace with all men, be humble and seek what is best for others, even if it means some cost to your personal dignity. But if the chips are down, and the bad guy wants to hurt you or family, if you've done everything to walk away, but the bad guy insists on his wickedness, then you may lawfully resist. Do so. Do it quickly and effectively. Aim for center mass, focus on the front sight and keep firing until he is down and stays down. If he dies, then his blood is on his own hands. And though you won't get it, you deserve to be commended for an act of public service by helping clean the gene pool.

Courtesy Institute for Christian Culture,

CONTEMPORARY SALVATION

by Ed Sommerville

Having been raised in the Baptist church I am well aware of the fact that most of them are centered around the gospel of salvation. For many it's the driving force that motivates them to save as many souls as possible. Their most popular phrase today is, 'accept Christ as your personal saviour.'

Many however accept Him with conditions, as they will **not accept** His Law because they have taken a few verses in Galatians, out of the context of the entire Bible to "prove" that the law was put away and nailed to the cross, and reject the scores and scores of verses from both the OT and the NT of His perfect Law of liberty and His love for it, and His gift to us. And they do **not accept** His Kingdom as they do not feel that the earth is good enough for them, because they have been told that this world is not their home, they're just a-passin' through; even when the Bible says the kingdom is the world and it shall stand forever, as

the earth abideth forever. These are very plain and simple verses to understand. It takes a real "theologian" to confuse the itching ears.

When one puts conditions on their accepting Christ, I think they should seriously ask themselves if Christ accepts them. We are to be His disciples A disciple is: a FOLLOWER, and an adherent to the doctrines of another. Hence the constant attendants of Christ were called His disciples and hence all Christians are called His disciples as they profess to learn and receive His doctrines and precepts. (*Webster's Dictionary*, 1828 edition)

Unfortunately many of the things taught today are contrary to the teachings of Christ. One of the things promoted by the pastor is the rapture theory, and they teach it as fact.

A fact that is not mentioned by Jesus or the prophets and it runs contrary to His end time teachings. Jesus never mentioned anyone going to heaven or anyone being in heaven. In fact Peter taught the opposite at Pentecost how David is both dead and buried and his tomb was with them.

Regarding the Thief on the Cross, I think this verse has been intentionally skewed to deceive us. For one thing Christ did not go to heaven that very day, as he went to the grave/hell. It was not till weeks later that he ascended into heaven. The word heaven is not even mentioned in this verse. Paradise could very well be referring to His Kingdom. There is no description given in the Bible about this allusive heaven, or where it is. If you ever had a chance to go to the Old New England cemeteries you would find thousands of tombstones with the letters RIP, 'rest in peace', they give mute evidence to the fact that they were both dead and buried awaiting the resurrection. You do not see

these three letters on the tombstones of today's departed Christians.

Christ never taught the doctrine of the burning hell which is promoted in many churches and especially in the Catholic church. They use the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, found in the 16th chapter of Luke to support their doctrine. This is an allegory about Lazarus and a rich man, not just a rich man but a *certain* rich man. The two men represented two distinct men as well as two different peoples. The rich man is described in detail as to who he represents. As well as the people he represents. It should be easy to understand who Lazarus represents. (see the catalog for booklets by Sheldon Emry and Pete Peters dealing with this).

If this passage is to be taken literally, as some claim it is, then their heaven would be close enough to their hell that they could see each other. There is much more that could be added here, but I won't go into it as it would take up too much space. The word hell is translated many times from the word Gehenna, which can be located here on earth within a few miles. It was a refuse dump just outside old Jerusalem. Criminals at that time were not given proper burial, instead they were taken to the refuse dump and burned along with the garbage. To make the fires hotter to consume the refuse along with dead bodies, brimstone was added. It was the ultimate humiliation to be burned up with

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the garbage. That was what Christ was referring to in Mark 9 when he said, the fire is not quenched, as they burned night and day, and the worm dieth not. Of course the worms never died as they went underground (maggots disappear when the refuse is consumed). The hell of the churches is not up in the sky, nor is it on or inside the earth.

John 3:16 says in part, *shall not Perish*. Many of our people do not realize what the world perish means. When you hear that five souls perished in a fire, that means they died and did not just keep burning. The apostle Paul said, the wages of sin is death, (period) but the gift of God is eternal life. We have a choice between life or death. Do they believe that? No, we are told that the penalty of our sins is burning in hell for eternity. Common sense should tell us that the penalty can not be greater than the price paid for it. Some of our pastors like to come up with rhetoric that makes no sense, to justify their flawed theology. This is not just a little error on their part but blasphemy, as one of its definitions is, attributing to God, something that is not in his nature, as He said *"the thought never entered my mind"*. Burning someone alive only takes a few minutes, but we have been told that He will burn them for eternity. His mercy endureth forever. I feel that God does not think too highly of those who blaspheme Him in the name of Christ.

There are so many verses in the OT and the NT that are ignored or just passed off as rhetoric or not important. Just to name a few, it would include some of the covenants and promises to Abraham and some of the statements and promises made by Christ. Since we are now living in the end of this age, time is not in their favour for these vast numbers to appear later.

In Gen. 14:16, Abraham was told that God would make his seed as the dust of the earth; so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. That is impossible to number. Where are they today? In chapter 17, he was told that he would be the father of MANY nations. Where are they today? In chapter 25, Rebekah was told that she would be the mother of thousands of millions. Where are even the hundreds of millions of them today? It is necessary that these verses have to be ignored as they cannot be fulfilled in the people called Jews today as they number less than 15 million. These prophecies have to be fulfilled by now or their theology is in gross error.

In Mat. 15:24 Jesus said, ***"I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*** He told His apostles to go there also. By the time of Jesus there were well over 100 million Israelites in Europe. Some of our confused shepherds have come up with the idea that there are no lost sheep. Is it possible that Jesus did not know this and found out that they were just a heathen bunch of gentiles and His mission was in vain? If they could not be found in Europe, where would they be? Do you feel that Jesus was in error when He said, *"My sheep know My voice and they follow Me?"* Many of today's Christians do not believe Him, because Israel was the only ones ever called His sheep, and they all have been told over and over and over that the people called Jews today constitute the entire house of Israel and the house of Judah, which would make the promises to Abraham, null and void. Since virtually none of them have followed Him they feel that Jesus made a statement that was impossible to keep, despite the fact that there is a people who have heard His voice and have followed *en-masse*

by the hundreds of millions for the last 2,000 years and adopted Israel's new name as prophesied in Numbers 6:27, *and they shall put my name upon the children of Israel, Christians*. This is also confirmed in other verses, that we were to be called by a new name. Yes, God did keep His promises to Abraham and Jesus knew without any doubt that His sheep would hear His voice and that they would follow Him.

