

FATH

ON THE LINE

DARE TO STAND



Rekindling the Reformation

Bible Reading in the Tower of Constance
(1907) by Jeanne Lombard

Reforming
Tyranny page 15

Understanding the
times page 17

Constant Resistance page 21

Sept 26 - Oct 5 at 7:00pm

Reformation Rekindled

REFORMATION REKINDLED - an in-depth look at the events that changed the world, Their relevance today, and how the history of the reformation affects you future. Join as we embark on this magnificent journey to rekindle the reformation.

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SEMINAR TOPICS:

September 26 - Friday
Let There Be Light

September 27 - Saturday
Twin Pillars of the
Reformation
They Have Made Void Thy
Law part 1

September 28 - Sunday
They Have Made Void Thy
Law part 2

September 29 - Monday
The Fourth Man and the
Fire

September 30 - Tuesday
The Heritage of Israel

October 1 - Wednesday
The Jesuits and the Counter-
Reformation part 1

October 2 - Thursday
The Jesuits and the Counter-
Reformation part 2

October 3 - Friday
A Price To Pay (The Oxford Martyrs)

October 4 - Saturday
Sustainable Prince
Consuming Fire

October 5 - Sunday
Reformation Dawn

Program subject to change

speaker

Prof. Walter Veith



Genesis Theatre, 5005 45th Ave. Ladner, BC

Our aim is to urge men and women to stand for truth and resist error. We pray that in times of serious compromise our ministry will be giving you solid information on current issues, trends and separation from the world.

Volume 12 | Issue 2

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The Way to the Holiest



BY W. D. FRAZEE

This article is taken from the book: *Ransom and Reunion Through the Sanctuary* and is available along with many of Pastor Frazee's sermons at his website: <http://www.wdfrazeesermons.com/wdfrazeesermons/>



We would think it a high honor to receive an invitation to visit the President of the United States or the Queen of England, but a far greater privilege beckons you and me; “Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith” (Hebrews 10:19-22).

We may “enter into the holiest” through the “new and living way” that Jesus has opened for us. In the ancient tabernacle no one but a priest could enter the Holy Place, and only the high priest could appear in the Most Holy Place. But Hebrews 10:19-22 invites all of us to go in. How can what was possible to only a few be accessible now to every child of God? “A new living way” has been opened for us, and we can enter by Jesus’ blood. Looking into the court, we see blood on the horns of the brazen altar. In the Holy Place we see blood on the golden horns of the altar of incense. Within the second veil we behold the sprinkled blood on the mercy seat. Jesus’ blood prepares the way at every step.

This gives us hope, for the sinner can have reunion with God only as his sins are pardoned and finally blotted out. The mercy of God is infinite, but so is His justice. And justice cannot accept Christ’s sacrifice as atonement for our transgressions unless Jesus guarantees first to forgive our sins and second to blot them out. Our acceptance at the throne depends on His fulfillment of that promise. But Christ can do that only as we daily choose Him.

His blood must cover our past sins and His spirit must reveal further changes in our lives so that at last we can join Him in the inner circle. Those He ransoms from this earth will enjoy a closer communion with God than even the angels who have



never sinner.

Hebrews 10:19 says, “Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus.” Rather than the boldness of presumption, we have, instead, the assurance of faith as we present Christ’s blood and the incense of His merits. His robe of righteousness can cover us if we so choose.

We enter by the new and living way which He has opened for us “through the veil, that is to say, his flesh” (verse 20). You remember that when Jesus died on the cross, an unseen hand tore the inner veil of the temple in Jerusalem from top to bottom (see Matthew 27:51). Thus God announced the transition from the earthly to the heavenly temple. However, there was more to the message of the torn curtain. No longer was a veil needed to stand between God and man, for Jesus had opened up a new and living way.

Notice the expression, “through the veil, that is to say, his flesh.” Jesus came as a human being not only to tell us how to live but to show us how to live. As man He obeyed the commandments that He Himself had written on the stone. “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: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit” (Romans 8:3,4). Whenever Satan tempted Jesus, He answered, “No! No!” Instead of consulting His feelings He ordered His life by the Word. “In all points tempted like as we are” (Hebrews 4:15), He developed a character that completely revealed His Father’s will, and Gethsemane and Calvary provided the crowning demonstration of obedience even unto death.

