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TEN MORE FROM 2004
By Duane V. Maxey

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

This is a collection of ten articles that I published during the year 2004. Most of the text in the collection is my own writing. Parts of it were obtained from other sources. It is hoped that the reading of this file will prove to be both interesting and a blessing to the reader. -- Duane V. Maxey

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CONTENTS

- 01 -- The Wish To Be A Savior
- 02 -- Minds That Are Blinded To Gospel Light
- 03 -- Forcing One's Grief Upon Others
- 04 -- Farce -- And -- Force
- 05 -- How The "Good Samaritan" Has "Fallen Among Thieves"
- 06 -- They Won't Come To Mind In Heaven
- 07 -- Jesus Is Not Like Them
- 08 -- Yes, I Have That Phobia Too
- 09 -- Vanity And Humanity -- A Bad Mix
- 10 -- The Big Quake -- And The -- Staggering Earth

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01 -- THE WISH TO BE A SAVIOR

"Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life.. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself" (John 10:17-18)

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" -- "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (John 15:13; Romans 5:8).

"For I COULD WISH THAT MYSELF WERE ACCURSED from Christ FOR MY BRETHREN, my kinsmen according to the flesh" (Romans 9:3).

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I. THE HOLY WISH TO BE A SAVIOR

(A) MOSES WISHED TO BE A SAVIOR -- and indeed he became such for his enslaved people in Egypt:-- "And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the Lord of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the Lord because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them" (Isa. 19:20). But, holy as was Moses' wish to be a savior, at first he tried to be such by killing another. Before he became Israel's savior from Egyptian bondage he had to learn that it took the passive placing of his own life on the line to bring about that salvation for Israel -- the risk of his own safety while depending totally upon God to bring about that deliverance which made him a savior.

(B) CHRIST WISHED TO BE A SAVIOR -- and indeed HE became such for those enslaved by sin throughout the whole world and throughout all generations. Probably from His early Childhood it was given Jesus to know "To this end was [He] born, and for this cause came [He] into the world, that [He] should bear witness unto the truth" (John 18:37) and that He should die that the world might be saved. And, as that Divinely purposed death approached, he thought aloud to his disciples: "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour" (John 12:27). The MAN, Christ Jesus WISHED to lay down his life for the world -- a wish that was both purposed by God the Father and prompted by His Own Great Love.

Yet, "in His humiliation" (Acts 8:33) -- viz., in His taking "upon Him the form of a servant" so as to be "made in the likeness of men," (Philippians 2:7), I think it highly likely that at times, some things were hidden from His mind, even as they are hidden from the minds of God's lowly saints today. I have long believed that the infinite magnitude of what was involved in His "tasting Death for every man" (Heb. 2:9) may have been somewhat hidden from the mind of Jesus until that hour in the Garden of Gethsemane when "being in an agony.. His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground," (Luke 22:44) "And he went a little further, and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let THIS CUP pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matt. 26:39).

"THIS CUP" of death which Christ was to taste for every man involved MUCH MORE THAN HIS TASTING ONLY PHYSICAL DEATH! In becoming the Savior of the World, CHRIST WAS ABOUT TO TASTE THE SECOND DEATH IN THE LAKE OF FIRE! In fact, unless I err, He was to drink up every drop of that Lake of Fire from the cup of God's Eternal Wrath -- something only He could do -- but something the magnitude of which may not have dawned fully upon Him until shortly before or during His wrestling in Gethsemane. And,

perhaps it was only as He hung upon the Cross that the humiliation of His Manhood realized that His drinking the dregs of the Lake of Fire must be done ABSOLUTELY ALONE! - APART FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE FATHER -- A PRESENCE FROM WHICH HE HAD NEVER BEFORE, IN ALL OF THE ETERNITIES PAST, EVER BEEN SEPARATED: -- and, that horrible realization evoked from the depths of His soul that immensely shocked and sorrowful cry, when "about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI? that is to say, MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?" (Matt. 27:46). He was about to drink of the Second Death -- alone! Alone!! ALONE!!!

(C) SAINT PAUL WISHED TO BE A SAVIOR when he said in Romans 9:3 -- "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh." Like Christ, Paul's wish to become a savior was prompted by love and was even accompanied by a desire to be (if possible) "accursed from Christ" that the Jews, his kinsmen, might be saved. I doubt that even at the time of his ascension into the Third Heaven St. Paul was given to realize the immeasurable magnitude of eternal pain involved in tasting the Second Death, as Christ was given to know this. Still, Paul's was the very commendable desire to be the means of salvation for others, however that was possible, and at whatever cost, even though he knew with Peter that "there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must [or may] be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Christ is the One and Only Savior of the world: -- "There is no God else beside me; a just God and A SAVIOUR; THERE IS NONE BESIDE ME" (Isa. 45:21). Paul knew this fact, as have, and as do, all God's saints. Christ Jesus alone "hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins" (Acts 5:31 Him). Still:

(D) EVERY CHRISTIAN MARTYR HAS WISHED TO BE SAVIOR -- in the same sense in which Paul so desired -- realizing that their martyrdom might point others to the One and Only Savior whom they love more than life itself. At His crucifixion, Christ prayed for his crucifiers: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34), and reflecting that same Spirit, Stephen, the first of the Christian martyrs, lovingly prayed in Acts 7:60 when being slain -- "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

(E) EVERY OVERCOMER HAS WISHED TO BE A SAVIOR -- It is declared of the finally victorious, bloodwashed throng of Rev. 12:11 that "they overcame" Satan "by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." In a sense the Holy Wish to be a savior is placed into the depths of every saint's heart -- that holy desire to be the means of bringing about, through Christ, the salvation of others -- even their enemies -- in whatever way possible, and at whatever the cost to themselves. Those overcomers in Revelation 12:11 "loved not their lives unto the death" -- not simply that they themselves might be saved -- but also "that the world through [Christ] might be saved" (John 3:17).

There has been no EFFICACY in the death of any but Christ to bring Salvation to the world, but there has been an EFFECT in the death of all those Christian Martyrs from Stephen and Paul forward to point others to that great deliverance provided by the world's Only Savior.

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II. THE UNHOLY WISH TO BE KNOWN AS A SAVIOR

(A) SATAN WISHES TO BE KNOWN AS A SAVIOR -- Satan knows that Christ is the world's only Savior, yet it is his fiendish desire to pawn himself off on the world as its savior -- and he shall do this when he incarnates himself in "The Man of Sin" at the end of the age. When he "exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" (2 Thess. 2:4), it will appear to deceived millions that THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD HAS COME!

With Satanic cleverness such as has never been seen before, and with signs and lying wonders, this impostor will, for a season, be accepted by Israel as the Messiah, fulfilling Jesus' prophecy in John 5:43 -- "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive." And, except for the Elect, this Satan-Incarnate Impostor will be accepted by the entire world as its savior! I suspect that long-unexplained mysteries of the Universe will seem to be revealed by him -- explanations which will apparently verify the theories of Evolution and explain-away the miracles of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of the true Christ. Long-unsolved problems related to world-peace will seem to be solved by him, and for three and one-half years it will appear that the Golden Age of a Messianic Millennium on earth shall have arrived. Yes, a deceived world shall believe that THE SAVIOR has finally arrived -- when of course He shall be not the Savior, but the Murderer in sheep's clothing.

In the midst of his 7-year reign, it will be seen that this supposed "Savior" is not come to save the world through any gracious giving of himself, but rather that he has ascended the throne only to rule the world with an iron hand by putting to death all who do not bow to him! -- quite a difference from the motive and method of Christ, the True Savior! Amidst the rivers of blood flowing from his reign, it will then be known that his is not the spirit of the Martyr, but the spirit of the Murderer.

(B) LIKE ABSALOM, MANY A FOLLOWER OF SATAN HAS WISHED TO BE KNOWN AS A SAVIOR -- The handsome, but conniving, Absalom wished to be known as a savior to every supposedly mistreated servant of King David: -- "And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate: and it was so, that when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him, and said, Of what city art thou? And he said, Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel. And Absalom said unto him, See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee. Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice! And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment: so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel" (2 Samuel 15:2-6).

Like Absalom, many a suave, smooth-talking tyrant has "stolen the hearts" of numerous followers by pawning himself off as a their savior. And, also like Absalom, many of them have

been destroyed, their names crashing down in the records of history in ignominy and reproach -- after their true character was discovered and their ambition to "be Somebody" was overthrown.

(C) CHRIST-HATING ENVIRONMENTALISTS WISH TO BE SAVIORS TODAY -- Never was there a more proud and arrogant group of people on earth than the environmentalists of our time. They fully believe that it is their mission to be saviors of the world. They have no interest, nor desire to BE SAVED, but they do have an immense desire to BE SAVIORS. Probably most of them think that Christ was nothing more than a misguided, mistaken man who died 2,000 years ago, and that was the end of him. And, probably most of these would-be world-saviors think the Bible is a collection of Judeo-Christian myths, and, as they see it, THIS is the only world that man shall ever inhabit, unless it be some other planet in this universe.

Thus, oblivious of, or totally writing off, the New Testament prophecy that "the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (2 Pet. 3:10), they preach their false-gospel of saving the earth through their environmental theories and policies.

They wish to be saviors -- apart from Christ, apart from the Bible, and in opposition to fundamental Christianity. It would appall, insult, and inflame them to tell them that their one-world only, one-life only, save the world through protecting the eco-systems teachings are misguided, often absurd, and causing them to be among those who are hastening the destruction of the earth, rather than saving it -- but nevertheless, these are the facts of the matter.

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III. THE ONLY LOOK FULFILLING THE WISH FOR A SAVIOR

Isa. 45:22 -- "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else."

When ancient Israel in the Wilderness found themselves amidst poisonous, life-threatening serpents, "The Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived" (Numbers 21:8-9).

All of this served as a type of Christ's sacrificial death as the Savior of the World. Christ told Nicodemus: "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:14-16).

A Cursed Serpent on a Pole typified Christ on the Cross. St. Paul could only wish that he could be "accursed" in order to become the savior of his brethren, but Galatians 3:13 says that Christ WAS "made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." He drank of the curse of the Second Death, a curse which rightly belongs only to the Serpent and

his followers -- not to provide salvation for the Serpent -- as one accursed for us to provide salvation from the results of that spiritually fatal bite of the Serpent that threatens a punishment with Satan in the Lake of Fire.

The look of the ancient, serpent-bitten Israelite toward the figure of a brazen serpent upon a pole saved only from physical death -- and it was limited to one special time, one special place, and one little group of people. Whereas, the lifting up of Christ upon the Cross saves, not from physical death, but from spiritual and eternal death, and its saving power was not limited to the time of His crucifixion but shall extend until time shall be no more. Furthermore, the deliverance provided by Christ is not limited to one little group of people, but to all men everywhere: "Look unto me," says the World's Savior, "and be ye saved, ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isa. 45:22).

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02 -- MINDS THAT ARE BLINDED TO GOSPEL LIGHT

2 Corinthians 4:4 -- "In whom the god of this world hath **BLINDED THE MINDS** of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

In the following, I shall present some thoughts on the title-subject, using an acrostic spelling out B-L-I-N-D-E-D. And, the thoughts will specify **SEVEN TYPES OF MINDS WHICH SATAN HAS BLINDED TO GOSPEL TRUTH**:

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(B)RIGHT MINDS which lean unto their own understanding -- minds, many of which are brainy, brilliant, and highly intellectual, but minds of those to whom the counsel in Proverbs 3:5 would be discounted if read, or is discounted, though known: -- "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and **LEAN NOT UNTO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING**." Those who insist that their believing must be limited to that which they comprehend logically in their minds do greatly err while greatly exalting their own, vain reasoning. In Isaiah 55:8-9, the Omniscient, All-Knowing God declares to all men: -- "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

GOD'S THOUGHTS ARE INFINITELY "HIGHER" than those of the most brainy "Einsteins" who ever inhabited this world, or who ever shall, Christ Jesus alone, excepted. Apart from God, no human being can "figure out" the things of God, and the most brilliant intellects are blinded to spiritual realities.

In the past, says 1 Cor. 1:21, "The world by wisdom knew not God," -- and today those who are wise in their own sight still know not God and the things of God, nor shall any soul, spiritually unenlightened by Christ, ever know such in the future.

Only those who are humble enough to believe and obey God's Word ever see and know those "secret things" of God which are hidden from the highminded: Psalm 25:14 -- "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant."

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 deals with these facts very plainly: -- "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. 20 Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. 22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: 23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; 24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men."

Just now, John Kerry who is running for President of the U.S.A. in the November 4, 2004 election, claims that he can do things in a more "INTELLIGENT" way than President George W. Bush. And, many of those backing Kerry consider Pres. Bush to be intellectually dull, and one who is simply not as smart as they. Among those Kerry backers who disdain Bush as an ignoramus are university intellectuals and those who think that the President's Christian Faith is an exercise in stupidity. Kerry, they think, is either more intellectually qualified for the office, or they hope that Kerry will at least displace this "dangerous ignoramus" who says he prays for God's guidance in his decisions as are our President.

But, in my opinion, if John Kerry becomes the "blind, leader of the blind" as U.S. President, he is certain to lead our nation into a deep, dark, ditch of destruction and damnation.

Never has our nation needed Divinely Enlightened Guidance more than NOW, and never has St. Paul's counsel in Ephesians 4:17-18 been more crucial: -- "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart."

THE REAL IGNORAMUSES IN OUR NATION ARE THOSE WHO DEIFY THEIR OWN, PUNY AND DARKENED REASON, WHILE REJECTING GOD'S WORD AND WHO HATE CHRIST AND CHRISTIANS WHILE SEEKING TO ERASE EVERY TRACE OF GOD FROM OUR GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC LANDS!!!