I am thoroughly convinced that today's Christian seminaries are not there to enlighten us with Bible truth, but TO CONCEAL IT. That great Christian American, Henry Ford, stated in his four-volume book, *The International Jew*, back in the twenties, that there wasn't a seminary in America that hadn't been penetrated by the Jews. The Christianity of today is no longer the Christianity of two and three hundred years ago as we replaced it with pietism.

PIETISM: "A movement that originated in the late 17th century. Pietists believe Christianity or God's Law has no place for the governance of society. They view the involvement in policy matters to be unscriptural. They believe Christianity should be only a private and personal matter. Pietism was developed amongst the Lutherans, and became very prevalent among the Baptists. It went on to affect every area of Christianity."

Our seminaries have done a fantastic job in convoluting and concealing the truth from our shepherds. They have been able to convince them that, the Jews that killed Jesus and the prophets, and have been the greatest enemy of His people for the last 2,000 years, are His "chosen people." This has been the greatest con job in the world. A con job that has

been responsible for all our ungodly wars, our astronomical 19 trillion dollar debt, and a depraved morality that exceeds that of Sodom and Gomorrah. The Bible refers to these churches as Wells without Water.

Our Government and our enemies that control it, love these kind of churches and they do not care how many souls they "save," as they then become Judeo-Christians and cheer for their antichrist nation in the Mid-East. The 20th Century Judeo-Christians have been responsible for the destructive rise of political Zionism that has killed millions of Christians world wide and are more than willing to send our troops overseas to attack another country that has done nothing to merit it.

I am not impressed with today's personal salvation because the Bible says, *"By their fruits ye shall know them."* I am seeing their dire fruits and have read enough history regarding the fruits of yesteryear's Christians who we have to thank for the Christian America we once had. It is sad to think that America is now in its post-Christian age, while Russia is returning to its Christian roots.*

NEW STUDY SAYS THIS RELIGION IS THE MOST PERSECUTED RELIGION IN THE WORLD

Don't let anybody tell you there isn't a war against Christianity in the United States or all over the rest of the world. It's a major problem and a new study has found that it's growing.

The new study found that during 2016, 90,000 Christians were killed for their faith around the world. The study was done by Turin-based Center for Studies in New Religions, also known as CESNUR.

CDs of the Month:

J-272 The Lord's Supper, pt 6

J-273 The Lord's Supper, pt

J-274 The Lord's Supper, pt

J-275 The Lord's Supper, pt

J-276 The Lord's Supper, pt

J-277 The Biblical Doctrine of Hatred

J-278 The Pledge, History & Problems, 1

all Pastor John Weaver



The director of CESNUR and the study's lead researcher, Dr. Massimo Introvigne, said Christians are the most persecuted religious people in the world and the data of those affected is staggering. Christians are targeted primarily for two reasons Introvigne said:

"First because their proclamation of peace disturbs more belligerent groups, and second, because their social teachings on life, family and poverty are opposed to powerful forces."

Although the largest group to persecute Christians used to be atheistic communist regimes, the geopolitical landscape has changed and it's now evolved. While "Communism's last salvos" are still responsible for some of the persecution against Christians, Islamic ultra-fundamentalists have retaken first place as the most malicious against the religion.

According to Breitbart:

Introvigne's findings coincide with those of other scholars and human rights groups.

According to the 2016 'World Watch List' for example, published by the Open Doors organization, nine out of the top ten countries where Christians suffer "extreme persecution" had populations that are at least 50 percent Muslim.

The 2016 report found that 'Islamic extremism is by far the most significant persecution engine' of Christians in the world today and that '40 of the 50 countries on the World Watch List are affected by this kind of persecution.'

Introvigne told Breitbart that in Nigeria, 'over the last 12 years, the most reliable estimates assess at more than 10,000 Christians killed by Islamic ultra-fundamentalist organization Nigeria's Boko Haram.'

Yet while some groups, like Boko Haram, are private organizations, in a number of countries, 'persecution of Christians is actually promoted by the governments,' Introvigne said.'

'Several Muslim countries still have laws punishing apostasy—converting from Islam to another religion,' he noted. 'Others have laws against blasphemy, and some tend to consider any criticism of Islam as blasphemy.'

While tens of thousands of Christians are killed for their faith, Introvigne said, they are just the tip of the iceberg and much more persecution takes place on a daily basis that never makes the news.

CESNUR's annual study, which is slated for release next month, indicates that between 500 and 600 million Christians were in some way persecuted and prevented from freely practicing their faith.'

Of the 90,000 Christians murdered, nearly 30 percent were killed in terror attacks, the destruction of Christian villages, or government persecution.

While speaking at a press conference at the UN headquarters in Geneva, the Chaldean Bishop of Aleppo said the situation in Aleppo is even worse than in the rest of Syria, and that in five years alone, the Syrian Christian population has been reduced from 1.5 million to around 500,000 because of its civil war (perhaps that was the intent??).

The city of Aleppo alone has seen its number of Christians reduced from 160,000 to around 40,000 because of

persecution from Islamic terrorists.

Now the Catholic Church might be getting involved and they're pondering sainthood for those Christians killed in areas under ISIS.* *received by email.*

Funny thing though, all those displaced Syrians fleeing into Europe all seem to be Muslim fundamentalists—not Christians, and mostly males of military age. And how much "foreign aid" is given by "Christian" countries to these Muslim nations? Why?

THE ISLAMIZATION OF GERMANY IN 2016

"Germany is no longer safe"
by Soeren Kern, Jan. 2, 2017.