The Savior promises the Christians in Laodicea, “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne” (Revelation 3:21). As the judgment proceeds in the Most Holy Place, Christ sends this special invitation to join with Him in the throne room. Some day soon we shall enter the New Jerusalem and walk those golden streets. When we visit the temple where the plan of salvation of unfolded, we expect to see the candlestick, the table, the altar, and the ark with the tables of stones. Then Jesus will take your hand and seat you on the throne with Him.

As I think about it I am sure it is not so much that He wants us to reign as that He wants us to be with Him. I’m a father, and I know it means a lot to a father’s heart to have somebody sitting on his knee; this helps me understand a little of how God feels. He wants me with Him, up close, sitting right with Him on His throne. This is the fellowship that He has offered to us through the sanctuary. I propose to give Him what He wants. What do you say?

When the prodigal son in the pigpen decided to return home, he had no idea of the welcome awaiting him. He reckoned that he could offer

his services as a hired hand, but when the father saw him, he ran to meet him, threw his own robe around him, ordered a banquet, and accepted him as an honored son. Do you know why? Because there was love in the father's heart and repentance in the son's heart. The son left a lot of things in the far country. Do you think he brought home with him the wine and the harlots? Do you imagine he brought the music of Sodom, its literature and its pictures?

A spirit of permissiveness pervading the world has crept into the church. Everyone must be made to feel accepted, to feel at home. Such a view comes from Babylon, not from the heavenly sanctuary. The Lord has no message of comfort for the rebel. The sword of the Spirit newly edged with power and bathed in the lightnings of heaven must cut its way through unbelief. As the sinner approaches the cross, he feels pained by sinfulness. He weeps as he beholds the uplifted Savior, dying for his transgressions. Only as he recognizes that his sins killed Jesus can the Lord comfort him with forgiveness and acceptance.

Yes, the prodigal son came home with confession upon his lips: "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son" (Luke 15:21). But the father didn't even give him a chance to ask for a servant's job. Once he had repented, there was no question about acceptance, reinstatement. Although God's justice cannot accept the smallest sin if someone persists in hanging on to it, His mercy has found a way to remove the biggest sin if that person will give it up. It is that simple.

In Hebrews 10:19 our Savior invites us into the Most Holy Place. He says, "Through faith I want you

to join Me in a ministry designed to finish the work of salvation. I want you to share with Me My longing that sins may be not merely forgiven but taken away forever, not only covered but blotted out."

In the Great Controversy, page 489, Ellen G. White comments on Hebrews 10:19: "The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the

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sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death, He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in Heaven. We must by faith enter within the veil, 'whither the forerunner is for us entered.' ... There the light from the cross of Calvary is reflected. There we may gain a clearer insight into the mysteries of redemption. The salvation of man is accomplished at an infinite expense to heaven."

Note the words, "We must by faith enter within the veil." What does this mean? Speaking of God's children after 1844, Ellen G. White wrote, "They are to understand His work and to follow Him by faith as He goes in before God. It is in this sense that they are said to go in" (ibid.,

427). To enter within the veil, then, includes understanding His work and following Him by faith. While our feet walk the paths of earth our hearts can be with Jesus in the Most Holy Place. Doubtless you have had the experience of walking along a city street absorbed in thought and hardly noticing the passersby or the goods displayed in the store windows because your mind was somewhere else. In our thoughts we can be where we choose.

Similarly, although I have never been in the heavenly sanctuary, I can picture it in my imagination. By faith I can see my great High Priest standing at the mercy seat for me. In my imagination I can view the myriads of angels assisting Him. I can see Moses, Enoch, and Elijah there. I can see the twenty-four elders around God's throne. Yes, you and I can enter in our imaginations. Our thoughts can abide with Jesus at the mercy seat.

The nearer astronauts get to the moon, the bigger it appears and the smaller the earth looks. Which way are you moving? Is the sanctuary in heaven becoming larger, more real? If it is, the things of this world are getting smaller and more dim- and you are becoming one with Him in heart and mind.

"It would be well to spend a thoughtful hour each day reviewing the life of Christ from the manger to Calvary. We should take point by point and let the imagination [note that word imagination] vividly grasp each scene, especially the closing ones of His earthly life. By thus contemplating His teachings and sufferings, and the infinite sacrifice made by Him for the redemption of the race, we may strengthen our faith, quicken our love, and become more deeply imbued with the spirit

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Many media reports today advocate that certain kinds of alcohol used in moderation are healthy for the heart. There have been news headlines asking the question “Why don’t the French have heart disease?” The truth of the matter is that the French do have heart disease – it is their second leading cause of death, but they have *less* heart disease than Americans. So the next question is why? Many believe that their higher intake of red wine is attributable to their lower incidence of heart disease. In actuality, there are other factors that apply.