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(L)USTFUL MINDS -- Among the "blinded-highminded" today are millions whose "wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish" (James 3:15). Vast multitudes who are "wise in their own conceit" (Romans 12:16) are wallowing in their own immoral cesspools of filth -- being filled and thrilled with sexual debauchery that is "earthly, sensual," and "devilish." Never before have folks in America, and around the globe, engaged

with more lustful abandon "in the lusts of [the] flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind" (Ephesians 2:3). Like "Mud-Wrestlers" whose bodies are totally smeared with immoral slime, and whose spiritual eyes are plastered and blinded with the Hog-Swill of Sensuality, millions have made sexual indulgence and pleasure their god! In reading the story of Eve's seduction by the Serpent, and the resulting knowledge of the guilty pair that they were naked, it seems quite apparent that their Fall brought upon all of their posterity a debased consciousness of fleshly things. With the Fall, "The Lord of all Flesh" had to vacate their bodily temples, and "The Lust of the Flesh" entered into them.

1 Corinthians 6:13 makes a very pertinent observation related to this: -- "Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now **THE BODY IS NOT FOR FORNICATION, BUT FOR THE LORD**; and the Lord for the body." With the Fall came "the lust of the flesh" which prostitutes the Human Body as "FOR FORNICATION" instead of "FOR THE LORD." "The Evil Propensity" at the Fall has now become "The Evil Preoccupation" of countless millions around the world! Fallen, Lustful Humanity's preoccupation with sex today (in 2004 A.D.) is so obvious that I need not convince anyone! The world is awash with the visible, audible, and printed evidence of that filthy fact.

The Lust of Blinded and Blighted Profligates cannot be controlled -- it **MUST BE CURED**, and God's Sanctifying Grace is the only cure for that impure, unholy, and inordinate "lust of the flesh" that entered into Adam's Race at the Fall:

1 Thess. 4:3-5 -- "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God."

1 Thess 5:23 -- "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

It is exceedingly sad that instead of seeking the cure for the inordinate "lust of the flesh" that plagues our world, we have millions who want even more "free rein" for their debaucheries and perversions -- and our nation is even now perched upon a watershed election-time which could result in an even more deep and rapid plunge of our citizens into the sewer of sexual filth.

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(I)NCONTINENT MINDS -- 2 Timothy 2:1-3 says, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be... incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good." The word "incontinent" means, according to my American Heritage Computer Dictionary: "1. Not restrained; uncontrolled: incontinent rage... 3. Lacking sexual restraint; unchaste." The carnal mind "is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7). It has been said that "None are so blind as those who **WILL NOT** see!" Inspired of God, Nehemiah declared of backslidden Israel: "...They were disobedient, and rebelled against thee, and **CAST THY LAW BEHIND THEIR BACKS**, and

slew thy prophets which testified against them to turn them to thee, and they wrought great provocations" (Neh. 9:26). THE BIG REASON WHY WE HAVE SO MUCH LAWLESSNESS AND CRIME in our land is: -- not because long-standing civil laws are being transgressed, but BECAUSE, AMERICA NATIONALLY HAS FIRST CAST GOD'S LAW BEHIND ITS BACK. And, a carnal society which is not subject to the Law of God, will soon be a society that will disregard Civil Law as well. That is why anarchy is beginning to increase in the U.S.A., with millions ignoring and transgressing local, county, state, and federal laws. But, those who are UNCONTROLLABLY INCONTINENT SOCIALLY AND MORALLY ARE ALSO BLIND -- and, as President Dwight David Eisenhower said in one of his inaugural addresses: "A people that values its PRIVILEGES above its PRINCIPLES, soon LOSES BOTH!" His words were not only true, but also prophetic of what is taking place in America, and of what will eventually destroy this nation, unless remedied, -- and that right early! Those who blindly insist upon the PRIVILEGE of giving free rein to their Unchaste and Unchained Moral and Social Incontinence, have long before that abandoned the God-Inspired PRINCIPLES upon which America was built -- and, having first lost those Principles, they shall next soon lose also the self-indulgent, and vile PRIVILEGES that they value above all else -- including GOD HIMSELF!!

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(N)ARCISSISTIC MINDS -- The word "narcissistic" is derived from the word "Narcissus" -- once again, defined thus by my computer dictionary: "Narcissus n. Greek Mythology. A youth who pined away in love for his own image in a pool of water.." Hence it is that one who is "narcissistic" is one who has "1. Excessive love or admiration of oneself. See Synonyms at conceit. 2. Erotic pleasure derived from contemplation or admiration of one's own body or self, especially as a fixation on or a regression to an infantile stage of development." Those who love nothing but themselves, those who live to obtain erotic pleasure for themselves, those who worship their own bodies, are largely blind to all else that really matters, and they are regressed into "an infantile stage of development" mentally, morally, and spiritually.

The full definition of "Narcissus" in Greek mythology is: "A youth who pined away in love for his own image in a pool of water AND WAS TRANSFORMED INTO THE FLOWER THAT BEARS HIS NAME." But, the proud, narcissistic lovers of self that now number into the multiplied millions in America have only been transformed INTO A FLOWER IN THEIR OWN VIEW, while in the view of many others their vain egotism looks and smells much more like a noxious and nauseating SKUNK-WEED! But of course, those whose minds are bli(N)ded in their narcissism seldom discern how odious they are to others. And, their narcissism is, according to 2 Timothy 3:1-2, one of the prime reasons why perilous times shall (and now HAVE) come: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves..."

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(D)EVIAANT MINDS -- The word, of course, comes from the word "deviate" which is defined as: "1. To turn aside from a course or way. 2. To depart, as from a norm, a purpose, or a subject; stray. See Synonyms at swerve."

The Bible mentions various ways in which people became spiritual "deviants":

In Exodus 32:8 we read of how Israel became deviants while Moses was in the Holy Mount: "They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt."

1 Samuel 8:3 tells of how the permissive Eli's sons became deviants: "And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment."

In Job 6:18, the miserable sufferer complained of how his "brethren" had become deviants: "The paths of their way are turned aside; they go to nothing, and perish."

In 1 Timothy 1:5-6, St. Paul spoke of those who deviated from "Charity out of a pure heart: "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling."

And, in 1 Timothy 5:14-15, Paul spoke of young women who became deviants: "I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully. For some are already turned aside after Satan."

One result of becoming spiritually deviant is the possibility of also becoming a sexual deviant, and perhaps the most blind deviants of all today are SEXUAL DEVIANTS -- those who claim that their filthy and abnormal practices are but another form of normalcy! Bible students all know of how God blinded the eyes of the sexual deviants who surrounded Lot's house in Sodom -- so much so, that they wearied themselves in the effort to find the door.

Today, SEXUAL DEVIANCY HAS BECOME SO PREDOMINANT THAT THEY SEEK TO CONVERT OTHERS TO THEIR VILE ABNORMALCY, AND HAVE THOSE ARRESTED WHO SPEAK AGAINST THEM!! In Isaiah 30:11 we find words that are quite synonymous with the filthy and false preaching of homosexuals in America: "Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us."

Their message is: "Get out of the way that teaches that homosexuality is a sin! Like we have, Turn aside out of the path of normal, and chaste sexual behavior! Pass laws that will cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us! Away with this archaic, Judeo-Christian ethic!"

Both the Sexual Deviants themselves, and all who endorse or capitulate to their vile demands are BLIN(D)ED!!! And, if America does not repent of its endorsement of this filthy behavior, a judgment like that which fell on Sodom and Gomorrah -- only much worse -- is sure to fall!!!

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(E)NTICED AND CORRUPTED MINDS -- James 1:14 says, "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed." And, it is clear that Mother Eve was first enticed, then beguiled, and finally corrupted in her mind: 2 Corinthians 11:3 -- "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

Satan is a Master of Enticement. He corrupted the mind of Eve and with that corrupt mind Eve persuaded Adam to commit the same transgression. Down across the centuries, Satan has, with increasing success, enticed, beguiled, and corrupted the minds of womanhood, knowing very well that if he corrupts the minds of women, they will, in turn, entice and corrupt the minds of men. And, it is not difficult to discern that one of the results coming from the Fall of both Eve and Adam was an untoward consciousness of their sexuality -- and a focusing upon their bodies and bodily senses that supplanted their God-given innocence and purity of mind which, devoid of this inordinate, bodily and sensual consciousness, had caused their minds to be fixed upon God.

"The lust of the flesh" was, and still is, a Satanically warped ingredient of "The CARNAL mind" -- which, according to St. Paul "is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts" (Eph. 4:22). When the minds of Eve and Adam were "enticed" they became blinded to all but that which they could experience with their physical senses. Then, upon partaking of the forbidden, their minds were corrupted. They passed on to all their offspring a Corrupt, Carnal Mind that was prone toward temptation, lust, enticement and a blinded estrangement from God.

There is only one cure for the Carnal Mind, and it is not Social Refinement, Vows of Reformation, Assiduous Self-Abasement, Growth in Grace, The Pains of Death, nor the Imaginary Flames of Purgatory. The one and only cure for it is seen in Romans 6:6, where Paul declares to the Children of God: "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Full Salvation is entirely by Faith in the Blood of Christ -- First, after complete repentance, Faith in His Blood for the Forgiveness of Sins, and Second, after complete consecration, Faith in His Blood for the cleaning of the Heart from All Sin. It is this Blood-Bought deliverance from the Carnal Mind that ALL OF THE APOSTLES PREACHED AFTER PENTECOST -- including St. John: "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). Blinded Minds are enticed and corrupted minds -- carnal minds -- but Blood-Cleansed minds are spiritually enlightened minds -- the spiritually-sighted minds of those who are "partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Peter 1:4).

* * *

(D)ELUDED AND DAMNED MINDS -- 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 reveals how millions will be deluded and damned through the Man of Sin: "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should

believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

While Democracy is probably the best form of government in this old sinful world, the hope and deliverance of a blinded world, headed for dark damnation is not political liberty and freedom. The only hope and deliverance for the millions of MINDS THAT ARE BLINDED TO GOSPEL LIGHT is in the Savior, Christ Jesus. He paid the price at Calvary, and He alone has the power to cure that eternally damning blindness.

One of His loving invitations is found in Isaiah 42:16:

"And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them."

An old saying declares: "The proof of the pudding is in the eating!" And, Jesus expounded that same thought when he declared in John 7:17 -- "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."

One blind man whose sight was miraculously restored by the Lowly Galilean, declared to the critics of Jesus: "Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see" (John 9:25).

If you have had your spiritual sight restored by Christ, that which was "true in him" physically who testified above, is now true "in you" spiritually, "because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth" (1 John 2:8). All who WILL, CAN see the Gospel Truth of Christ, "THE TRUE LIGHT THAT NOW SHINETH."

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03 -- FORCING ONE'S GRIEF UPON OTHERS

"Weep with them that weep" (Rom. 12:15).

I shall not say exactly when and where wife and I beheld one of the most pathetic messages we have ever seen on the back side of a vehicle we were following. I WILL share with you some of the specifics about the vehicle and the strange message on the rear window that we beheld when this car passed us in and adjacent lane.

The vehicle was an SUV with what appeared to be a very dark bluish color -- so dark that it could perhaps be easily mistaken in a casual glance as black. The dark color aptly fit the morbid message on the rear window -- giving the whole picture a resemblance to a hearse on the way to the cemetery -- and, I suspect that the man driving that vehicle with his wife beside him may have indeed had the message printed in quite large letters on that rear window when they followed the hearse to their daughter's burial.

But these strangely, and morbidly grieving people apparently wanted the whole world, wherever they went, from then on, perhaps until they sell the vehicle, to weep with them over their daughters death. Here they were, traveling on a multi-lane freeway, and with that sign, in effect, asking everyone who got behind them to share their grief -- even though many of the thousands who have no doubt already read their grieving message didn't know either of them from Adam and Eve, nor their daughter from the first female child ever born on earth! [BTW, Adam and Eve DID have a daughter -- a logical necessity to the propagation of mankind from them.]

Back to the strange couple who wished to force their grief upon all those who ever got close enough behind their hearse-colored vehicle to induce all such to "weep with them that weep."

The sign consisted of two quite large, White Crosses -- one near the top-left of the rear window, the other near the top-right. Between the two crosses in bold, white letters was something like:

"We Are Saddened By The Passing, And
Shall Never Forget Our Beloved Daughter,
D-A-N-I-E-L-E
Who Died On June ??, 2004"

I am sure that I do not have some of this wording exactly right -- but, along with her name, it conveys quite accurately the invitation to grieve with them that this odd couple wanted the world, everywhere they went, to read.

MY OPINION: -- AN EXAMPLE OF MORBID, SELF-PITYING SELFISHNESS!!!

If this grieving couple intended that this sign on the back of their vehicle be nothing more than a Tribute to their beloved daughter, Daniele, then their odd way of paying such tribute is quite forgivable. However, even then, it seems to me that people with good sense would have chosen a more fitting way to pay tribute to their dear daughter!

(1) Why in this wide world did they think that the countless thousands who read that sign, telling of their grief, would consider it a fitting way to eulogize or pay tribute to their daughter? Millions of others, besides this odd couple, have also lost children, and loved ones, and who wants to read such a morbid announcement on the back of a vehicle that you may be forced to follow for miles!

(2) Besides conjuring up morbid feelings in the minds of those who have grief enough of their own, and who have no desire to be in such a "funeral procession," the sign poses a hazard if some desiring to see what it says on the odd grievers' rear window, become distracted, and then have an accident that may kill them or others on the road!

(3) I grant you, their morbid invitation to grieve with them was not as distasteful as millions of other bumper-sticker or rear-window messages that are nasty and suggestive, but, to say the least, it WAS distasteful!

But I cannot help but feel that this morbid man and his wife may well have wanted this sign to do more than merely pay tribute to their beloved daughter. It's wording, probably already forced upon the eyes of thousands since June, may well be read by millions before that car goes off the road or before that message is removed. And, it seems to say: "WE ARE GRIEVING, WEEP WITH US OVER THE DEATH OF OUR DAUGHTER!"

The message on the rear window of their car could have been, and perhaps was, placed upon the tombstone of their daughter as an epitaph in the cemetery where she is buried. BUT THAT'S WHERE EPITAPH'S BELONG -- ON GRAVESTONES -- NOT ON THE REAR WINDOW OF ONE'S VEHICLE!