• Mass migration from the Muslim world is fast-tracking the Islamization of Germany as evidenced by the proliferation of no-go zones, Sharia courts, polygamy and child marriages. Mass migration has also been responsible for a host of social disruptions, including jihadist attacks, a migrant rape epidemic, a public health crisis, rising crime and a rush by German citizens to purchase weapons for self-defense—and even to abandon Germany altogether.

• Development Minister Gerd Müller warned that the biggest refugee movements to Europe are still to come. He said that only 10% of the migrants from the chaos in Iraq and Syria have reached Europe so far: "Eight to ten million migrants are still on the way."

• "There are written instructions ... today we are not allowed to say anything negative about the refugees. This is government journalism, and this leads to a situation in which the public loses their trust in us. This is scandalous."
- Wolfgang Herles, Deutschlandfunk public radio.

• The Turkish government has sent 970 clerics - most of whom do not speak German - to lead 900 mosques in Germany that are controlled by the Turkish Islamic Union for Religious Affairs (DITIB), a branch of the Turkish government's Directorate for Religious Affairs, known in Turkish as Diyanet. Critics accuse Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan of using DITIB mosques to prevent Turkish migrants from integrating into German society.

• A Cologne police superintendent revealed that he was ordered to remove the term "rape" from an internal police report about the mass sexual assaults in Cologne on New Years Eve. He said that an official at the North-Rhine Westphalia Interior Ministry told him in an angry tone: "This is not rape. Remove this term from your report. Submit a new report."

• The German branch of Open Doors, a non-governmental organization supporting persecuted Christians, reported that thousands of Christians in German refugee shelters are being persecuted by Muslims, sometimes even by their security guards.

• A 23-year-old Iraqi asylum seeker wearing a T-shirt with the words "I'm Muslim Don't Panic" was assaulted by fellow refugees for offending Islam. He was beaten so badly that he was hospitalized.

• Half of the three million ethnic Turks living in Germany believe it is more important to follow Islamic Sharia law than German law if the two are in conflict, according to a survey (but Christians are to obey God's Law rather than

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man's law as well!).

• A document leaked to *Der Spiegel* revealed that more than 33,000 migrants who are supposed to be deported are still in Germany, being cared for by German taxpayers. Many of the migrants destroyed their passports and are believed to have lied about their countries of origin to make it impossible for them to be deported.

• Migrants committed 142,500 crimes during the first six months of 2016, according to a report by the Federal Criminal Police Office. This is equivalent to 780 crimes committed by migrants every day, or 32.5 crimes each hour, an increase of nearly 40% over 2015. The data includes only those crimes in which a migrant suspect has been caught.

• *Bild*, the largest circulation newspaper in Germany, warned that the country was "capitulating to Islamic law."

Germany's Muslim population surpassed six million in 2016 for the first time ever. Germany now vies with France for the highest Muslim population in Western Europe.

<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/9700/germany-Islamization>

I WAS DRUGGED BY MY PARENTS

When I was asked why we didn't have a drug problem when we were growing up, I replied: "I had a drug problem when I was young. I was drug to church (*twice*) on Sundays. I was drug to church for weddings and funerals. I was drug to family reunions.

I was drug by my ears when I was disrespectful to adults. I was also drug to the woodshed when I disobeyed my parents, told a lie, brought home a bad report card, did not speak with respect, spoke ill of the teacher or the preacher, or if I didn't put forth my best effort in everything that was asked of me.

I was drug to the kitchen sink to have my mouth washed out with soap if I uttered profanity. I was drug to the neighbours to help out some poor soul who had no one to mow the yard, repair the clothesline or chop some firewood.

Those drugs are still in my veins and they affect my behaviour. They are stronger than cocaine, crack, or heroin. If children today had this kind of drug problem the world would be a better place.*

from Facebook

CAN WE PRAY AGAINST GOD WITHOUT REALISING IT?

By: **Arnold Kennedy.**

One cannot afford to be sentimental in the things of God. What we want to look at is the possibility of prayer en-throning sentimentality over God's law and thus such prayer being an abomination.

Proverbs 15:8 *The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.*

Prayer when not in uprightness is not a sign of grace; rather it is a sign of depravity when we place our

feelings above the Word-Law of God. We have to see that this is evil; we are given to know that the judgements of God are true and faithful. There are blessing only when we walk in his ways.

Psalm 81:1-16 *But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me. So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: and they walked in their own counsels. Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways! I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries. The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever. He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.*

As God is righteous altogether, we cannot expect him to deny His own statements and laws. Thus we should not pray against God's righteous judgements. It is not uncommon to hear Church people praying for ease for themselves or others when they are reaping what they, or others, have sown. If God is chastening a person, would it be right try to ease this judgement by praying against it?

Sowing and reaping is a law of God but it has become the church vogue to reject these laws and to pray against them.

Galatians 6:7,8 *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

Colossians 3:25 *But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.*

What right then have we to even try to help a person or try to mitigate through prayer against God's judgments when God has decreed that a person should reap what he

has sown. Let us consider some examples:

1. Say an elder in a church has been and still is a stumbling block to others through smoking, and eventually the elder has lung cancer, should we pray for the elder to be healed? Remember the thief upon the cross who still had to pay for his deeds, and even if he was forgiven. Jesus did not get him taken down from the cross to be restored to society.

2. Even King David, a man "after God's heart" was not let off consequences for his sin, even though he had repented in saying, "*I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.*"

Samuel 24:12-15 *Go and say unto David, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee. So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him, Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me. And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the*



hand of the LORD; for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man. So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba seventy thousand men.

Hosea 8:7 For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind:

Where God is blowing a whirlwind, should we try to set up windbreaks in prayer to pray and act against God and His righteous judgments?

3. The Apostle James make a simple but profound statement about double-minded people, and if God will not give such people anything, why should we? Would prayer and sentimentality, move the hand of God?

James 1:6,7,8. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

If such a person is not going to receive anything from God, why should we pray against God and ask God to bless them by giving them what they want? Many churchgoers are double-minded in thinking that God turns a blind eye to their deliberate misdemeanors and that He will still give them what they want. Instead He says:

Psalm 106:14-15 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert. And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

Most people in our churches have leanness in their souls!