Studies have shown that the French have a lower consumption of dairy products. Dairy fat is strongly related to heart disease and the French drink very little milk. Another factor is that the French consume a higher amount of vegetables and fruits, which are known to be heart-protective. It should be noted here that certain groups in America have a far lower rate of heart disease than the French and these are American Seventh Day Adventist vegetarians. They (for the most part) drink no wine or alcohol. Unfortunately, these findings rarely find their way to the media. There is actually no evidence that alcohol provides any heart benefits. Rather, much of the benefits attributed to drinking wine should be attributed to the main ingredient of wine – grapes. They contain an abundance of substances called flavonoids that are known to prevent platelet clumping. They also inhibit the oxidation of LDL cholesterol and are more potent antioxidants than vitamin E. It would seem that the publicity given to the use of moderate amounts of alcohol for heart disease prevention is not the result of rigorous scientific



BY CONNIE
KIEFIUK

Intoxicant Moderation or A

research, but is to a large extent inspired by commercial purposes.

When it comes to drug abuse, alcohol tops the charts. Parents are generally concerned about their teens getting hooked on cocaine, crystal meth or a host of other addictive drugs, yet see nothing wrong with their teens having a social drink. The facts are startling but true – many kids are already alcoholics by the time they reach adulthood and others are just as surely on their way. Alcohol

claims at least 100,000 American lives per year which is five times as many as all illegal drugs combined. In the United States, alcohol is second only to tobacco on the list of “Most Deadly Drugs” and this probably extends to the rest of the world as well.

Alcohol is another toxin that our bodies do not like. Just a single drink and a low blood alcohol level of 0.02% blunts the frontal lobe capacities with a decrease in judgment and inhibitions. Even



ts - Abstinence?

small amounts of alcohol can cause irreparable damage to the brain cells, many of which die while others are altered. The actual loss of brain cells with resulting brain shrinkage (cerebral atrophy) is known to occur in heavy drinkers. Note that there is roughly ½ ounce (15 grams) of pure alcohol in each of the following:

- 1 ½ oz. of 80 proof liquor
- 5 oz of table wine
- 12 oz. of beer

Let's look at the negative aspects of alcohol:

1) Social Problems – The National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency states that alcohol is closely linked with virtually every negative aspect of society: suicide, violent crime, birth defects, industrial accidents, domestic and sexual abuse, disease, homelessness and death. Alcohol ravages the lives of family and friends.

2) Dollars Spent on Alcohol – More than 86 billion dollars are spent annually in the U.S. to purchase alcoholic beverages and as much as 116 billion dollars are spent annually for the cost of damage to society from alcohol (divorce courts, health care, lost work, premature deaths, etc). The total annual cost therefore, amounts to more than \$202,000,000,000 for alcoholic beverages annually.

3) Affects on the Body – Alcohol damages the brain, it increases the risk of hypertension, stroke and damage to the heart muscle. It depresses the respiratory functions, and weakens the body's immune system which is the body's defense against cancers (especially breast cancer) and infection. Alcohol can damage cells in the testes, causing impotence, sterility and possible enlarged breasts in men. In women, it can cause irregular menstrual cycles and malfunctioning of the ovaries. It is also a well-known fact that alcohol is linked to birth defects in infants and to fetal alcohol syndrome. Other side effects of alcohol use are elevated triglycerides, impaired sexual function, low blood sugar, vitamin and mineral deficiency, chronic fatigue, osteoporosis, gout, anemia and a decreased number of blood platelets. Alcohol affects the liver more than any other organ of the body because the liver must filter alcohol from the blood. This results in excess calories in the alcohol being stored as fat in the liver. In addition, functioning liver cells die from alcohol poisoning and the scar tissue that replaces these dead cells causes cirrhosis of the liver.



INTOXICANTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

4) Our Young People are Getting Hooked –

The challenge to stay drug-and-alcohol-free is greater now than ever for teenagers. The media is constantly bombarding our kids, telling them that drinking alcohol is synonymous with being accepted and having a good time. The peer pressure is enormous. Statistics show that 37% of all 12 through 17 year-olds currently use alcohol, not to mention the fact that 5 million American teens already have serious problems stemming from alcohol use.