Do you agree?

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04 -- FARCE -- AND -- FORCE
(Ominous and Obvious Factors In These Last Days!)

Those "which devour.. for a pretence.. these shall receive greater damnation" (Mark 12:40).

"And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Rev. 13:15).

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CONTENTS

Introduction

A -- Farce & Force Used Regarding The Teaching Of Evolution
B -- Farce & Force Used To Defend Homosexual Behavior
C -- Farce & Force Used In Defending And Performing Abortions
D -- Farce & Force Used In Favoring Select Groups
E -- Farce And Force Used To Gain Power
F -- Farce & Force Used To Oppress And Deny Freedom
G -- Farce & Force Used To Promote Pacifism And Appeasement

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INTRODUCTION

FARCE and FORCE, are ominously and obviously coming into play around the word as we approach the close of the age. It is not my purpose in this article to express all of my

eschatological views. Those interested in learning them can read my book, "His Appearing and His Kingdom," hdm0124. I will only state here that MORE AND MORE "FARCE" AND MORE AND MORE "FORCE" ARE BEING EXERTED AGAINST CHRISTIANS -- NOW! -- AND IT IS MY BELIEF THAT THE CHURCH SHALL EXPERIENCE MORE OF BOTH THAN MOST CONSERVATIVES NOW THINK!!

But let me begin by defining my terms:

(1) FARCE -- My American Heritage computer dictionary gives one meaning of the word "farce" as: "A ludicrous, empty show; a mockery: The election was a farce, for it was fixed." And, one meaning for the word "farce" in my Webster's computer dictionary is: "Something absurd or ridiculous -- Synonyms: mockery, sham, travesty, pretense; see fake." Webster's also defines "pretense" as: "The act of pretending; a false appearance or action intended to deceive." Though the word has other shades of meaning, I shall use the word "farce" in this article as that which is bogus, a fake, a pretense, the design of which is to deceive.

(2) FORCE -- This word really needs little or no definition, even to a third-grader. Force is the exertion of power, either for good or for evil. In this article I shall use the word "force" in the negative sense, like that expressed in Ezekiel 34:4 -- "but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them."

The closer we come to THE END, the more Satan is manifesting and using both FARCE and FORCE. Let us consider some ways in which this ominous fact is all too obvious:

* * *

A -- FARCE & FORCE USED REGARDING THE TEACHING OF EVOLUTION

Though the farcical theory of evolution has been long taught, never has it had more duped believers than today. Evolution is a Farce -- Satan knows it, but he has managed to get millions of spiritually blind high-brows and lame-brains also to swallow it as a fact. They think the Bible could not be true because its Time-Line contradicts all the evidence in geology pointing to an earth that is millions of years old. So, without any effort to resolve the Bible testimony with what they think irrefutably so, they Force the Word of God out of educational curricula, and insist that the Farce of Evolution can and must be taught therein.

Evolutionary Farce and ACLU Force (along with all those who agree with this group) are not only outlawing God's Word in academia, but they are moving to Force every vestige of Scripture from every public place, every public institution, and every governmental statement. It would not surprise me if "In God We Trust" is soon removed from U.S. coins and currency. And, I predict that the name of God may soon be cast out of every legal oath.

In 2 Thess. 2:9 we read thus of anti-Christ: "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders."

Know what I think? You need not agree, but I think it possible that some of the "lying wonders" seen at the time the Man of Sin comes will be UFOs which are demonic embodiments in the shape of flying saucers and demonic embodiments of creatures who declare that they came from another planet. Further, I think that these "wonders" who seem to be creatures from another planet may well, through their "lying," convince earth's deceived millions that Evolution is so. And, they may be the Satanic emissaries who delude millions into believing that Christ Jesus was but another visitor from a distant planet, and that He was no more the Son of God than millions of others just like him. Then, with such farcical, "lying wonders" it would next be more easy for the Beast to pawn himself off as the world's true savior.

I am inclined to think that the Farce of Evolution may be at the very heart of the "strong delusion" mentioned in 2 Thess. 2:9-12 -- "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause GOD SHALL SEND THEM STRONG DELUSION, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

Do I hear somebody ask: "If God is always truthful, how is it possible for Him to "send them strong delusion." I believe the answer is this: God shall SEND this strong delusion in the sense of allowing it to come upon those who have refused to "believe the truth" of His Word! His Word IS so; His Christ IS the world's One and Only Savior; His Account of Creation IS factual -- but when millions reject it to that point -- He shall allow the "Strong Delusion" of Evolution to convince them to their damnation.

When this all occurs, the deluding FARCE of Evolution will be backed by the demanding FORCE of the anti-Christ. And, you know that capital execution shall face all who do not bow to his demands.

Do I hear others say, "Well, I'm just glad that as I Christian I won't be here when any of this take place!"

I reply: "Don't be too sure of that." If my prophetic interpretations are correct, the Church WILL still be on earth at that time. But I shall not argue the matter here. One thing is sure: -- as the end approaches the Farce and Force to which I have alluded above will increasingly prevail.

* * *

B -- FARCE & FORCE USED TO DEFEND HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR

Just today, I heard a woman being interviewed on the radio who belongs to the "SAFE SCHOOLS COALITION." They are advocates of teaching in grade schools and above that Homosexuality is nothing but another NORMAL sexual orientation. They are recommending curricula to schools that would teach children that "families consist of those who love and help one another," to quote this woman. "And some of those families have two Daddies (with no

Mommy); some of those families have two Mommies (with no Daddy); while other families have a Daddy and a Mommy."

This woman and her "Safe Schools Coalition" assert that little children need to learn that Homosexuality is another form of Normalcy because when children learn this it makes it more "Safe" all children to attend school, including little boys who discover that they are girls trapped in male bodies and vice versa with little girls who are likewise boys trapped in female bodies.

THIS, my friends, IS A FIENDISH FARCE! -- but, LOOK OUT! This so-called "Safe School Coalition" is widespread. In a quick online search for them, I found links to:

"Safe Schools Coalition -- Doorway" -- their main page

"California Safe Schools Coalition"

"Boulder Valley Safe Schools Coalition, Colorado"

"Hawaii's Safe School Coalition"

"Triangle Foundation -- Michigan Safe Schools Coalition"

"Creating Safe Schools For Lesbian And Gay Students"

"Safe Schools Coalition Of Seymour, Indiana"

And, I saw other links online that show that the so-called "Safe Schools Coalition" is in Montana and apparently in various other states as well -- perhaps in every state in the Union!

Furthermore, the FARCE OF HOMOSEXUAL NORMALCY is being increasingly FORCED UPON ALL by Homosexual Activists, Judges, Teachers, Politically "Correct?" Liberals, by Laws and by the arrest of those who speak out against it as both abnormal and sinful!

Some have already been arrested for preaching against this wicked, abnormal, sexually deviant behavior. I predict that even more Force will soon be used in foisting off this filthy Farce upon normal, decent people who hate it, and who judge it to be just what the Bible says it is.

Still, it would be better to go to jail for preaching the Truth about it than to go to Hell for adopting this filthy life-style as wholesome and normal: 1 Cor. 6:9-10 still says, (politically popular or not) -- "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

* * *

C -- FARCE & FORCE USED IN DEFENDING AND PERFORMING ABORTIONS

Oh, so often, Abortion stops a beating heart! -- a heart that God caused to develop and begin to beat -- a heart within an individual whom God caused to exist.

It is a FARCE to say that a baby inside the womb, or partially born, is NOT a PERSON with just as much "Right To Life" as a baby that is totally without the womb! It is a FORCE that should not be exerted which legalizes and performs the aborting of those defenseless babes, snuffing out their lives for no other reason than that the woman bearing that unborn, or partially born, child does not want the baby!

Is it any wonder that since Abortion has been so widely legalized some young mothers have Post-Natally Aborted their baby!? I know not how many thousands of new mothers there have been around the world who have snuffed out the life of their new-born child, reasoning that "If abortion, even partial-birth abortion is OK, then abortion right after birth should be OK too"! Don't tell me that such reasoning has not run through the minds of many who have slain their baby right after it was born -- leaving the body in a dumpster or wherever. THE FACT IS: AS I SEE IT, THE TAKING OF AN UNBORN BABY'S LIFE OR A NEW-BORN BABY'S LIFE ARE BOTH WRONG -- TERRIBLY, TERRIBLY WRONG! -- especially when the only reason for doing so is that the baby is unwanted!

But this merciless FARCE is being FORCED upon the world by those who see it as nothing more than "a woman's right to choose." And, the FORCE behind that FARCE may soon start trying to have preachers jailed who preach against it -- just as some have already been jailed for crying out against Sodomy!

* * *

D -- FARCE & FORCE USED IN FAVORING SELECT GROUPS

I would be careful and considerate here. None should oppose the civil rights of any, and I think that some measures used to rectify past injustices have been, and are good. However, it is equality and equity which is needed -- not entitlements which grant educational opportunities and job opportunities, denied to those who are more qualified, merely because one's great-grandfather was mistreated! Many of our forebears were mistreated by the British before and during the Revolutionary War. Does that mean that you have a right to insist that Great Britain owes you an entrance into Oxford? -- even though several others are more academically qualified to enter that prestigious university than are you?

Equality is one thing -- Favoritism is quite another. Many of various ethnic groups in America have achieved greatness -- not because of favoritism, but because of a zealous and commendable effort to excel -- Condoleeza Rice and Colin Powell being two such. Is it not a Farce to insist that some must have undue favoritism shown them, or they will not succeed? Generally, "the cream rises to the top" from any racial group when they are simply given an equal and fair shot at success.

Likewise, is it not a Farce to insist that Hispanics must be allowed to enter our nation illegally and then be given exemption from deportation, because unless we wink at their criminal trespass they cannot succeed?

Favoritism shown to select groups in America is, all too often, a FARCE! -- and yet, even now, we have countless thousands, if not millions, who would FORCE this inequity, this unfair inequality off upon our students and our tax-payers!

* * *

E -- FARCE AND FORCE USED TO GAIN POWER

Absalom was not the first, and certainly not the last, to use farcical, smooth-talk to gain the position of national leadership. May God deliver our nation from another "Absalom President"! Our last one set the stage for the 9-11 WTC-Pentagon Attacks. If we get another in November, that "Absalom" may do more than get his proud-hairdo caught in the branches of appeasement and become a loser himself -- he may set the stage for our national destruction! I sincerely believe that OUR NATIONAL DESTINY HANGS IN THE BALANCE IN OUR NOVEMBER ELECTION. Those who agree should do more than pray -- they should vote to help prevent it. But, from what I have heard, there may be some dirty tricks played at the polls and after the polls by some who are determined to FORCE their way into power. Thus, those who are concerned should do more than pray and then vote. They should pray, vote, and keep on praying for honesty to prevail IN the election and IN THE TALLYING and litigation that may follow the election.

In my opinion, the Dan Rather-CBS-Memogate shows just how far some will go to use FARCE to place in power those who will rein things the way they want to see them go. If such FARCE prevails, then don't be surprised to see FORCE USED to keep the power that is gained.

* * *

F -- FARCE & FORCE USED TO OPPRESS AND DENY FREEDOM

Vladimir Putin, Russia's present leader, now seems bent upon using the Farce of Limiting Democracy to fight against terrorism. Some months ago, he arrested and jailed a prosperous, Russian Entrepreneur who threatened his election. Now, using the recent Chechan Terrorist Attack on a Russian school, Putin is pushing to take the power of personally appointing those who shall be governors of the various part of Russia.

Just the other day, I heard that Kofi Anan was once introduced as "President of the World"! And, I fear it is a position he would be happy to have. Apparently in an effort to influence our coming election, Kofi let it be known that he considered the war against the Butcher, Saddam Hussein, to be "illegal"! Since when does he have any right to campaign for the election of John Kerry!!?? Perhaps many will heave a sigh of relief when, about two years from now Kofi Anan steps down from the proud pinnacle he now sits upon. In my view, it

would do the world good if the UN Pinnacle itself was taken down, and CAST OUT of the U.S.A.!!

Who knows but what an even more, One-World-Government-Minded man will step into Anan's shoes. Those of us who take Bible prophecy as true KNOW that eventually the ultimate FARCE will be used by the anti-Christ to FORCE the world to bow at his feet: Dan. 11:21 -- "And in his estate shall stand up A VILE PERSON, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he SHALL come in peaceably, and OBTAIN THE KINGDOM BY FLATTERIES" -- by FARCE -- and then -- keep the kingdom a few more years -- by FORCE.

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G -- FARCE & FORCE USED TO PROMOTE PACIFISM AND APPEASEMENT

There ARE times when one MUST fight to do RIGHT! Do you think that God would justify a man who stood by and did nothing if a helpless child or woman, was being brutalized and mercilessly assaulted right before his eyes!? Would God justify a husband who would not protect his family from bodily harm or murder, and who did nothing more than plead with an intruder to cease his assault upon them!?

It was the heartless, murdering Cain, who asked God, "Am I my brother's keeper?"

God DOES EXPECT YOU TO BE YOUR BROTHER'S KEEPER -- even when it is NOT something threatening his life. You are your brother's keeper, even if it is no more than his livelihood that is being threatened:

Deut. 22:1 -- "Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep go astray, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt in any case bring them again unto thy brother."

Deut. 22:4 -- "Thou shalt not see thy brother's ass or his ox fall down by the way, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt surely help him to lift them up again."

Jesus re-inforced the above with his story of the Bad and Indifferent "priest" and "Levite" contrasted with the one we call the "Good Samaritan."

IF, THEREFORE, GOD EXPECTS YOU TO DEFEND THE "LIVELIHOOD" OF ANOTHER, HOW MUCH MORE DOES HE EXPECT YOU TO DEFEND THE "LIFE" OF ANOTHER!!!