4. Should we pray for people with doctrinal error? Are we too sentimental to obey?

2 John 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

Popular sentimentality does not instruct along these lines. "God speed" in Greek means "to rejoice and be glad" and "to give one a greeting". "God speed" is an interesting expression because neither does "God" nor "speed" appear in the Greek text. The words have to do with "rejoicing with and giving greetings to". Can we "give greetings to" or rejoice with those who "abideth not in the doctrine of Christ", lest we become a "partaker" [which means] to enter into fellowship, join one's self to an associate, make one's self a sharer or partner, to come into communion with"] in the same condemnation. And, we need to understand the meaning of "abideth not in the doctrine of Christ", because what we have to struggle with is a particular subtle incitement to disobedience through praying for or "rejoicing with and giving greetings to" those we should not. Churches can be menacing because of this incitement to disobedience. The matter is one of doctrine here rather than perfection of behavior. Remember Jesus says in John 17:9, "I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine". So Jesus does not pray for everyone - why should we?. We have to answer the following questions.

• Should I pray with or hug one who remains a Bahai, a

Jehovah Witness, a Roman Catholic, or a Mormon, etc?

• Should I commune with those who support ancestor worship and who pray to ancestors at the same time as professing Christ? This may include Roman Catholics, Maoris or those of other ethnic extractions.

• Should I pray for and with those about whom God says "Pray not"? [1 John 5:16 "There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death".] There are those Jesus did not pray for [John 17:9, that is the 'world' of those who were not His].

• Should I pray with someone I am not to eat with? [1 Cor 5:11 "But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat"]. Can we then pray with a disobedient 'brother' for his welfare, apart from leading him to repentance?

If these people are nice and generous people and even good living people, yes, or even old friends, does sentimentality change God's word?

We must believe the "For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." To do this is to be found praying against God and what is reaped from this is judgement, not blessing for anyone. The assumption that prayer is holy and carries more weight than God's word is not valid. It is seeking our will rather than God's will, and the enthronement of sentimentality. We cannot nag God into compliance with our wishes, even if we think our wishes are virtuous. Instead we will reap judgement from God, and we do not want to be "partaker of his evil deeds" through disobedience. Now we might understand why we feel very uncomfortable when we hear prayers that are a hope rather than being in accord with God's will as

shown in His Word. It has been said that this is exalting feelings and prayers to a position of ascendancy over God Himself, thinking this position is a holy one. And, vows are to be made to God, to be witnessed by man but not made to man.

5. There are very few purely Protestant churches today. It has become the vogue to pray with and for those who worship the Queen of Heaven, and in doing this we have to ask if the churches have become pimps for the Roman whore that sits in the city on the seven hills. Such praying is against God! [See Jer. 7:16, 11:14, 14:11, 17:9 and 17:15].

Jeremiah 7:16-18 Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me: for I will not hear thee. Seest thou not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger. [See Rev. 17 and Jer.44].

Should we then agree with, or pray 'God speed' to those who accept Mary as the co-mediator [1 Tim.2:5] or say that the Mass is no longer blasphemy? [Rom.6:10, Heb.7:27, Heb. 9:12, Heb. 9: 26-28, Heb. 10:10, 1 Peter 3:18]. Can we disobey God in fellowship when it comes to those who add Roman Catholic sacraments as being

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necessary to salvation?

6. Paul says, *'But if the unbelieving depart, let him (her) depart'*-(I Cor.7:15). Godly parents must be on the side of the Law of God-(Deut. 21:18-21), not on the side of rebellious children. In the case of an unbelieving spouse who has 'departed' there is no demand to pray for that person. Instead of doing this, people tend to pray to God for a conversion and then act as though they must obey their hope but not God's word! They assume that their prayer is especially holy and carries more weight than God's word.

They expect God to answer their prayers when they pay no attention to God's word. Our love for an ungodly spouse or child cannot sanctify our refusal to obey God's word. Have we done well by our stubborn insistence that our wishes and prayers must outweigh God's word? Too often such praying people insist in seeing their position as the holy one. They will say that, in spite of their pastor's counsel and the word of friends, they cling to their prayers for the spouse's or child's conversion. But their persistence is evidence of sin, not grace. If conversion later occurs, it may do so as a consequence of repentance on the part of the praying person who has come to terms with God's Law, not his hopes nor his prayers.

7. There are times when God forbids us to pray with certain persons (I Jn. 5:16); there are certain persons we are not to help.

2 John 10 *If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:*

2 Chronicles 19:2 *And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD.*

Yes, God says wrath! God does not say he does nothing in such cases. Rather, he places limits on our freedom to pray. Too often, praying is a way of saying, 'My will be done'. One determined mother routinely asked friends to pray with her for her very wayward son who had left home, saying, 'I am determined that he come to know the Lord' She was in effect saying, 'My will be done,' and she was determined to nag God into compliance. Her prayers were not answered, and she became more and more a caricature of a Christian.

Prayer is no substitute for obeying God; it cannot replace obedience. Stubborn insistence that prayers be answered has done damage to relationships. People who disregard God's plain word in praying for a miracle and what they want should not be surprised if the answer received is their own judgement instead.

8. Take 2 Corinthians 6:17 *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you"*. 'Thing' is an added word and the word "touch" is used in 1 Cor. 7:1 of sexual activity. This parallels Ezra 10:11-12, "Ye have transgressed, and have taken strange [or foreign] wives, to increase the trespass of Israel. Now therefore make confession unto the LORD God of your fathers, and do his pleasure: and separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange [i.e. foreign] wives", so should we pretend that to try to pray against God for the salvation of other than God's people is somehow virtuous? Should we follow or pray for a movement such as Promise Keepers for instance where there is a hidden motive to encourage

race-mixing?

9. Then we have what primarily applies to some homosexuals. *"For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections"* and *"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient"*. Might we pray against God here? There are two mentions of "without remedy" in the Book of Proverbs, namely, *"Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy"* and *"He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy"*. Will praying change this?.

10. Should we pray for those who have rejected their inheritance? *"Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears"*.

In all these matters we are required to judge righteous judgement, or as Paul puts it, "judge ye what I say"....

IGNORANCE IS NO EXCUSE.