It is true that young people who grow up in nonalcoholic homes are less likely to have problems with alcohol when they reach adulthood. This means

that a parent's example can make a huge difference. Not only do parents bear responsibility but Christian churches are also able to influence the moral values and practices of society more than any other institution through their beliefs, teachings and preaching.

"Satan is taking the world captive through the use of liquor and other narcotics. The mind God has given us needs to be kept clear so that we can distinguish correctly and have a sense of what is right and wrong. "The Lord has given special directions in His work in reference to the use of wine and strong drink. He has forbidden their use, and enforced His prohibitions with strong warnings and threatenings. But His forbidding the use of intoxicating beverages is not an exercise or arbitrary authority. He seeks to restrain men,

in order that they may escape from the evil results of indulgence in wine and strong drink. Degradation, cruelty, wretchedness and strife follow as the natural results of intemperance." (1)

When it comes to the question of "moderation" or "abstinence", let us heed the counsel of the Lord:

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise". Prov 20:1

"When temperance is presented as a part of the gospel, many will see their need of reform. They will see the evil of intoxicating liquors and that total abstinence is the only platform on which God's people can conscientiously stand". (2) ■

(1) "Temperance" p.53

(2) "Temperance" p.165

TO WAY TO THE HOLIEST CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

which sustained our Savior. If we would be saved at last we must all learn the lesson of penitence and faith at the foot of the cross" (4T 374).

Unless we can learn to contemplate and meditate, mere facts about the sanctuary will have no lasting influence in our lives. Ellen G. White has counseled us to study the Bible on our knees (see 5T 214). There is nothing wrong, of course, with reading the Scriptures while sitting in a comfortable chair. But there is something special about getting down by your chair or by your bed, opening your Bible, and letting Jesus speak to you through its pages. Then as you close your eyes

you can picture in your imagination what you have just read and can talk to God about it.

Thus day by day we can come to the sanctuary just as the penitent brought his lamb to the altar. By faith we can see Jesus, our Sacrificial Lamb, slain, and by faith we can follow Him as our High Priest while He presents the incense and sprinkles the blood of the atonement. All the way through, we are looking at Jesus, and the longer we do this, the more real He becomes. As we go about our work we can feel Christ's companionship. We can visit with Him while we wash the dishes or cultivate the garden. As we drive to work, instead

of allowing the traffic to irritate us, we can fellowship with the Unseen One. Busy at our work in the factory or the office, we can still enjoy His divine companionship.

This is the new and living way which he has opened for us through the veil. If you learn the lesson of this chapter, you will eventually learn everything else you need to know. If you don't learn it, nothing else you learn will have any permanent value. Everything hinges on your personal fellowship with Christ our Lamb and High Priest. ■

SUPPORTING MATERIAL

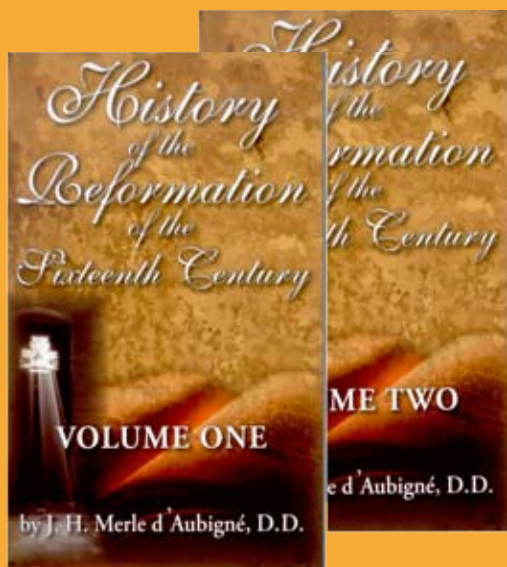
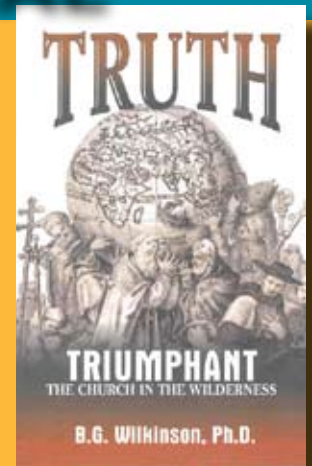
TRUTH TRIUMPHANT