Those who make much to-do about no WMDs found in Iraq, say little or nothing about how many thousands of innocents the monster, Saddam Hussein, was torturing and slaughtering under his murderous regime! IF THERE WAS NO OTHER REASON WHY THIS MAD-MAN SHOULD HAVE BEEN FORCIBLY REMOVED BY WAR -- THAT WAS SUFFICIENT!

But, the fact is, there are good reasons to believe that HUSSEIN DID HAVE WMDs, even though they have not yet been found -- and, there is even more justification for taking this

tyrant down than the deliverance of the Iraqis being butchered by him: -- I believe he posed a threat to millions of innocents around the globe -- including right here in America.

God HATES THE APPEASEMENT OF EVIL! Read the words of Judges 5:16-23 below. They are a strong rebuke to those who went not to the battle -- being content to let evil prevail while others jeopardized their lives in warring for the right:

16 Why abodest thou among the sheepfolds, to hear the bleatings of the flocks? For the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart. [And, there are times you won't feel right if you don't defend right!]

17 Gilead abode beyond Jordan: and why did Dan remain in ships? Asher continued on the sea shore, and abode in his breaches.

18 Zebulun and Naphtali were a people that jeopardized their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.

19 The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; they took no gain of money. [They were not fighting for money, but for right!]

20 They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera. [When a war is justified, God will cause the elements to fight for the right. There have been a number of instances when this has happened!]

21 The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon. O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength.

22 Then were the horsehoofs broken by the means of the pransings, the pransings of their mighty ones. [When bloodthirsty Terrorists are "Prancing" it is no time to be "dancing to their tune!"]

23 CURSE YE MEROZ, said the angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; BECAUSE THEY CAME NOT TO THE HELP OF THE LORD, TO THE HELP OF THE LORD AGAINST THE MIGHTY.

Oh, I know, many will say, "Duane Maxey, THAT is OLD TESTAMENT! Jesus said in Matthew 5:39 -- "I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also."

I would answer: -- CHRIST DID NOT MEAN BY THAT STATEMENT THAT YOU SHOULD "STAND BY AND DO NOTHING WHILE YOU WATCH INNOCENTS BEING TORTURED, SLAUGHTERED, AND MILLIONS THREATENED BY THE VICIOUS ACTS OF MURDERERS!"

To the contrary, it was CHRIST WHO INSPIRED PAUL TO WRITE in Romans 13:1-4:

1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for HE [the good, governmental leader whom God has placed in power] IS THE MINISTER OF GOD, a revenger TO EXECUTE WRATH UPON HIM THAT DOETH EVIL."

My friends, GOD DOES BELIEVE IN CAPITAL PUNISHMENT! GOD DOES BELIEVE IN THE EXECUTION OF WRATH UPON SUCH AS SADDAM HUSSEIN, OSAMA BIN LADEN -- AND ALL THEIR CUT-THROAT HENCHMEN!

After some 3,000 Americans plus more from other countries were wantonly attacked and slain on September 11, 2001, like a brave David, our President stood up in righteous indignation and said, in effect: "IS THERE NOT A CAUSE?!!" --1 Samuel 17:29. Like the boasting Goliath, Al Qaeda had breathed out threatenings and meted out slaughter for far more than 40 days. And, after such an horrific slaughter on our own land, our President, like David, decided it was time to TAKE THE BATTLE TO THE ENEMY!

Now, when our forces are in the process of decapitating The Giant of Terrorism, instead of cheering David, we have millions of liberal appeasers who are trying to take the victor off the field before Goliath's head is removed!

Such total insanity! Such total disloyalty, not only to America, but to the cause of Law and Order for peace-loving people around the globe! -- those whose lives and livelihoods will be greatly endangered if this monster is allowed to live and revive!

When the murderous Adolf Hitler was advancing across Europe, England's Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain repeatedly tried to appease the tyrant. It didn't work! After Chamberlain, Winston Churchill became Prime Minister, and wanted nothing to do with the appeasement of Hitler!

"On October 16, 1938, Winston Churchill broadcast directly to the United States... The speech [was] an impassioned appeal for greater American involvement in Europe:

"'WE MUST ARM. BRITAIN MUST ARM. AMERICA MUST ARM..'

Later, Churchill declared:

"...[W]e have passed an awful milestone in our history, when the whole equilibrium of Europe has been deranged, and that the terrible words have for the time being pronounced against the Western democracies: 'Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting.' And do not suppose that this is the end. This is only the beginning of the reckoning.

"What always strikes one in reading histories of the past and in surveying the degradation of so many great communities, is the failure of the sober, moderate, virtuous forces to act with vigour and, if need be, with violence against aggression."

In January 1941, U.S. President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt sent Churchill a hand-written message of encouragement, in which he quoted the following from Longfellow:

Sail on, Oh Ship of State!
Sail on, Oh union strong and great.
Humanity with all its fears
With all the hope of future years
Is hanging breathless on thy fate.

"Churchill was so moved by this letter that he subsequently had it framed and placed on his study wall at Chartwell. Hence its faded appearance in the archives today. But, ever the politician, he also used it to try and bring more practical support from the U.S. He quoted it in his famous broadcast of February 9, 1941, perhaps his most celebrated appeal to North America, which ended: "GIVE US THE TOOLS AND WE WILL FINISH THE JOB."

This is no time for our nation to place in its highest office one who refused to vote to give our troops "THE TOOLS TO FINISH THE JOB"! It is, rather, time to keep in office one who will not only give them the needed tools, but who will KEEP THEM IN THE BATTLE UNTIL THE JOB IS FINISHED!

If I recall correctly, it was Gen. Tommy Franks whom I heard relate the following story to Shawn Hannity and his radio audience the other day. It was Gen. Franks who led the forces which toppled the Hussein regime. He has now written and published a book, titled "American Soldier," which has become a best-seller. Here is the story, retold as best I can recall:

As Gen. Franks was sitting at a table autographing copies of his book at a Book-Signing, an elderly woman strode up to him and placed both hands on the table, saying:

"Gen. Franks, some folks want to know how much this war is going to cost. Tell them will let them know that WHEN WE WIN! And, some folks want to know how long this war is going to last. Tell them, we will let them know that AFTER WE WIN!!!"

It was obvious that this dear old woman believed that when it comes to resisting and defeating the wrong, THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLETE VICTORY -- AT WHATEVER COST AND HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES!

This principle is true both in spiritual warfare and earthly warfare, made imperative by the threat of bloodthirsty terrorists and tyrants who have already proven they are mass-murderers who will continue their slaughters unless they are destroyed. It was the New Covenant, sanctified Peter who referred to some "as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed" (2 Pet. 2:12).

They promote a FARCE who would FORCE our military to abandon their mission in Iraq with something less than complete victory.

Hats off! -- to a President who is courageous enough execute the wrath necessary to destroy the brute killers who have run amok in our world. And A HUGE SALUTE OF THANKS TO MORE THAN 1,000 U.S. SOLDIERS WHO HAVE DIED DOING THAT JOB.

After the horrific carnage of the Battle of Gettysburg, President Lincoln said: "WE MUST HERE HIGHLY RESOLVE THAT THESE DEAD SHALL NOT HAVE DIED IN VAIN." What a travesty of justice and mockery of the sacrifices made in Iraq it would be for the next American President, whoever he is, to abandon the war before "WE FINISH THE JOB"!

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05 -- HOW THE "GOOD SAMARITAN" HAS "FALLEN AMONG THIEVES"

"A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee." (Luke 10:30-35).

That's the way it WAS! -- when Jesus related the story. Now, let me relate the story with some addenda, as it might occur in the state of Arizona, or any of the other 49 states, today:

On a dark night, a certain man was driving down from Phoenix to Tucson on I-10 when he had a flat tire on his old flivver. He had no jack and no spare. As he began waving a flashlight for somebody to stop and help him, almost immediately another old flivver stopped behind him. Several men got out of the car and, saying that they had both a jack and mounted tire that would fit his car, they offered to help him if he would hand one of them the lug wrench. Delighted at such good fortune, he thanked them profusely, handed the lug wrench to the man nearest to him. Whereupon, while two of the others held him fast, the man with the lug-wrench hit him over the head. Then, they robbed him of all money in his billfold as he sagged into unconsciousness, also took everything from his car that they thought had any value, then drug him over into the ditch along the roadway, got into their vehicle and fled the scene.

But a certain "Good Samaritan from Phoenix," as he journeyed, driving a late model car, came where he was: and when he saw him lying there in the ditch with his head bleeding profusely, he had compassion on him, and went to him. He discovered the man was still alive, used his clean handkerchief to wipe the blood off of his head, placed the folded handkerchief under the man's head, and used his cell phone to call for an ambulance.

Before the ambulance arrived, as the "Good Samaritan" was doing his best to comfort the robbed and wounded victim, the man regained consciousness. The "Good Samaritan" informed the victim that he had called an ambulance. Whereupon the wounded man said he had no hospitalization and could not afford medical treatment. The "Good Samaritan" told him not to worry, that he would do his utmost to see to it that he got the needed care anyway, somehow.

The ambulance from Phoenix with Emergency Medical Technicians arrived, loaded the victim into the ambulance, took an emergency connection through to the north-bound lanes of I-10 since Phoenix was a bit closer than Tucson, and quickly got him to the emergency room of a suburban Phoenix hospital. The "Good Samaritan" had also called the police, and before he left the scene he gave them his name, address, and telephone number, along with all of the details concerning what he had discovered and done.

After being treated in the emergency room, the robbed and mugged man was taken into a recovery room of the hospital, and it was expected that he would have a rather speedy recovery. The "Good Samaritan" not only visited the man in the hospital, but also made arrangements for the victim to receive free care for the whole thing. After relating this to the victim, the "Good Samaritan" gave the man his name, address, and telephone number, requesting that he give him a call after he was released from the hospital, so he would know that all was well. Then, he bid the man a fond farewell.

However, all did not go well. There had been grime on the victim's lug-wrench with which he had been hit by the robbers. In spite of anti-biotics administered by the doctor and nurses in the hospital, the man's wound became infected, and did not heal enough for him to leave the hospital for 30 days. Still, due to the "Good Samaritan's" arrangements, the mugged man left the hospital without having to pay one cent. When the "Good Samaritan" learned of this, it made him feel real good, deep down inside, and he hoped that the healed victim would soon call him with his thanks. But, he heard nothing for about three weeks.

Then, the "Good Samaritan" was shocked to receive legal notice from the victim's lawyer -- a trial lawyer who had already made millions by winning law-suits for sue-happy plaintiffs who were out to get all they could, on any grounds they could, from whomsoever they could.

This victim had learned that the "Good Samaritan" who helped him lived in the well-to-do Phoenix suburb, Fountain Hills, drove a nice car, and had some money. The legal notice from his lawyer informed the "Good Samaritan" that he was being sued for the sum of \$200,000 dollars on the following grounds:

(1) Germs from the "Good Samaritan's" handkerchief had caused the bad infection that took 30 days to heal;

(2) The "Good Samaritan" had administered First Aid that he was not qualified to give;

(3) The "Good Samaritan" had delayed the arrival of an ambulance and qualified Medical Technicians by taking time to treat his wounds;

(4) The "Good Samaritan" had suggested that the victim be transported back to Phoenix, instead of transporting him to a Tucson hospital, which resulted in the victim's separation from his family during much of the time he was hospitalized, thereby bringing him mental and emotional distress;

(5) The bungling "Good Samaritan" suggested that the victim be taken to the nearest, suburban Phoenix hospital, whereas, if he had been taken to the downtown, St. Joseph's Hospital, he would have received much better treatment.

(6) The "Good Samaritan's" bungling had caused the man to lose 30 days' wages, when if he had immediately called an ambulance and left all treatment up to qualified Medical Technicians the victim would have been back to work in less than a week;

(7) The "Good Samaritan," being a man of means, should pay \$75,000 dollars damages for the above reasons, and should pay \$125,000 as an amercement (punitive damages) for his bungling.

While all of MY STORY above is fictitious, it DOES ILLUSTRATE HOW today, in America, all too often it is "THE GOOD SAMARITAN" WHO HAS "FALLEN AMONG THIEVES"!!!

John Edwards is not the only "Trial Lawyer" in "Sue-Happy" America to become wealthy. I shall not accuse him of doing what many of his profession have, nor of gaining HIS wealth in the devious ways by which so many of that profession have made themselves extremely rich. I know nothing of the facts about his rise from poverty to wealth. I will only say, that to a great extent, Trial Lawyers in America are getting rich at the expense of us ALL!!! And, from what I have heard, American Trial Lawyers ARE supporting Edwards' Candidacy, and I fear that they may have much to gain if he becomes our next Vice-President.

When the motive of both the plaintiff and his lawyer is to "Get Rich Quick" -- when they will stoop to anything to win a lawsuit -- when they win numerous cases costing American Businessmen, American Doctors, and American Companies billions -- THE COST INEVITABLY FALLS BACK ON THE AVERAGE AMERICAN WAGE-EARNER IN INCREASED COSTS FOR INSURANCE, GOODS, AND SERVICES!

When American, Trial Lawyers claim to be "standing up for the little guy" against wealthy individuals, businesses, doctors, and companies, too often what they are really "standing

up for" is "Quick Riches For Themselves" and "Huge Monetary Awards From Fraudulent Claims Made By Lazy and Greedy Liars"!

According to what I heard just today, when a doctor in California stopped to render aid at an accident scene before an ambulance and Medical Technicians had arrived, the police told him to get out of there because if he did render aid he might be subject to a malpractice suit, the like of which in California could cost him a bundle!

Yes, dear reader, one must be careful today, even about being a "Good Samaritan," for all too often it is "The Good Samaritan" who "Falls Among Thieves" -- Thieves in the person of sue-happy citizens and their accommodating accomplices: anxious to get-rich-quick, Trial Lawyers who are clever in concocting claims on even the most flimsy and ridiculous grounds!

I understand that many American Physicians no longer even put an "MD" on their license plates because of those who might sue them IF they stopped and rendered aid somewhere, or who might just as likely sue them IF THEY DIDN'T STOP! Anyone might become a "Victim" of "Phony Victims" and these days all must be careful about becoming a "Good Samaritan."