One thing that is very clear, and that is that the principle expressed in Lev. 5:17 is valid, *"And if a soul sin, and commit any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD; though he wist it not, yet is he guilty, and shall bear his iniquity"*. Should we then associate in fellowship with people who profess but who just do not

want to know and thus must bear their iniquity? As pointed out earlier, *"For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds"*. God says this, not me!

It seems that at a low level, church members of big organisations do not know what is going on in their upper echelons in the same way that a Mason novice has no idea what Masonry is really about, or a sincere Roman Catholic has little idea about international politics at the Vatican. There are no such secrets in Biblical Christianity where only those chosen of God to be disciples are given understanding of the mysteries of God.

Matthew 13:11 *"He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given"*.

Most churches in their doctrine and practice will not believe that there are people to whom, "it is not given". The basis of this thus cannot be just a matter of belief; it is who they are.

CONCLUSION.

We have to watch against the promotion of collectivism which is the Communist/Anti-Christ mechanism for gathering together different ethnic groups and beliefs by supplying a wrong common objective in the form of a doctrine without it having the essential Gospel message in that doctrine. To collectivism under world government all must submit, ultimately by coercion. This also is the object of World Government and also that of Rome as the "universal Church" with a "universal Pontiff". Universalism as taught in the Protestant churches is an abomination that originated from Rome.

The Biblical condition of fellowship is *"walking in the light as He is in the light"*-[1 John 1:8]. The statements some make about "faith alone" must be false. What they



mean by, “*The just shall live by faith*” does not to them include what follows that statement, “*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;* [Rom 1:17-18]. “The wrath of God” is not what we want to experience. Jesus tells us to “judge righteous judgment”, the stricture against judging others is when we are doing the same things ourselves. Otherwise we have to obey the command to judge, here and elsewhere, such as in I Cor.5:12 and 6:5.

It has been pointed out that it has become the church vogue to reject God’s laws and to pray against them. The conditions of answered prayer are clear and much of it is summed up by one small group of verses.

John 14:21 *He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.*

John 15:10 *If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.*

1 John 3:22 *And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.*

To call this legalism is to deny the word “commandments” as found in each of these verses. To pray otherwise outside of being doers of the Word is to pray against God.

Malachi 2:1-4 *And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart. Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it. And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you...”*

Our private wishes and hopes must not be enthroned above obedience to the revealed will of God and the righteous judgements of God. Thus when we come together to pray, we cannot pray in sentimentality for every person in a block of land lest we come into condemnation and are judged by God. **ALL PRAYER IN SCRIPTURE IS FOR, OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF GOD’S PEOPLE ONLY.** [This includes “Gentiles” of the House of Israel who have the ‘fathers’, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob]. When Paul asked for prayer, it was for the ministry of the Word, not for any group of mixed people as a block...

Colossians 4:3 *Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:*

The word “withal” is about praying together for a door of utterance. When God opens the door of utterance, no man will be able to shut it!.*

CLEAN AND UNCLEAR FOOD.

Arnold Kennedy

Below is an excerpt on this subject, from a Bible

Commentary, which excerpt is typical of most other commentaries. It embodies the traditional doctrine that most churches teach about the Commandments of God as being now set aside. A typical commentary comment is, “*In the NT, however, such provisions for identifying ‘clean’ and ‘unclean’ animals were understood to have been set aside with the coming of Jesus (Mark 7:19; see also Acts 10:10-16)*”. At least they are honest enough to say, “were understood” which shows they are not sure. If the argument was sure as is taught, it contains basic flaws, even if at first glance it appears to be reasonable, or even appears to be right.

FROM THE BIBLE KNOWLEDGE COMMENTARY.

“The precise meaning of these laws has been a source of debate since pre-Christian times. Perhaps the most popular modern explanation of the laws is that certain animals were prohibited for *hygienic reasons*. Commentators point out that pork may be a source of trichinosis and that the hare is a carrier of tularemia. However, several lines of evidence make this explanation improbable: (1) Jesus declared that all foods should

be considered clean (Mark 7:14-23). This was reconfirmed in a heavenly vision granted to Peter (Acts 10:9-23) since the disciples seemed to have missed the point of Jesus’ earlier declaration. It is difficult to believe that God was concerned about the health of His people in the Old Testament, but abandoned that concern in the New Testament. (2) Eating some of the “clean” animals may represent a greater danger to health than some of the “unclean” ones. (3) No hygienic reasons are given as motives for observing the law of the clean and the unclean. And the Old Testament does not state that the Israelites considered the unclean animals dangerous to their health.

A second popular interpretation of the prohibition of unclean animals for food is that they were used in *pagan cultic rites*. Evidence for this is that the unclean animals are said to be “detestable” (Deut. 14:3). The same Hebrew word is used elsewhere in Deuteronomy of idolatry and other pagan practices (7:25; 12:31). Also some unclean animals (e.g., pigs) were widely used in pagan rituals.

However, this explanation clarifies so little of the data that it is not too useful. And one may adduce counter examples. For instance, the bull, a common symbol in the religions of the ancient Near East, was permitted as food for the Israelites.

A third explanation is that the clean and unclean animals were *symbolic* of good and evil in the human realm. This explanation became extremely subjective and even fanciful by earlier interpreters of the Old Testament. For instance, some held that chewing of the cud (14:6-8) represented the faithful believer who meditated on the Law. Others taught that the sheep (v. 4) was clean because it served as a reminder that the Lord is His people’s Shepherd. This symbolic interpretation should be rejected since it is divorced from the controls of grammatical historical exegesis, and therefore is impossible to validate. However, a symbolic interpretation may be essentially correct if it is applied comprehensively under strict exegetical controls to all the ceremonially clean and unclean animals here”.

To gain right understanding, we firstly must examine the two passages of Scripture given in the commentary passage.

THE FIRST BIBLE PASSAGE USED TO SUPPORT TRADITION.

Mark 7:14-23 And when he had called all the people

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Can we even be certain that man has free will?*

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unto him, he said unto them, Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand: 15 There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man. 16 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. 17 And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples asked him concerning the parable. 18 And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; 19 Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? 20 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. 21 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

In looking at this passage quoted, we should note that the commentaries have not gone back to the place where the context is established. Here this context is established earlier in the chapter where Jesus is contrasting the “**commandments of men**” with the “**commandments of God**”.