The Church in the Wilderness

by B.J. Wilkinson

The history of God's true Church, from Ireland, to the Waldenses, the struggle to preserve the Bible and the pure doctrine of the apostles is disclosed. This book features the triumph of truth in the period from 538 to 1798, a chapter of God's leadings long hidden by intolerance and falsehood. (424 pages)

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History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century

by J.H. Merle d'Aubigné

Today we see an alarming lack of understanding in the Protestant Church concerning the cause and effect of the Reformation. The subsequent trials endured to maintain and contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints should be the study of every true Protestant.

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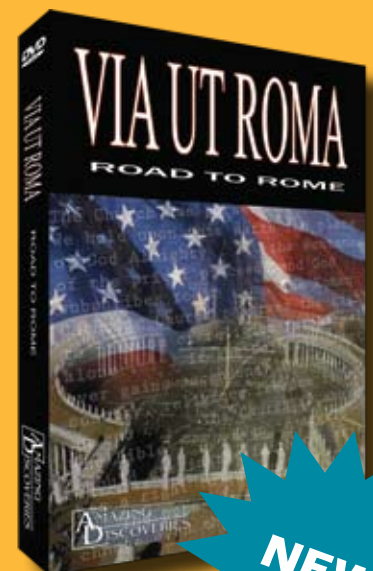
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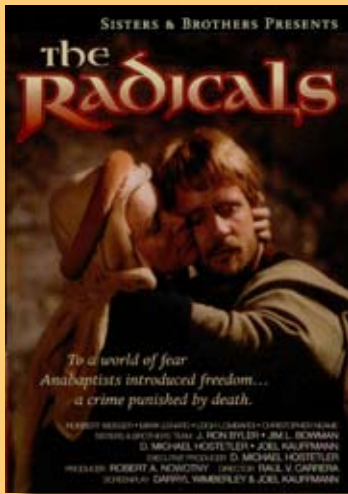
Via Ut Roma (Road to Rome)

Today, more than ever before, people are alarmed as they observe the restless, strained relations that exist among the nations of this planet. This is a generation that is searching for answers, a generation that wants to know what lies behind the news headlines. Many are starting to wonder if there is some major, unseen, secretive force that is motivating and, perhaps, manipulating unfolding scenes on the global stage.

Via Ut Roma (Road to Rome), is one of the most revealing, startling, timely, and up-to-date documentaries on prophetic revelation and current events that you may ever see.

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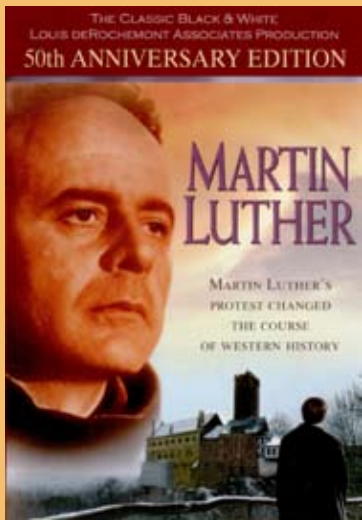


The Radicals

The year is 1525. Michael and Margaretha Sattler have fled their religious orders. Their quest - restore the church to the purity of its early days when communities of believers practiced peace, compassion, and sacrificial love. The Sattlers join a group called the Anabaptists and together challenge the 1000-year control of the church by the State. They call for baptism to once again become, not a mark of State citizenship, but an adult and voluntary decision to follow Christ. As their movement grows, so does the determination of their enemies to stop them... by any means necessary.

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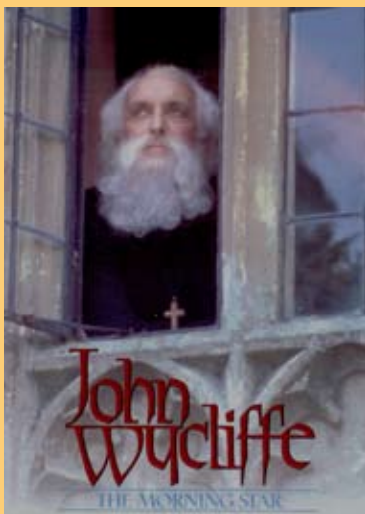


Martin Luther

Martin Luther is a historical epic on a grand scale. It captures the life and times of the greatest figure of the Protestant Reformation with depth and clarity, while giving a glimpse of the private man at the eye of the storm. Luther's protest against the established order of the church opened up a debate that still goes on today and gave birth to one of the largest religious movements in history. One man's conscience truly changed the course of human events. Martin Luther is a story for everyone interested in the powerful forces that shape our world. The film recounts Martin Luther's 16th-century break from Catholicism, his posting of the 95 theses, and his ultimate creation of the Protestant Movement.