Today, the high cost of malpractice insurance is driving some doctors out of practice in needed areas of service. While the high cost of fraudulent and flimsy claims is making Trial Lawyers very rich and enriching many greedy and lazy claimants, it is the "Average Joe" who ends up paying the bill, and, to a large extent, it is HE WHO EVENTUALLY SUFFERS MANY OTHER UNFAIR AND NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES from the billions of dollars paid out to settle these claims.

When Class-Action suits were first won against the big Tobacco Companies by those claiming that using this or that brand of cigarette or snoose caused them to get lung cancer or throat cancer, some of us were glad to see these "Purveyors of Puff and Snuff" have to pay out huge sums of money -- as those guilty of peddling pernicious products. And, we were all too willing to overlook the fact that PEOPLE HAVE A PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT THEY DO! Nobody MADE these people smoke or chew tobacco! Driving big tobacco out of business is not a bad goal, BUT, along with these victorious "Class-Action" suits against the tobacco industry came the persuasions that: (a) When I harm myself, I can successfully blame someone else, or some company; (b) Whether it is my own fault or not, I may get a lot of money by suing those with money; and (c) It need not cost me much, if anything, to bring suit because Trial Lawyers will agree to take the case for a big cut of the awarded money.

So, ever since huge amounts were won in Class-Action suits against the Tobacco Industry, we have had numerous other such suits, both by individuals and by groups suing as a Class-Action. Did I get fat eating at a Fast Food place? It's not MY fault, it's THEIR fault! I will sue them for my obesity, and get big money for my big belly! Did the germs in my head-infection come from the grime on my own lug wrench, used by the muggers who robbed me? Well, nobody can prove that; and, I can't sue the muggers -- BUT, I CAN "BITE THE HAND THAT HELPED ME"! I will sue the "Good Samaritan," and get some of his money -- not really because I think he did me any harm, but BECAUSE HE HAS MONEY, I WANT SOME OF IT

-- AND, MY LAWYER HAS AGREED TO TAKE THE CASE FOR NOTHING BUT HALF OF THE AMOUNT AWARDED ME!!!

The preacher of Truth stands in his pulpit and says: "My TEXT is..."

If the Trial Lawyers and False Claimants in many of their suits spoke the truth, they would stand up in court and say: "My PRETEXT for bringing this suit is..."!!!

LOOK OUT! "GOOD SAMARITAN"!! YOU MAY BE THE ONE TO "FALL AMONG THIEVES"!! Selah.

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06 -- THEY WON'T COME TO MIND IN HEAVEN

"I will bring you to Zion... NEITHER SHALL IT COME TO MIND: neither shall they remember it.. At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord." (Jer 3:15-17)

Twice in God's Word, He asserts:

"HEAVEN is my THRONE, and the EARTH is my FOOTSTOOL." (Isa. 66:1).

"HEAVEN is my THRONE, and EARTH is my FOOTSTOOL" (Acts 7:49).

Where do earthly kings sit when they reign? -- on their footstool, or on their throne? Why, of course, they sit on their throne!

WHERE SHALL CHRIST, THE KING OF KINGS, SIT WHEN HE REIGNS? -- In a Jerusalem on this earth, which is HIS FOOTSTOOL? Absolutely NOT! HE SHALL SIT IN HEAVEN -- IN THE NEW JERUSALEM, FOR THAT IS WHERE HIS THRONE IS!!!

Unlike many, I have long believed that Christ will NEVER sit and reign upon a throne in earthly Jerusalem. Rather, He will reign ONLY and ETERNALLY from his HEAVENLY THRONE in New Jerusalem. Thus, I assert that in Jer. 3:15-17 above when God says he will "bring you to Zion," that this shall have its fulfillment only and eternally in the bringing of "the Israel of God" (Spiritual Israel) into Heavenly Zion -- and, when God says that "At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord," He MUST BE referring to the NEW JERUSALEM, FOR EARTHLY JERUSALEM IS PART OF "HIS FOOTSTOOL" -- NOT PART OF HIS HEAVENLY THRONE"!

Their are many, many other Scriptures which, to my satisfaction, prove that Christ's coming, Messianic Kingdon will not be on this earth -- for a puny thousand years -- but will immediately commence after His Second Coming and the Judgment as his Heavenly and Eternal, Messianic Kingdom. I invite all who care to examine my teaching on this subject to read my book, "His Appearing and His Kingdom," hdm0124 -- found in the HDM Digital Library.

But I shall not hear try to prove my Eschatological doctrine. I will, instead, focus briefly upon some of the things that will NOT "COME TO MIND" (Jer. 3:16) in the New Jerusalem.

(1) THOUGHTS OF EVIL will not "come to mind" there. In this world, even the purest-minded and most holy saints of God are assaulted with "thoughts of evil" -- not with "evil thoughts" willfully conjured up, but with "thoughts of evil" injected into their minds by Satan. Christ does not condemn His children for "thoughts of evil" nor hold them responsible for crossing their minds, any more than they are responsible for the birds that fly over their heads. But, as has been often said in Christian counsel: "Saints are not responsible for the birds flying overhead, but they must not allow them to build a nest in their hair." Christians must frequently "Shoo Away" "Thoughts of Evil," lest they be entertained to the point of "nesting" as "pets" in their mind, so as to become thereby "Evil Thoughts."

But just think of it! -- in Heaven, not one, single, solitary "Thought of Evil" will ever "come to mind"!! Why? Because Satan, the sender of those thoughts will be eternally "Off-Line" and "Out of Contact" with the minds of the glorified saints! Dear Child of God, how many hundreds, or thousands, of times have you had to forcibly thrust and re-thrust some "Thought of Evil" out of your mind which relentlessly "came to mind" over and over again? In Heaven, none of those "dirty birds" will be flying about! You won't need to "Shoo Away" one of them -- they simply will never, never, never bother you again -- WORLD WITHOUT END! Doesn't that make you shout HALLELUJAH! -- EVEN IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH A THING!!!

(2) THOUGHTS OF PAST SINS will not come to mind there. After Christ has forgiven His child of every past sin, no matter how vile, Satan loves to cause those evil deeds to "come to mind" and make the Christian feel dirty and guilty when remembering them. How many millions of genuinely converted souls have been taunted and tormented by the devil, to the point of great discouragement, when the thoughts of past sins "came to mind" -- perhaps over and over again? But, saint of God, in Heaven NOT ONE THOUGHT OF ONE PAST SIN WILL EVER "COME TO MIND".

Do I hear somebody ask, "How do you know that?" I answer: God said in Isaiah 43:25 -- "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins."

NOW CONSIDER THIS: -- IF GOD WILL NOT REMEMBER YOUR SINS IN HEAVEN, DO YOU THINK HE WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR "YOU" TO REMEMBER THEM!?!? Why, of course not! Do I hear another HALLELUJAH out there -- or a BIG AMEN!?

(3) THOUGHTS OF THOSE NOT IN HEAVEN will not come to mind there. Heaven could not be Heaven if the glorified saints were constantly remembering family members, loved ones, and friends who were not in heaven, and thus obviously in Hell. In Ecclesiastes 8:10 we read: -- "And so I saw the wicked buried, who had come and gone from the place of the holy, and they were forgotten in the city where they had so done." I assert that those in Hell will "be forgotten in THE CITY," NEW JERUSALEM. To God's Eternally Saved Children, it will be as if they never existed. No thought of them will ever "come to mind."

(4) THOUGHTS OF ENVY OR JEALOUSY will not come to mind there. Here in this world, sometimes even the most devout Christian can be tempted with the "thought of envy," or the "thought of jealousy" -- especially if another is given a position that they felt should have been given to themselves. In Psalm 73:3, David said, "I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked." A "Thought of Evil Envy" came to his mind, and it was only when he "went into the sanctuary of God" that he was able to "Shoo Away" that thought and declare: "then understood I their end" (Psa. 73:17). The temptation to envy or jealousy is not sin, but it must be chased out of the Christian's mind. At this moment, I recall a godly young pastor-evangelist who was apparently tempted to envy after losing election to District Leadership to another -- who related the man's comments after losing. Unfortunately, I think this loser may have allowed the "thought of evil envy" to become the "evil of envious thought," for it was not too long thereafter that he turned in a different direction than he had been taking spiritually.

But in Heaven, nobody will feel cheated, nor ever have the slightest temptation to envy or be jealous of those who are honored above them in Christ's Eternal Kingdom. All will feel that they have abundantly above all that they could ask or think MORE THAN THEY DESERVE!

(5) MANY THINGS OF THIS EARTH will not come to mind there. Rev. 21:4 declares, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for THE FORMER THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY."

Can you imagine how uncomfortable it would be for one of Heaven's occupants to see someone, who was later forgiven of God who had brutalized and murdered them on earth? Surely the remembrance of all mistreatment by others then in Heaven will not "come to mind" in the memory of their victims who dwell with them in glory. There will be no memory of past wrongs and no apologizing done in heaven for past wrongs done to fellow occupants of the New Jerusalem. Maybe I am wrong about some things in this article, including this last point. But, I have just as much confidence that I may be very right.

One Hymn asserts that in Heaven Christians "Will tell the story how [they've] overcome," but I, for one, am inclined to think that most of that story of overcoming will involve the memory of Christ's mercy to them, and that MUCH OF THAT STORY WILL INVOLVE "FORMER THINGS THAT ARE PASSED AWAY" which will never "come to mind" in "THE SWEET BY AND BY."

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07 -- JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM

SCRIPTURES

Jer. 10:16 -- [JESUS] "THE PORTION OF JACOB IS NOT LIKE THEM: for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: The Lord of hosts is his name."

Jer. 51:19 -- [JESUS] "THE PORTION OF JACOB IS NOT LIKE THEM; for he is the former of all things: and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: the Lord of hosts is his name."

* * *

INTRODUCTION

Twice, in the above verses, it is stated that Christ, "IS NOT LIKE THEM." And, in Genesis 41:32 we see that when God states a thing "twice; it is because the thing is established by God." When God says a thing ONCE all should believe it; but especially when He says it TWICE, even the most skeptical should entertain no doubt that it is so! There are many false notions afloat today about the character of God, and many would have others believe that God is like this, like that, or like some person, when, in fact, such assertions grossly misrepresent God's character, His nature, and His likeness.

Indeed, of most people in the world today, it must be said that "JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM." Therefore, it is a huge mistake to emulate them, and the command in Matt 6:8 should be followed concerning them: -- "BE NOT YE therefore LIKE UNTO THEM..."

Below, consider a few people that Jesus is not like:

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(A) JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM THAT ARE EVIL-DOERS WHO MENTALLY CREATE GOD IN THEIR OWN EVIL IMAGE: -- Psalm 50:18-21 "When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers. Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit. Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son. These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; THOU THOUGHTEST THAT I WAS ALTOGETHER SUCH AN ONE AS THYSELF: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes."

How could anyone who consents to thievery, who commits adultery, who gives his "mouth to evil" conversation, who frames deceit, and who falsely slanders others, think that GOD is like HIM!!? From whence came the distorted notion in the minds of evil men that GOD is like THEM? Answer:-- from fallen Lucifer! Perhaps the very root of his first sin contained the thought that, somehow, God was no different than he -- and therefore, he (Lucifer) was equal with God, and not a whit inferior to Him.

In Isa. 40:25 we read: -- "To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One." And again in Isa. 46:5 -- "To whom will ye liken me, and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be like?"

None of God's creatures, Lucifer included, was ever equal to HIM, and therefore it is an error of immense magnitude for both fallen angels and fallen men to imagine that GOD is just like THEM! When Lucifer began to think himself equal with God, he fell, and in that fallen and corrupt state he apparently thought that God was just as corrupt as he. THIS is the same

mistaken notion that many fallen men still entertain today: -- that God is "altogether such an one as themselves" -- no different, no better than they, and therefore tolerant of their evil deeds, and even supportive of them. What a shock it will be for millions to discover how totally, and eternally wrong they have been -- when at the Judgment Christ reproves them, and sets their evil deeds and false notions in order before their eyes!

Since it is a huge mistake to emulate evil men who imagine that God is like THEM, again the command found in Matthew 6:8 should be applied regarding them: -- "Be not ye therefore like unto them," for God is not really like them, nor they like God. "And be not ye like your fathers, and like your brethren" (2 Chronicles 30:7), nor like any in your family who, being evil, think that God is just like they are.

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(B) JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM THAT ARE LIARS: -- John 8:54-55 ".It is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God: Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and IF I SHOULD SAY, I KNOW HIM NOT, I SHALL BE A LIAR LIKE UNTO YOU: but I know him, and keep his saying." Here, Christ addressed his stinging rebuke to religious leaders who were self-righteous liars falsely claiming to know God, when, in fact they were utterly opposite from the God of Truth -- Who "cannot lie" (Titus 1:2). They COULD lie, and often did. And today, both in the professed Church and in the World, there are millions who CAN and DO lie -- to the point where it would appear that some are such habitual liars that they "cannot tell the truth"! In their deceitful paths "truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter" (Isa. 59:14). I have heard of some who are such habitual liars that they would lie, even when telling the truth would not expose them to any punishment or negative consequences.

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(C) JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM WHOSE RIGHTEOUSNESS IS WANING AND ABATING. In 2 Kings 14:3 we read:-- "And HE [AMAZIAH] DID THAT WHICH WAS RIGHT in the sight of the LORD, YET NOT LIKE DAVID HIS FATHER.." It is very apparent today that for some time the righteousness of each succeeding generation of professed Christians is less than that of their predecessors. This generation of Christians can sing, "Faith of our Fathers, living still," but in most cases the truth would be more accurately set forth if it was sung, "Faith of our Fathers waning still"! Even where true faith still lives, it is often but a flickering flame of what was, in former times, a blazing fire! Unlike those whose righteousness does not measure up to those in the past, "Jesus Christ" is "the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Heb 13:8). His righteousness has not ebbed and his zeal in holiness has not abated. When He returns, He will still be the "same Jesus, which [wa]s taken up.. into heaven" (Acts 1:11). However, there SHALL come an immeasurable increase in the revelation of the brilliance and effulgence of His righteous and holy glory, which always has been, and ever shall be.