In general, churches do not seem to note the difference!

Mark 7:7-9. “Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the **commandments of men**. For laying aside the **commandment of God**, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the **commandment of God**, that ye may keep your own tradition”

In no way does Jesus discount or eliminate the “commandments of God”. It is the “commandments of men” Jesus attacks. Jesus does not commend or sanction the eating of unclean foods, or of breaking the “commandments of God” in these passages. Jesus is insisting that it was the “commandments of God” that were being rejected and thus were being broken by these Judean leaders. They had substituted their interpretations for the “commandments of God”.

The “commandments of men” Jesus talks about are the “washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do”. What the Judean leaders were keeping, or trying to keep, were the “commandments of men”. For the commentaries to insist, or even to infer, that these two sets of commandments are the same is not only a lie, it is total error. The commentators need to be able to explain how “the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do” has anything to do with eating pork or unclean foods.

Jesus nowhere mentions pork or unclean meat in these passages, and in no way links the two differing sets of commandments. When Jesus gave His explanation, to His disciples, saying, “Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?”, the context concerns only those things relating to the “commandments of men”. It is these things of man and man’s religion that “goeth out into the draught, purging all meats”. The fact that pork, for instance, likewise “goes out into the draught” does not mean it is no longer an unclean food, even if commentators say it is so. Not eating swine’s flesh is part of the “commandments of God”, and this is not mentioned in this passage as being part of the “commandments of men”.

THE SECOND BIBLE PASSAGE USED TO SUPPORT TRADITION.

Acts 10:9-30 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: 10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance, 11 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: 12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. 13 And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. 14 But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. 15 And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. 16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven. 17 Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon’s house, and stood before the gate, 18 And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there. 19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them. 21 Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come? 22 And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee. 23 Then called he them in, and lodged them. And on the morrow Peter went away with them,

more:

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD and CIVIL GOVERNMENT by pastor John Weaver

He who entertains right views of God’s sovereignty realizes the limited nature and boundaries of civil government, and understands the equality of man under God, and has a theology that undergirds him in his fight against tyranny.

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and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him. 24 And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends. 25 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. 26 But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man. 27 And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together. 28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but **God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean**. 29 Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me? 30 And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,

Peter states simply what God had showed him in the vision, i.e. “**God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean**”. To say that God showed Peter anything different such as, “It is now acceptable to eat unclean meats”, is to call both Peter and the Word of God both liars.

The commentator says regarding the first passage in Mark chapter seven, “This was reconfirmed in a heavenly vision granted to Peter (Acts 10:9-23) since the disciples seemed to have missed the point of Jesus’ earlier declaration”. But did they really? Peter did not agree with the commentator that the symbols in his vision had anything to do with being able to eat unclean foods. The commentators refuse to believe what Peter says. This is because the commentators have to ignore the context, in order to support their traditional wrong doctrine. The context includes a connection about Peter being able to tell Cornelius what he should do.

Verse 5. And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon,



whose surname is Peter: He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

This has nothing at all to do with eating or not eating pork, or any other animals God has declared to be unclean as food. When we read, “Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean”, the “one of another nation” is *alophulos* which means “one of a kindred tribe”. In his explanation, Peter said something limiting which the churches refuse to accept, “The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ”. As the Judeans thought of the 10 tribes of House of Israel as being unclean like pigs and other unclean animals, then we can start to understand the vision. But, in no way has it anything to do with eating or not eating swine’s flesh. It is about the Word of God being sent to, and received by, the “gentilised” House of Israel.

As always, the symbols in a vision have to be interpreted! The commentators do not do this in this passage. Imagine how ridiculous it would be if all the symbols in Biblical visions were taken literally as the commentators have done here. Where we read in the vision of Peter saying, ‘Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean’ and ‘the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common’, this is part of the vision; it is not part of the interpretation. Thus churches are not teaching what Peter says God showed him. It is not unusual to find such wrong teachings in commentaries and Bible footnotes.

And it is pointed out; the difference between clean and unclean animals predates Moses, since Noah knew the difference when he took the animals into the ark! The difference is eternal!

SOME RELATIVE NOTES FROM THE SAME COMMENTARY.

In Isaiah 66 we find this statement, which in context, is concerned with God’s people.

Isaiah 66:17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine’s flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.

Being consumed by God for eating swine’s flesh is a heavy statement! The abomination is *shequets* = “an unclean thing, an abomination”. Yes, it is heavy for Isaiah to say that God will consume eaters of pork, rodents and other things. But the same commentary (as quoted earlier in this paper) contradicts itself as it agrees that eating unclean animals as being unlawful, stands until Judgment Day, saying:

When God restores His people to Jerusalem (vv. 10-13) in the Millennium, they will rejoice and prosper, but on His and her enemies He will swoop down in judgment like a fire (cf. 2 Thes. 1:7-9) and a whirlwind to slay them. This judgment will be fair because of their abominations: worshiping in idolatrous gardens (cf. Isa. 1:29; 65:3) and eating ceremonially unclean animals such as pigs (cf. 65:4; 66:3; Lev. 11:7) and rats (cf. Lev. 11:29).

Where did they get the word “ceremonially”? It is from tradition. God’s commandment not to eat unclean food has nothing to do with any ceremony. It has nothing to do with food offered to idols either. The word “enemies” refers to those of God’s people who are eating pigs and mice, etc. Here this commentary is contradicting what they say in their quotation

found in the first page of this paper. They confirm this concerning the verse below, which again is about eating swine’s flesh:

Is 65:2-7 Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine’s flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels; Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou. These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day. Behold, it is written before me: I will not keep silence, but will recompense, even recompense into their bosom, Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD, which have burned incense upon the mountains, and blasphemed me upon the hills: therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom.