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(D) JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM WHO NEVER PARDON OR FORGIVE. In Micah 7:18 we read: -- "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity.. he retaineth not his anger

for ever, because he delighteth in mercy." When a sinner is truly penitent, Christ delights in showing mercy by pardoning the returned prodigal. He is NOT like the elder brother who holds grudges, who was glad to see the prodigal go, and sorry to see him return. The Old Testament abounds in examples of God's hatred of sin and punishment thereof, while the New Testament abounds in examples of God's love for the sinner and his desire to pardon. Yes, there are examples of these facts in each of the Testaments, but it took the New Testament revelation of Christ's love for the lost, and His great willingness to pardon, in order to present a balanced representation of God. Yes, He hates sin and will eternally punish the impenitent wicked, but He also loves sinners, and will eternally pardon the penitent prodigal who returns. In recent years, with an Elder-Brother Attitude, too many Christian leaders have been too anxious to "run folks off" with no desire to see them ever return, and with the prediction that they will die in "the hog-pen"! This is NOT like Christ -- and once again, the command of Matt 6:8 is very apropos: -- "BE NOT YE therefore LIKE UNTO THEM..."

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(E) JESUS IS NOT LIKE THOSE WHOSE WHO DO NOT KEEP THEIR WORD.

Numbers 23:19 says, "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" And, 1 Kings 8:23 declares: -- "And he said, Lord God of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant..." Christ does what He says He will do, and when He speaks a promise He always makes it good. In 1 Kings 8:55-56 we read of how king Solomon "stood, and blessed all the congregation of Israel with a loud voice, saying, Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant."

"In heaven above or on earth beneath," there is none like Christ who is so utterly faithful to keep His word. Even the most faithful saint on earth might forget and fail to keep some promise. And, millions there are who intentionally break their word. In any realm, religious or secular, it is often a sickening discovery to learn that the word of someone you have trusted has not been kept. Some are heartbroken by abandoned vows; some are bankrupted by unkept promises in business; and some are even slain through treacherous agreements, made in deceit by one of the parties who has no intention of abiding by the compact, but who uses it gain the advantage and thereby destroy the other.

On every level, and in all circumstances, a man's word SHOULD be his BOND. The only thing that invalidates the keeping of one's word is if so doing would actually be wrong or bring a needless hurt. But, in every case, where a good and legitimate promise is made, it should be kept -- even if so doing is painful and costly to the one who promised. In Psalm 15:1, 4 we read: -- "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?... He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not."

Did you make a business deal, promising to sell your merchandise at such and such price, and then discover that you could sell that same merchandise to another party at a higher profit? KEEP YOUR WORD! -- EVEN IF IT HURTS YOU FINANCIALLY!! Did you buy a car,

agreeing to pay so much per month and promising to abide by all of the other terms of a written contract? **KEEP YOUR WORD!** Don't drive around in your newly purchased car until you are tired of it, then renege on the contract, drive it back to the seller, and walk away from it all. Yes, there are "Lemon Laws" but too many folks (including some professed Christians) renege on contracts, claiming this or that as their reason for reneging, when, in fact, it is not that at all -- they simply do not want the car or purchased item any longer, or they don't want to be shackled with the payments. **'TAIN'T RIGHT FOLKS, 'TAIN'T RIGHT!**

And, don't excuse your failure to keep your word by declaring that you were charged more than the product is worth! Years ago, I sold a second-hand car ("as is") to a fellow student at Bible School. He agreed to the price I asked, but paid me only the down-payment without ever sending me the rest. I never got the unpaid balance, and never got the vehicle back. When I wrote him about it, he declared, "That car was not worth" what we had agreed upon! And, he let me know in no uncertain terms, "I know every dime (or dollar) I owe," the assertion being, **"I DON'T OWE YOU WHAT I AGREED TO PAY, BECAUSE THE VEHICLE WAS NOT WORTH WHAT WE AGREED UPON!"**

While I forgave him the debt, I did not feel that he did right. If you promise to buy a thing "as is" and later discover it was not worth what you paid, or agreed to pay, for it -- **KEEP YOUR WORD!** It is **UP TO THE SELLER** to decide if you shall pay less; it is **NOT UP TO YOU**, to refuse to pay what you promised! **KEEP YOUR WORD! -- EVEN IF IT HURTS YOU FINANCIALLY TO DO SO!**

REMEMBER, 1 John 2:5 says, "But **WHOSO KEEPETH HIS WORD, IN HIM VERILY IS THE LOVE OF GOD PERFECTED.**" Preachers, and Professed Holiness Folks, who renege on their word and who run or move away from unpaid bills **BELIE THEIR PROFESSION**, and some will be eternally sorry for that breach of promise at the Judgment. Again, **"BE NOT YE therefore LIKE UNTO THEM..."** Christ is not like them, and none can be who dwell in Heaven.

* * *

(F) **JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM WHO SELL THEMSELVES TO DO EVIL.** In 1 Kings 21:25 it says, "But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up." Moral skeptics have often said, **"EVERY MAN HAS HIS PRICE."** The Bible is replete with examples of those who would **NOT** sell their virtue, their God-given convictions, nor their scruples:-- Joseph wouldn't -- Mordecai wouldn't -- Daniel and the Three Hebrew Children wouldn't -- Jeremiah wouldn't -- the apostles James, John, and Paul wouldn't -- and above all **JESUS WOULDN'T!** But the Bible also tells of some who did "sell themselves to do evil": -- Among them, Ahab did, Judas did, Ananias and Sapphira did, and Demas did.

1 Kings 21:25 above tells us that "there was none like unto Ahab" when it came to "selling himself" to do evil. Ahab "had his price" -- and when that price was met, he "sold himself" to do whatever evil he chose to commit. Therefore, Ahab was one of those skeptics who thought "Every Man Has His Price" -- but, when he thought his neighbor, Naboth, could "be

bought" he was very mistaken! "Naboth said to Ahab, The Lord forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee," (1 King 21:3) -- and, you know "the rest of the story" -- Ahab "sold himself" to follow Jezebel's counsel to frame Naboth, have him slain, and grab his vineyard.

As I write this article, it is but several weeks before our 2004 U.S. Presidential Election -- and, it has been very apparent that millions are prepared to "sell themselves" to get the candidates they want into office. To obtain their desire, they have "sold themselves" to lie, to deceive, to concoct false documents, false stories, and fictional movies, to malign the good character of others, to exaggerate and misrepresent the facts, to produce fraudulent votes, to falsely claim voter disenfranchisement, and to do all else that will buy them victory in November!

America has already had at least one too many Ahabs in our Whitehouse who has been all too willing to follow a Jezebel's counsel and exceedingly willing to "sell himself" to do evil! Like Ahab, there is a "BC" connected with his existence. In thinking of the outcome of this coming election, as I see it, woe unto us if another Ahab and Jezebel move into our Whitehouse!

Naboth lost both his vineyard and his life, but he kept his faithfulness to God, his virtue, his honor, and his soul! He was another one of those fearless, uncompromising, Bible Stalwarts who would NOT "sell himself to do evil"! He WOULD NOT BE BOUGHT!! -- no matter how high the offer. Once again in reference to our coming November elections -- it would be far better for any candidate seeking political office to lose an election and lose the God-ordained place at the hands an unscrupulous Ahab, than it would be for that candidate to "sell himself" (or herself) to do evil in order to retain or win those things. Win or lose in the world's arena, it is only those who will not "sell themselves" to do evil who shall obtain the Eternal Prize!

* * *

(G) JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM WHO ARE OUTWARDLY BEAUTIFUL BUT INWARDLY UGLY. In Matt 23:27 Jesus said to the scribes and Pharisees:-- "Woe unto you.. for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." Outwardly, there was nothing particularly handsome about Jesus. The prophet wrote of Him in Isaiah 53:2 -- "For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him." Unlike Absalom, and many modern, smooth-talking, place-seekers, Jesus did not present Himself as a strikingly-handsome, eye-catching figure. Instead, He "made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of [humble, common] men" (Philippians 2:7).

Yet, HE WAS, STILL IS, AND EVER SHALL BE, THE MOST BEAUTIFUL HUMAN BEING ON EARTH AND IN HEAVEN -- because He is the God-Man. Those who know Him have no doubt whatsoever that "HE IS ALTOGETHER LOVELY" (Song 5:16). I suspect that in Heaven even Christ's outward appearance will be stunningly beautiful, for in that world without end I think it will be WHAT the heavenly inhabitants ARE that will be most prominent and most

immediately noticed -- and He in Whom no beauty could be seen on earth will, in Heaven, eternally appear as the ONE WHO "IS ALTOGETHER LOVELY."

* * *

(H) JESUS IS NOT LIKE THEM WHO ARE POWERLESS TO TRANSFORM THEIR FOLLOWERS. Heb. 2:17 says, "Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." Jesus was made like unto men that he might make men like unto Himself, and that transformation begins with His death as the Lamb of God and His merciful and faithful ministry as God's Great High Priest -- able, through His blood, to make reconciliation between penitent sinners and His pardoning Father.

Earthly Monarchs, Popes, and Religious Tyrants like Mohammed, have had it in their power to CONFORM men to rules and regulations, power to CONFINE them if they disobey, and power KILL them if they rebel -- but they are POWERLESS TO TRANSFORM any of their subjects inwardly. No Lawman, and no Law can produce that inward change, but "what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh" (Rom. 8:3). He Who died for ALL "in the likeness of sinful flesh" now lives forever with power to utterly transform those who come unto God by Him -- by forgiving their sins, by giving them inwardly His newness of life, and by "condemning sin in their flesh, that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in" them (Rom. 8:3-4).

And, that Divine Transformation wrought by Christ will extend beyond the grave. To the victorious saints, St. Paul says that Jesus "shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself" (Philippians 3:21). And again Paul declares in Romans 6:5 -- "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection."

Yes, those transformed by his saving, sanctifying grace in this world, shall be transformed at last by his glorifying grace at His Second Coming -- "And they.. shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and.. as the stars for ever and ever" (Dan. 12:3).

This coming, glorious transformation of the saints at Christ's Return is that of which St. John wrote in 1 John 3:2 -- "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

And, the Psalmist looked forward to this same, glorious transformation when he said in Psalm 17:15 -- "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

I conclude with the words of "I Shall Be Like Him," by W. A Spencer:

Verse 1

"When I shall reach the more excellent glory,
And all my trials are passed,
I shall be like Him, Oh wonderful story!
I shall be like Him at last.

Chorus:

"I shall be like Him, I shall be like Him,
And in His beauty shall shine.
I shall be like Him, wondrously like Him,
Jesus, my Saviour divine.

* * *

Verse 2

"We shall not wait till the glorious dawning
Breaks on the vision so fair.
Now we may welcome the Heavenly Morning;
Now we His image may bear.

Chorus:

"I shall be like Him, I shall be like Him,
And in His beauty shall shine.
I shall be like Him, wondrously like Him,
Jesus, my Saviour divine.

* * *

Verse 3

"More and more like Him, repeat the blest story
Over and over again;
Changed by His Spirit from glory to glory,
I shall be satisfied then."

Chorus:

"I shall be like Him, I shall be like Him,
And in His beauty shall shine.
I shall be like Him, wondrously like Him,
Jesus, my Saviour divine.

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08 -- YES, I HAVE THAT PHOBIA TOO

Romans 13:4 -- "If thou do that which is evil, BE AFRAID.."

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CONTENTS

Introduction

A -- Claustrophobia
B -- Homophobia
C -- Abortion-Phobia
D -- U.N.-Phobia
E -- Hispanophobia
F -- Aclu-Phobia
G -- Liberal Government Phobia

In Conclusion

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INTRODUCTION

Simply and plainly put, a "phobia" can be defined as "a strong fear, dislike, or aversion." Often, a phobia is a persistent and irrational fear. This is the case in the first phobia I list as having below. But again, a phobia CAN BE "A STRONG DISLIKE OF, OR AVERSION TO, A THING -- BASED UPON SOUND REASON. This latter, is how I would define the last six phobias I have listed. There ARE times when it is WISE TO "BE AFRAID"!

* * *

A -- **CLAUSTROPHOBIA** -- About ten or 12 years ago I discovered that I have claustrophobia. Until the time of that discovery, I did not understand how nor why one would have such a phobia. Now I know. I was taking a series of tests ordered by my nephew's, Lee Maxey's father-in-law, Dr. Waldon Kurtz. One of those tests was an MRI, to be taken at a certain Seattle, Washington hospital. I had had an MRI a few years previously in Spokane, and had no trouble at all when they put me into the tube and did the scan, which took maybe 20-30 minutes or so. So, I agreed to the Seattle MRI with no real misgivings.

But, the circumstances and material equipment were quite different. We reached the MRI unit at the close of their work day, and I think perhaps they were anxious to work in my MRI and get out of there. The tube into which I was to be inserted seemed to be warm from repeated use. It was also smaller, with only inches of clearance above my nose. Suddenly, I was struck with claustrophobic fear! I did not want to be inserted into that hot tube, completely at the mercy of the young woman running the thing! I asked her to sedate me to the maximum. I also insisted that she assure me that upon my request she would immediately remove me from that "little pipe" -- and, as I recall, she agreed to do so. I still felt uneasy -- would she really fulfill her promise?

After she inserted me into the tube, I saw that there was scarcely any room above my nose and I was also confined left and right. I was overwhelmed with a sudden panic! I asked the girl to remove me from the tube. Finally, when neither she, nor the man doing the MRI responded, MY PANIC REALLY INCREASED! -- I WAS TRAPPED IN THAT LITTLE PIPE, AT THE MERCY OF THOSE WHO WOULD NOT RESPOND!!! I was so distraught that I banged on the tube and demanded extraction! Finally, the girl responded and took me out. THAT WAS IT! My panic was such and my distrust so total that the MRI was aborted -- never to be finished. Thus it was, I learned, by miserable experience, I DO have claustrophobia. I wish I didn't, but I do. So, last time I had an MRI done, it was in an OPEN unit -- and I'm glad they have them.