The commentary says, as follows:

Isaiah 65:1-7. Constantly reaching out to Israel, God revealed Himself to those who did not even ask for that revelation. Only because of His grace did He do so, even calling out to them, Here am I. Yet they did not respond. He was always ready to help them (holding out His hands; Paul quotes vv. 1-2 in Rom. 10:20-21), but they continued to be stubborn, independent, and evil. They provoked God by (a) worshiping in pagan gardens (cf. Isa. 1:29; 66:17); (b) being involved in necromancy (supposedly consulting the dead, while sitting among the graves, 65:4; cf. 8:19); (c) disregarding His dietary laws (65:4b; cf. 66:3, 17; Lev. 11:7); and (d) being religiously arrogant till they became as repulsive and irritating to Him as smoke in a person’s nose. Because of their sins, the LORD would judge them. The Assyrian threat (Isa. 1-37) and the Babylonian Exile (chaps. 38-66) were two of the ways the Lord disciplined His people. The consequences of sin had to be faced; God would pay them back in judgment for their idolatrous worship in high places (cf. 57:7).

Here the commentary again declares this reference to eating

swine’s flesh concerns God’s people, thus showing inconsistency. Is there any wonder why church members are all so confused?

A THIRD BIBLE PASSAGE USED TO SUPPORT TRADITION.

Rom. 14:14 I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean. But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably.

This is another passage that is used to promote the teaching that the eating of unclean foods was set aside by Jesus. Here again, tradition, which promotes that idea, has not considered the context. The context is established in the first verse of the chapter where the issue is about being a vegetarian or not.

Rom. 14:1 For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs.

The context certainly is not about eating, or not eating, unclean meats. It is about being a vegetarian or not. So, as usual and according to good Greek word usage, “all” refers to the “all” of the context only, and thus does not include anything outside of the particular context. Likewise when we come down to the verse “All things indeed are pure” and “For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost”, there has been no change in the context within this chapter, and thus there is no application outside of the limited context.

A FOURTH BIBLE PASSAGE USED TO SUPPORT TRADITION.

1 Cor.8:8 But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse. Again, to suggest that this means that God’s people can now



eat unclean foods once again means that no notice has been taken of the passage context, which is confined to eating foods offered to idols.

FINAL COMMENT.

No wonder church members are confused over this issue and every issue relating to “the Commandments of God”, a phrase found often enough within the New Testament, even if churches ignore the phrase. Church trumpets, such as commentaries and teachers, are making uncertain sounds by contradicting themselves, in the way as was pointed out above! Commentaries say that on one hand Jesus has set aside the eating of unclean animals, and on the other hand that God’s people will be judged for eating swine’s flesh on judgement day, (if not before). What they have set aside are the “commandments of God”.

The footnotes of the “Life Application Bible” actually say, “He did not downgrade the Law, but He paved the way for the change made clear in Acts 10, 7-22 when He removed the cultural restrictions regarding food”. Amazing! Does this concept not in fact downgrade the Law of God? And where does ‘culture’ come into it? Do we not say our culture allows us to eat pig but not rat, so that is now our standard?

On this basis we could say nothing of the “commandments of God” has any relevance in today’s “culture”. This is what we are seeing today in society and most churches, go along with this idea, even in the holier than thou, so-called “holy ghost works”.

There may be some partial acknowledgement of the “commandments of God”-(Mal.2:9)- but God says, “Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law”. This partiality causes society to view the churches as they do. It is God that has brought this view of churches by society to pass. The blessing and the glory have departed from the churches. Again, why?

Rev. 22:14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

And, as Jesus says, John 14:21 *He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which sent me.*

Jesus has not therefore changed the Father’s word, or the Father’s commandments. In making obedience a matter of the heart, Jesus did not over-ride the “commandments of God”. He said,

Matthew 5:17-18 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

But, commentaries and Bible footnotes, in general, gyrate in contradictory comments to try to establish the idea that heaven and earth has already passed away, thus giving the impression that the “Commandments of God” have been set aside. At least 90% of churches follow the conclusions of these commentators. Thus churchgoers have been taught to think that unclean foods are now clean.

Ezekiel 22:26 Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean..... Romans 6:1 What shall

we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? GOD FORBID: Galatians 3:21 Is the law then against the promises of God? GOD FORBID:

Paul did not agree with the commentators and neither should any of us. Those who have been redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb, outside of any works of the Law, then come into a new relationship where the principle, “Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it” applies.

Anybody for rat pie?

COULD YOU BE DEHYDRATED?

There is not one function of the body that is not dependent on water. Drinking pure water every day is required for optimal health.

Sadly, many of us make the mistake of foregoing water for other types of fluids, most of which have added ingredients that will not do your health any favors. In addition to thirst, which is an obvious signal of impending dehydration (and many people who are dehydrated no longer feel thirst!)...

Does Your Body Have Any of These Symptoms?

Dark concentrated urine, Fatigue, Dizziness,
Light-headedness, Bad breath, Mood swings, Irritable,
Disoriented, Chills, Back or Joint Ache,
Constipation, Headaches, Loss of Elasticity/

Sagging skins, Dull Dry Skin, and
or Wrinkles, Muscle cramps and
Spasms, Sugar Cravings.

Most people think a shortage of water in the body is not harmful. But dehydration can lead to low blood pressure; rapid heartbeat; rapid breathing; blood clots; seizures; and other potentially fatal complications.

According to a recent Harvard study, more than half of children are dehydrated, which can have repercussions for their health and academic performance. Replacing all other beverages with Pure Water can be a

major step toward health, as virtually all of our biochemical processes in your body need Water.

Probably the best way to gauge your Water needs is to observe the colour of your urine and how frequently you urinate. On average, a healthy number of bathroom visits is around seven or eight per day, and you want the colour of your urine to be a pale yellow. It is important to recognize that your body loses water throughout each day even when you’re not sweating, especially if you are in an air-conditioned environment, and that you need to constantly replenish this fluid loss. While fruit juices, etc. typically contain a fair amount of water, they are poor substitutes for Pure Water, and generally do not count toward this requirement of water.

Soda and energy drinks, for example, are high in caffeine which acts as a diuretic that will actually dehydrate you, so they’re terrible choices for quenching your thirst. So to stay hydrated, drinking Pure Water is necessary. Many still believe that sports drinks are the best alternative to replenish lost fluids and electrolytes when working up a sweat, but that’s simply not true.