But all of this has been to lead into the rest of my thoughts -- ABOUT DIFFERENT PHOBIAS THAT I ALSO HAVE.

* * *

B -- HOMOPHOBIA -- This is the name given by homosexuals to those who fear their filthy life-style. I cannot explain why I have claustrophobia, except that when I am in a very closely-confined area, I need to "trust" those who have put me there. I CAN EXPLAIN WHY I HAVE HOMOPHOBIA: -- BECAUSE GOD'S WORD CLEARLY AND TOTALLY CONDEMNS HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR -- and, because it is, even now, raising His righteous wrath into a white-hot indignation, which, unless abated, will destroy our nation! When homosexuals characterize Scriptural passages about their conduct as HATE SPEECH, they are really right! -- It IS "HATE SPEECH" -- but not hate speech indicating that He hates homosexuals -- rather, it is hate speech clearly revealing His righteous indignation against their vile, degrading, and unnatural, homosexual behavior.

Romans 1:24 makes it clear that those who commit homosexual acts "dishonour their own bodies between themselves."

Romans 1:26-27 shows that male homosexual acts AND female lesbian acts are vile, unnatural, unseemly, and shall bring down God's judgment upon those who engage in them: "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet."

And, you know the story of God's fiery destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah recorded in Genesis 19:4-5, 24-25 "But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: 4 And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them... 24 Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven; 25 And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground."

Further, don't tell me that the Holy God condemns and judges homosexual behavior in non-professors of Christianity, but condones it among those claiming to be Christians! Hogwash! Remember the story of how many of the Tribe of Benjamin became homosexuals and Judges 19:22 says Benjamite homosexuals as "certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about, and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him." After this filthy attack, God sent those of other Tribes of Israel out to destroy these Benjamite homosexuals -- and they WERE destroyed -- in a different way, but they died for their evil just as certainly as those buried under the cinders and brimstone of Sodom and Gomorrah!

Read some more of GOD'S HATE SPEECH AGAINST HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR:

Leviticus 18:22 -- "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

Leviticus 20:13 -- "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

Yes, God loves every sinner, including homosexual sinners -- BUT HE HATES THEIR FILTHY, PERVERTED BEHAVIOR -- AND IT WILL CALL DOWN ETERNAL DAMNATION UPON THE HEADS OF ALL WHO REFUSE TO REPENT OF IT!!!

Do I hear some saying, "I can't help it! I was born this way!" Strange! isn't it, that with millions of homosexuals professing to have this queer quirk in their anatomy and psyche -- NOBODY IS LOOKING FOR A CURE!!! All of the so-called medical and scientific research has been aimed merely at justifying the behavior as a quirk that homosexuals were born with which makes them so behave, even though they supposedly do not want to be such. Or that it is a quirk that makes them want to be such and therefore makes them behave as they do.

NOW PLEASE DO NOT CONDEMN ME FOR BEING PLAIN HERE: -- If millions of cattle or sheep, or hogs, or chickens, or turkeys behaved this way -- to the point where those who raise them for food could not get their animals to reproduce -- THEY WOULD IMMEDIATELY INSTIGATE RESEARCH FOR THE CURE -- NOT JUST FOR THE REASON WHY THEIR STOCK WERE SO BEHAVING! And, everyone would declare: "What an UNNATURAL and unusual thing this is! Yes, reproductively confused behavior is known to occur among animals, BUT IT IS NOT THE NORM!!! And, the natural reproduction of animals used for food and animal products is not a problem because the truly normal, God-instilled instincts prevail in them.

But concerning human homosexual behavior -- medical and scientific research has been quite totally geared toward conjuring up AN EXCUSE for this abnormal behavior, and not toward finding a CURE for it! But WHY LOOK FOR A CURE? -- GOD HAS ALREADY PRESCRIBED ONE -- IT'S CALLED REPENTANCE, REGENERATION, AND ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION -- a Perfect Panacea, says St. Paul, which will "sanctify" the penitent

pervert "wholly; and cause his, or her "whole spirit and soul and body [to] be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess. 5:23).

Yes, I am Homophobic, because God condemns homosexuality, because those who continue therein are spurning both His judgment upon it and his cure for it, and because it calls down fiery and eternal judgment from God upon all who impenitently engage in it! IF YOU DO NOT HAVE HOMOPHOBIA -- YOU SHOULD!!!!

* * *

C -- ABORTION-PHOBIA -- This is a term of my own, but it states my own aversion to the inhumane slaying of the unborn. Anyone who does not fear having an abortion or performing an abortion -- especially when the only reason is that the child is not wanted -- SHOULD HAVE A STRONG CASE OF ABORTION-PHOBIA. Why? God is the Author of Life, and He alone has the right to terminate it, or to endorse its termination. In Luke 17:1-2, Jesus said, "It is impossible but that OFFENCES WILL COME: BUT WOE UNTO HIM, THROUGH WHOM THEY COME! IT WERE BETTER FOR HIM THAT A MILLSTONE WERE HANGED ABOUT HIS NECK, and he cast into the sea, THAN THAT HE SHOULD OFFEND ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES."

I assert here, that when Jesus said, "OFFENCES WILL COME" he very well knew that ONE OF THOSE OFFENCES against "little ones" that would come -- especially in the last days -- WOULD BE THE OFFENSE OF SLAYING THEM VIA ABORTION!

Again, Jesus said in Matthew 18:7-8, 14 -- "Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! 8 Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire... 14 Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

Here, I assert, Jesus shows that while it is wise for a person to cut off an offending hand or foot in order to avoid everlasting fire -- IT IS NOT GOD'S WILL THAT ONE LITTLE ONE PERISH VIA AN ABORTION THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH A DANGER TO THE MOTHER'S LIFE!

Far better, would it be, that an abortionist cut off his hand that would slay the unborn than that he use that hand to unnecessarily cause an innocent child to perish -- either in the womb, or when partially born. Indeed, probably in many cases, it would be better for an expectant mother to risk her life to give birth than it would be for her to have an abortion. Folks used to laud their mother, who had gone into the jaws of death to bring them into the world. Now, if the countless millions of infants who have been aborted could speak, they would proclaim that their mothers had send THEM into the jaws of an abortion-death for no other reason than that their mothers did not want them!

Yes, I HAVE ABORTION-PHOBIA! -- Because I believe that in most, if not all, cases, it cannot be justified in the eyes of Christ, Who said to His true followers: "Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish" (Matthew 18:14). ADOPTION is a much better option than ABORTION -- if an unwed mother, or any mother, does not want her child. Expectant mothers contemplating having an abortion should consider all of the above. And, new mothers who are contemplating slaying their babe should also consider ADOPTION, instead of a POST-NATAL ABORTION -- WHICH IS ALSO MURDER. Expectant mothers, and new mothers, who do not want their child, need not have the child slain, need not themselves slay their child, and need not abandon it on some doorstep. The best thing to do is have, keep, and raise their baby, but adoption is a much better option than bringing about the death of that innocent little one! I will not give the name, but I heard recently of a member of the U.S. Congress who said, "A MOTHER IS ENTITLED TO HAVE A DEAD BABY." -- NOT IN A MILLION YEARS! IF THAT DEAD BABY IS MERCILESSLY SLAIN FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN THAT HE, OR SHE, WAS NOT WANTED!!!!

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D -- U.N.-PHOBIA -- This is another term of my own invention, but again, it expresses one of my vehement aversions! -- viz., A HEALTHY FEAR OF THE CONSEQUENCES THAT WILL RESULT FROM PLACING OUR COUNTRY UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE UNITED NATIONS!

Several times today, I heard a 1994 recording in which a newsman was asking John Kerry if the loss of U. S. lives to overthrow Slobodan Milosovic in Bosnia was "worth it"? Kerry stated that it depended upon HOW those U.S. soldier deaths occurred: -- that if they occurred during an operation under the U.N., then "Yes," they would be justified, but -- if those deaths occurred in an unilateral action by the U.S. then "Unequivocally NO!" (Actually Kerry used a word that is not a word: "Unequivocally" -- but, his meaning is exceedingly clear: JOHN KERRY OPPOSES UNILATERAL ACTIONS BY THE U.S. -- AND HE WILL PLACE AMERICA'S MILITARY FORCES UNDER THE THUMB OF KOFI ANIN AND THE U.N.!!!! If you doubt this, then consider the following:

Just within the last few days, if not today, KERRY STATED THAT HE PLANS TO PLACE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IRAQI GOVERNMENT UNDER THE U.N. -- if he is elected.

Kerry's statement during the 2nd Pres. Debate about U.S. actions "PASSING THE GLOBAL TEST" should not be taken lightly! -- Nor should Kerry's past record, his past statements, and even his recent statements on this U.N. and GLOBAL issue be taken as empty and insignificant -- in spite of his declarations that he will not allow any foreign nation to veto U.S. actions. Please Note: -- HE HAS NOT SAID HE WOULD NOT SUBJECT THE U.S. FORCES TO THE WILL OF THE U.N.!!!!

It appears to me that at least SINCE VIETNAM DAYS, JOHN KERRY HAS BEEN ONE WHO FAVORS ONE-WORLD GOVERNMENT!!!! I fully believe the moves Kerry would make as the U.S. President would hasten the arrival of the Man of Sin. Don't dismiss this

with the confident notion that "when the Tribulation enters, I'll be gone!" Christians are supposed to be "the salt of the earth" -- and, any Christian who knowingly votes for an advancement of one-worldism "HAS LOST HIS SAVOUR" -- (Matthew 5:13)!

Call it U.N.-PHOBIA, or what you will, you SHOULD have a very strong case of it! And, while I do not intend to open a debate on when the Rapture shall occur, I will just add that millions of ease-loving, Laodicean, Professed Christians are likely to be mightily shocked -- and that very soon -- at how many blood-baths the Church will pass through ere that hour arrives!! Selah.

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E -- HISPANOPHOBIA -- This is an actual word, but none should have this phobia merely because of its dictionary definition, which is: "One who has an aversion to Spain or to Spanish-speaking countries or peoples" (Amer. Heritage Dict.). Until the Terrorists killed several hundred in Spain and succeeded in bringing about his defeat, Spain's President stood with the U.S. in Iraq against Saddam Hussein and his murderous Henchmen. On the other hand, while I could be wrong, I think that Vincente Fox of Mexico never has stood with the U.S. on Iraq. But, my case of "Hispanophobia" has little to do with these facts -- nor, is it related to an aversion of Hispanics per se, in Spain, in Mexico, or in any other Latin American country.

My case of Hispanophobia results, rather, from the massive invasion into our nation, via our southern borders, of millions of Hispanics, whose criminal trespass and intrusion into our land threatens to rip apart the very social fabric of the U.S.! Unlike legal immigrants from many other nations across many decades, most of these Hispanics are not assimilating into American society, being willing to learn English as their primary tongue, and pledging their allegiance to our flag! They are, for the most part instead, an ethnic group that expects and demands that Spanish become a second language in America, and an ethnic group that has no desire to become integrated into the U.S. Society and that has no real loyalty to the United States.

None should take it lightly that a certain Hispanic professor in New Mexico has predicted the cessation from Mexico of its northern states, along with the cessation from the United States of the southern border states, California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, to form "LOS ESTADOS DEL NORTE" -- THE NORTHERN STATES, as A NEW, HISPANIC NATION. His prediction only reflects a widespread desire and attitude of perhaps most of the illegals who have criminally trespassed into our nation via our southern borders.

I still say that Jeb and George W. Bush's extremely permissive attitude and treatment of those millions intruding into America from the south will prove to have been their greatest blunder!!! To say nothing of the fact that a percentage of those who cross into the U.S. by this route are outright Criminals and/or Terrorists, who pose a grave threat to our security -- the saturation of our nation by Hispanics with the desires, attitudes, and disloyalty I have mentioned, POSE THE GREATEST THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL INTEGRITY AND EXISTENCE.

Yes, in this way, I am an Hispanophobic -- one who has already voted for President Bush's re-election -- but on this issue, only because I am convinced that Kerry would handle it in even more dangerous ways!

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F -- ACLU-PHOBIA -- One might also call this "God-Hater-Phobia" -- both terms of my invention which indicate my concern about the mission of the ACLU and their ilk to REMOVE EVERY TRACE OF GOD FROM AMERICA'S GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT PROPERTY!! If JFK the Second is elected, I fear that they will be given much, much more free rein to accomplish their atheistic, but insane goal. Our Founding Fathers wanted THE SEPARATION OF THE CHURCH AND THE STATE -- NOT -- I SAY AGAIN -- NOT -- THE SEPARATION OF GOD FROM THE STATE!!!! This latter, is how the ACLU and their God-Despising ilk would have the U.S. Constitution interpreted and enforced -- and, to a great degree already they have succeeded. Under Kerry, I predict that we would have liberals appointed to the Supreme Court and to Judgeships across the land, who would promote the ACLU agenda to cast God out of America.

THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE ACLU-PHOBIA -- SHOULD HAVE A VERY, VERY STRONG CASE OF IT!!!!!!!!!! One verse should suffice for any who profess to believe the Bible is God's Word: Psalm 9:17 -- "THE WICKED SHALL BE TURNED INTO HELL, and ALL THE NATIONS THAT FORGET GOD." Of course, you have already been Satanically inoculated against this phobia if you don't believe the Bible. You WILL believe it at the JUDGMENT!

* * *

G -- LIBERAL GOVERNMENT PHOBIA -- Those who are both spiritual and political Conservatives, "devise" and "stand" by Conservative things in these areas. "But the liberal DEVISETH LIBERAL THINGS; and by liberal things SHALL HE STAND" (Isa. 32:8).

Bear with me here -- I realize that taken in its Biblical meaning and context in the above verse, the word "liberal" has a positive, rather than a negative, meaning. In Isa. 32:8, it is contrasting a "liberal" or "generous" man with a "churl" or "miserly" person. On this point, and relative to government, I take the word "liberal" to be quite synonymous with "socialist" or "leftist" -- as contrasted with those who are politically "Conservative" -- and "Right Wing" in their governmental views.

Political Conservatives interpret the conclusion of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address WITH THE SAME EMPHASIS LINCOLN PLACED ON IT: -- "that Government of the PEOPLE, by the PEOPLE, and for the PEOPLE shall not perish from the earth."

Liberal, Socialistic, Left-Wingers place the emphasis thus: "that GOVERNMENT of the LIBERAL people, GOVERNMENT by the LIBERAL people, and GOVERNMENT for the LIBERAL people shall not perish from the earth!"

No, this American Republic is NOT the world's savior -- but, I still believe it is the next best thing to CHRIST'S THEOCRACY that is possible in this present world. Politically, Liberalism is now quite synonymous with Socialism, which is in turn is all too close to Communism. Has America really won the Cold War with the former USSR if, in the end, our government moves down the channel of Liberalism and Socialism into Communism!!? All who do not now have Liberal Government Phobia SHOULD!

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IN CONCLUSION

Now, on October 20, 2004, our November Election is less than two weeks away. It is NOT about G. W. Bush and John Kerry. IT IS ABOUT THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF AMERICA AS IT IS NOW CONSTITUTED -- "TESTING WHETHER THIS NATION, OR ANY NATION, SO CONCEIVED, AND SO DEDICATED CAN LONG ENDURE"!

PLEASE, DEAR SAINT OF GOD, PUT FEET TO YOUR PRAYERS, AND VOTE FOR WHAT YOU KNOW IS RIGHT!!! WE ARE NOW AT A GREAT NATIONAL, AND UNIVERSAL "WATERSHED".

In bringing this onward toward a close, I shall present below the words of a poem by James R. Lowell, published in the Boston Courier, December 11, 1845:

"Once to every man and nation, comes the moment to decide,
In the strife of truth with falsehood, for the good or evil side;
Some great cause, some great decision, offering each the bloom or blight,
And the choice goes by forever, 'twixt that darkness and that light.

"Then to side with truth is noble, when we share her wretched crust,
Ere her cause bring fame and profit, and 'tis prosperous to be just;
Then it is the brave man chooses while the coward stands aside,
Till the multitude make virtue of the faith they had denied.

"By the light of burning martyrs, Christ, Thy bleeding feet we track,
Toiling up new Calv'ries ever with the cross that turns not back;
New occasions teach new duties, time makes ancient good uncouth,
They must upward still and onward, who would keep abreast of truth.

Though the cause of evil prosper, yet the truth alone is strong;
Though her portion be the scaffold, and upon the throne be wrong;
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and behind the dim unknown,
Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above His own.

It seems ironic that Lowell wrote these poetic words in protest of America's war with Mexico -- The Spanish-American War. Perhaps he was a pacifist concerning war. I don't know. And, I won't attempt to say here whether he was right or wrong in protesting that war. However,

regarding this "watershed" War on Terrorism, I believe it is a Just War. Hence I am persuaded that at THIS time of "strife of truth with falsehood," those who side "for the good" will stand with President Bush, and thus also I think that those who side with John Kerry and the liberals protesting the War in Iraq are thereby on the "evil side". You need not agree with me. But, dear saint of God, before you vote, DO PRAY THAT GOD WILL HELP YOU TO VOTE RIGHTLY -- THEN, PLEASE GO AND VOTE AS HE HAS DIRECTED YOU.

At every Major, Historic Juncture, "Once to every man and nation, comes the moment to decide" -- America and YOU -- are very near that eternally decisive moment NOW! Whatever our Nation decides and You decide, "the choice" shall soon "go by forever, 'twixt that darkness and that light" now vying for the control of our national destiny.

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09 -- VANITY AND HUMANITY -- A BAD MIX

Psalm 39:5 -- [Fallen] "Man at his best state is altogether vanity."

TOM MIX (1880-1940) could be used as an example of both my title and the above text.

South of Phoenix a few miles, and a little east of Interstate 10, is the little town of Florence, Arizona. Leading south from Florence toward Tucson is Highway 79. As wife and I drove toward Tucson on this route, about 17 miles south of Florence we came to a roadside monument to Tom Mix, consisting of a stone structure with a metal horse figure on top and the following words on a metal plate:

"In memory of Tom Mix whose spirit left his body on this spot. And whose characterization and portrayals in life served to better fix memories of the old west in the minds of living men."

Without digressing further just now, I will only say, that the Tom Mix "fixing" of "memories of the old west" were often "fanciful" and "fictitious" fixings of memories of the old west, created by a native Pennsylvanian, not a real Westerner. Known as "The King of the Cowboys" in Silent Movies, long before Roy Rogers' time, Tom Mix was a prime, but sad, example of how "Vanity and Humanity" are "A Bad Mix" with "A Sad End"!

After stopping at the site long enough to get a couple of pictures, wife and I continued our drive on 79 toward Tucson, crossing "Tom Mix Wash" just south of the Tom Mix Monument. As we drove, we discussed how it was that Mix might have died at that spot on a stretch of highway, right out in the middle of a desert -- a remote spot with nothing around it but cacti and no sign of a house or building anywhere in sight.

I wondered: -- Had Tom Mix been riding his horse through the desert when his death occurred? -- or -- did he have a fatal heart attack there as he was driving along the highway? Just how did this 60-year-old actor-cowboy come to die there? I decided that I might look up information about him on the Internet when we got home. I had remembered Tom Mix radio

programs back when I was a boy, but when I DID research information on the man after our return home I found that these programs were not done by Mix himself, but by others after his death. And, I found many other details concerning the life and death of Tom Mix that, (to state it once again,) show him to be a striking example of how "Vanity and Humanity are A Bad Mix with A Sad End"!

What I learned about Tom Mix reminded me of "Death Valley Scotty," another man whose reputation was built upon concocted stories and myths. One of my sources wrote: "Radio's Tom Mix had little similarity with the actual Tom Mix. However, even the 'actual' Tom Mix bore little relation to historical fact."

During his career, Mix claimed to have been born in Texas, and he also asserted he was born in Oklahoma and that he was "one quarter Cherokee," but he was actually born January 6, 1880, near Mix Run in Cameron County, Pennsylvania, all of his ancestors being Irish or English. Further, while he was named Thomas Hezekiah Mix, he later identified himself as Thomas E. Mix -- and, his entire adult life was a "Mix"ture of fact and fiction.

Mix was a grade-school drop-out and a military deserter. In 1898, he enlisted in the U.S. Army during the Spanish-American war, and although he attained the rank of sergeant he never left the U.S., never saw combat, and after re-enlisting he deserted from the Army, never to return.

According to one source: "Later, Tom (and his press agents) embellished his military record to include membership in Teddy Roosevelt's 'Rough Riders', wounds from both the war in the Philippines and Cuba, and action in the Boer War and the Boxer Rebellion. None of this was true."

The same source continued: "His short time as a lawman included brief stints as a town marshal in Oklahoma and a deputy sheriff in Kansas. However by the time he became a silent film star, his press releases claimed he was also a Texas Ranger and a U.S. Marshal."

Though not particularly handsome, in 1904, Mix married for the first of at least 5 times. Later the same year he performed with a group at the St. Louis World's Fair where he met Will Rogers. He became enamored of the cowboy image and became a rodeo contestant and performer. Of course, then, he accepted the opportunity with Setig Polyscope Company in the Silent motion picture, "Ranch Life in the Great Southwest," a film said to have "contained some of the earliest live rodeo scenes ever filmed."

As explained by one: "Mix talked the director into letting him do a bronc busting sequence and the rest was history. The film makers wanted action and Tom Mix gave it to them with, a capital 'A.' Heretofore the reigning western film star was William S. Hart, who presented a realistic, austere portrayal of frontier life. Tom Mix was a robust showman who delighted in daredevil stunts and horseback acrobatics. It was new, exciting, escapist cinema. The audiences, especially the kids, loved it."

After 7 years with Selig, Mix was offered a lucrative contract by William Fox, so he signed with Fox Films in 1918. He turned out 6 to 8 pictures a year during 10 years with Fox, and by 1921 he became known as "The King Of The Cowboys" (a title later bestowed on Roy Rogers). And, he became the idol of countless thousands of movie-goers, especially boys and girls. On screen, the Mythical Mix was "a straight-shooting, non-drinking, non-smoking, non-swearing champion of fair play... In private life, Mix was quite different. His films made him wealthy and so he lived life to the hilt. He had a Hollywood mansion with his name emblazoned in Neon lights. He loved fast sports cars, parties and fancy dress. Another big love of his life was the circus. As a great showman, he loved the live performances along the sawdust trail. Tom left Fox and did a handful of films for Film Booking Office in 1928-29."

According to one source, "In 1935, Tom Mix made his last film. It was a 15 episode serial for Mascot Studios entitled "The Miracle Rider." Three years later, Tom's circus merged with the Sells-Floto traveling show and he continued to tour."

At the peak of his motion picture career Mix had received over \$17,000.00 per week, a huge sum of money for those days, -- but, he had been a big spender also, and what had been "easy come" also became "easy go," especially after he abandoned the movies in favor of circus performing. And apparently, by the time his traveling circus had reached Tucson in October of 1940, "Mix was in a Fix" financially.

Thus, on October 12, 1940, after a performance in Tucson, Tom Mix got into his expensive, single-seat, 1937 Cord Roadster Convertible and sped north on Highway 79 toward Phoenix -- bound for California where he planned to see if he could re-enter the movie business and save himself from his financial dilemma.

He had been a daring man during his career -- performing his own stunts, and surviving numerous injuries -- and, he may have come to think of himself as invulnerable to life-threatening dangers, even on the highway. Whatever the case, Tom Mix never reached California, and never even reached Florence, Arizona, south of Phoenix.

In his headlong rush behind the wheel of his Cord Convertible, Mix ignored warnings that the bridge was out over a dry wash. Seventeen miles south of Florence, after construction workers had scattered out of his path, Mix's vehicle passed them and catapulted about 30 feet across the unbridged chasm and slammed into the bank on the opposite side of the wash. His packed and metal-hardened suitcase, which had been fastened in a perch behind him, was flung forward, hit him in the head, shattered his skull, and killed him instantly!

It is this wash that is now called "Tom Mix Wash," and his monument stands a short distance northwest of the bridge which now passes over it. He is buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Glendale, California.

As I see it, the "Mix"tures in this man's life included those of "Fiction with Fact" and "Vanity with Humanity." The Fictions of his Virtues on the screen were in stark contrast with the Facts of his Vanity in real life. Even though probably millions today know nothing about him, the Mix Myth has extended far beyond his life. One can still go online, do a search for "Tom

Mix," and come up with scads of information and items related to him, and his past, earthly popularity and fame.

But, in all of the sites I perused, I found not one mention of what really makes "Vanity and Humanity a Bad Mix" -- and that is: "VANITY IN HUMANITY FACES ETERNITY," and it is this latter, unending ingredient that makes human vanity, insanity -- "A BAD MIX" IN TIME, AND IN THAT COMING "WORLD WITHOUT END."

Psalm 24:3-4 asks: -- "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."

Heaven shall have no "Mix"edness in its inhabitants -- none with "unclean hands" dirtied for filthy lucre by labors in the world's hog-pen (often quite synonymous with Hollywood) -- none whose souls are lifted up by the empty balloons of earthly vanity -- and none who have "sworn deceitfully" about who and what they are.

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10 -- THE BIG QUAKE -- AND THE -- STAGGERING EARTH

In light of the 9.0 quake that just occurred off the coast of Indonesia's Island of Sumatra, please consider the following:

Just before the Revelation of Christ, shall come "a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great" (Rev. 16:18).

And, according to my interpretation of 2nd Coming Prophecy* at that time "The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again" (Isa. 24:20)

According to one reporter, the 9.0 earthquake off the coast of Sumatra that occurred Sunday morning (Saturday evening in the U.S.), "The quake even disturbed the Earth's rotation... ALL THE PLANET IS VIBRATING."

*See my book in the HDM Library, hdm0124, "His Appearing and His Kingdom." YES, JUST BEFORE CHRIST'S AWESOME REVELATION, THE EARTH SHALL BE ROCKED WITH THE MIGHTIEST QUAKE EVER TO HIT IT -- AND -- THAT SHOCK WILL CAUSE THE EARTH TO STAGGER IN ITS ROTATION, REELING "TO AND FRO LIKE A DRUNKARD"!!!

Folks, I invite you to read my book. Before the feature movie began, Hollywood used to show "Previews of Coming Attractions." BEFORE THE SECOND COMING, CHRIST IS NOW SHOWING "PREVIEWS OF COMING DISTRACTIONS" -- the sort which, increasingly, shall cause "Men's hearts [to be] failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Lu. 21:26).

As I interpret the eschatological Scriptures, Christ's prescription for the ease-loving, Laodicean Church is NOT a magic carpet ride away from the coming Tribulation, but rather a passing through it with final victory coming only at the price of buying "GOLD TRIED IN THE FIRE"!! THE CHURCH, HOWEVER, SHALL ESCAPE TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR, AT THE TIME OF THAT FINAL, MONSTROUS QUAKE HITS, CAUSING THE EARTH TO STAGGER LIKE A DRUNKARD. AND, AFTER CHRIST'S FEET TOUCH THE MOUNT OF OLIVES, ALL HIS FOES SLAIN, THIS OLD WORLD "shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again" -- as it is now constituted.

Please consider reading the whole of my book, but -- please do not reply to this, debating the matter. I am increasingly convinced of the correctness of my eschatological views. I am content that you can believe differently, but I SHALL NOT REPLY TO ANY EMAIL THAT DEBATES THE MATTER. For what it's worth, the above is part of "how I see it." -- Duane

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THE END