The following table gives the percentage of water in various body parts:

Teeth	10%
Bones	13%
Cartilage	55%
Red Blood Corpuscles	68.7%
Liver	71.5%
Muscle Tissue	75%
Spleen	75.5%
Lungs	80%



Brain	80.5%
Bile	86%
Plasma	90%
Blood	90.7%
Lymph	94%
Saliva	95.5%
Gastric Juice	95.5%

When you reflect on how extensively Water is involved in the functioning of your body, you can't help but be held in awe! Water holds nutrients in solution and transports all food necessary for life to the various parts of the body; Water holds wastes and toxins that it picks up from the cells and carries them to the organs of elimination; Water is an essential constituent of all cells and tissues and of all body fluids. Without sufficient water you would have no saliva; with a shortage of saliva bacterial growth becomes uncontrolled, thereby resulting in bad breath. 90% of bad breath cases are as a result of dehydration; all your inner organs swim in an ocean of fluid that is mostly water.

Your brain, 80.5% water sits inside a fluid sack that keeps it from bumping against the skull. If that fluid sack is depleted or running low because of dehydration, the brain can push up against parts of the skull, causing headaches - the intensity of a headache is a function of the level of water loss. When water loss becomes much, the headache becomes severe and the volume of blood in the body also drops. In short, water loss is a major cause of headache.

Water is the chief agent in regulating body temperature, serving much as does water in the radiator of a car. One major reason water balance in the body is so crucial to our health is this relationship to temperature control and regulation. An internal temperature change of only a few degrees can mean death. The body is constantly giving off water from the kidneys, bowels, lungs and skin. Perspiration cools the skin when it evaporates. All this helps maintain body temperature.

Your vital lifeline, the blood, is over 90% water! The organs that perform the functions of life are all more water than anything else. Given Water's invaluable role, consideration must be given to obtaining the best water possible. Some people actually ignore thirst when it occurs. And they tend increasingly to reach for poor-quality thirst quenchers when they do take a drink. (some should try drinking as much water as they drink beer, or coca-cola).

The truth is that for optimum efficiency, the human body is emphatically dependent of fresh, clean water (without fluoride, chlorine, alum, copper sulphate, or whatever other additives councils deem fit). Without enough of it your chemical, biological and mechanical functions will all suffer. The entire human body consists of seventy percent (70%) Water and every five to ten days it is replaced completely. Everything from brain cells to muscle tone, daily digestion, heart, liver, and breathing functions to dry skin and kidney activity is in need of generous daily amounts of pure, uncontaminated water.

Hydrogen and Oxygen together form the water molecule. Any other form of liquid with additional components are broken down and cleared away by the liver (one bottle of Solo that I checked the label on, said the contents was 70% sugar!). Water containing nothing but hydrogen and oxygen is pure water, and this is the only kind of water which the blood and the lymph can use in their work. The purpose of drinking water is not solely for the quenching of thirst. More than 70% of the composition of your body is distilled water because distilled water, by its inherent magnetic principle, is able to collect many of the impurities which either collect in mass or float around in the system.

Drink Pure Water: The body is dependent on fresh clean water. The minerals, bacteria, and commercial additives in inorganic water (i.e. tap, spring, well water, etc.) are inorganic and cannot be utilized in the body. The vitamins and minerals within vegetables and fruits and their juices are organic and

therefore beneficial to your health. Distilled water is in reality steam that has condensed back into water.

Bacteria and parasites are destroyed by the distillation process. Some authorities believe that Distilled Water acts like a "sponge" and assists the body's normal elimination processes.

Courtesy Hear Ye! Hear Ye! GPO Lead Hill, AR 72644

BARBARIAN CRUELTY

It was during the 1600s that Barbary corsairs-pirates from the Barbary Coast of North Africa were at their most active and terrible. With the full support of the Moorish rulers of North Africa, these Muslim slavers raided southern Europe, the Atlantic European coast, Britain and Ireland almost at will. Most estimates indicate that by 1780, at least 1.2 million Europeans had been seized. Very few ever managed to escape, and most ended their days dying of starvation, disease, or maltreatment. This remarkable book, first published in 1690s, contains one of the few genuine eye-witness accounts, written by a white slave who managed to escape. Its graphic description of the lot of white slaves, the Moorish relations with the Jews of North Africa, the conditions of the time and the author's eventual escape, cast a dramatic and nowadays, oft-hidden light upon the time when whites were enslaved.

(this book available from www.amazon.com/Barbarian-Cruelty)

Well, praise the Lord, we are home again after our extended time away. Two grandchildren were born during our time away and we got to see and hold them both. As the last 5 were girls, that now brings a total of 20 boys and 24 girls - little blessings.

We drove from here to Gin Gin on the first day Jan. 9, and on the second day drove from Gin Gin to Tamworth, arriving at our daughters place in near Branxton on Wednesday about lunch time. That baby took its time, and that's why we were delayed there for the extra time. She finally made her appearance 29/01/17, while the other was born the day before 28/01/17 in Inverell.

We left North Rothbury to travel to Inverell on Feb 1st and stayed there until Friday morning 3rd. From there we visited in Kyogle, and continued on the same day to visit in Coolangatta, and then on to Wangawallan where we stayed until Feb 6th (I don't like travelling on Sundays). Some of the family came together on Sunday afternoon at Wangawallan. We still had a couple of stops to make on the way home and got as far as Miriam Vale that night. On Tuesday we drove from Miriam Vale to home, arriving about 9pm.

All up, we must have driven the best part of 5000 Km. We saw many new suburbs going up around the towns and cities, most with very small blocks (gutters almost touching each other), and some not even having driveways. I couldn't live like that! I'm glad God brought us to a larger place where we can have 5 acres, and only one neighbour.

I spent a lot of the time working on the computer trying to get the John Weaver messages into chronological order and trying to retain as many of the old numbers as possible, while adding new entries into the list. It was also made more difficult by some of the messages being listed more than once due to slightly altered titles. While it is probably still lacking in some titles, and there may still be some errors, we hope that it is an improvement over what there was before. We now have well over 600 messages listed under J-.

We appreciate all the mail that came in while we were gone, and have hopefully worked our way through most of it. If it is a bit slow coming to you, you'll understand why. I hope this newsletter will be printed soon and able to go in the mail as well. It turned out to be a two-monthly issue as there was no way to get two done in that time. I don't know how long the next one will take to prepare. May God bless you, make His face shine on you, give you peace and keep you safe and give you his protection,