DVD

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John Wycliffe

John Wycliffe is a dramatic biography of the life of the 14th century scholar and cleric who translated the Bible into English for the first time. Wycliffe found himself in the middle of religious, political and social conflicts. An Oxford scholar, one of Europe's most renowned philosophers, he was a defender of English nationalism against the power of the pope and a champion of the poor against the injustices of the rich. John Wycliffe taught that God's forgiveness cannot be bought with indulgences. He preached that the only true authority is the Word of God, and the word could only be understood by all if the people could read it in their native tongue. "John Wycliffe" captures the trials and heroic struggles of this significant man of faith - the "Morning Star" of the Reformation.

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Speechless **Silencing the Christians**

Episode 1: Series Premiere

Christians who have been arrested for speaking out at a public rally, students forced to recite verses from the Koran and to stage their own jihad and activists pushing tolerance to such an extreme that the Bible is being labeled hate speech.

Episode 2: Is This Thing On?

You've heard the myth of "separation of church and state" but on this episode of "Speechless...Silencing the Christians" you'll learn how this "sacred cow" of the liberal left only applies when it is being used to keep "Christ" out of school.

Episode 3: Grandma's Behind Bars

"Hate crime" is the new buzzword in law enforcement. But how is "hate" being defined? Learn how this legislation targets thought and freedom of speech that could make it illegal to believe in "Truth" or even quote the Bible.

Episode 4: Olivia's Song

A student is prohibited from singing about God in a school talent show. Boy Scouts in Philadelphia lose their home of 80 years. A VA hospital neutralizes its chapel by removing Christian symbols. Dr. Gary Cass talks about violence against Christians.

Episode 5: Vows on the Boardwalk?

A church association finds itself in a legal battle when lesbian couples sue for the right to use the church's seaside worship pavilion to hold a civil union ceremony. A mother is told that reading a passage from the Bible to her son's kindergarten class is against the law. Instead, she is encouraged to read a book about witches.

Episode 6: Lone Star Justice

Public school students in Texas are told they can't mention Jesus in discussions about Christmas or Easter. Texas passes a law designed to protect students' religious liberties.

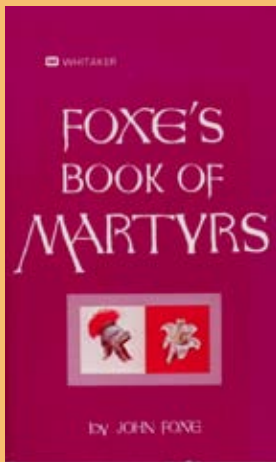
Episode 7: The Fairness Doctrine

Opponents of free speech work to reinstate the 1949 Fairness Doctrine in an effort to silence conservative radio and television programs. The nation's leading experts weigh in on this fight and how it's being fought in the federal government.

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From the first century stoning of Stephen through his own perilous time - Reformation-era England - John Foxe recounts the lives, sufferings, and triumphant deaths of dozens of Christian martyrs. Some were people of rank and influence. Some were ordinary folk. Some were his friends. Four centuries later, these deeply moving accounts of faith and courage mark a path for modern Christians to measure the depth of their commitment.

Volume I and II Books

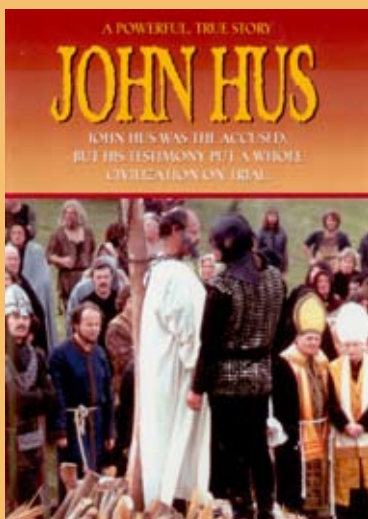
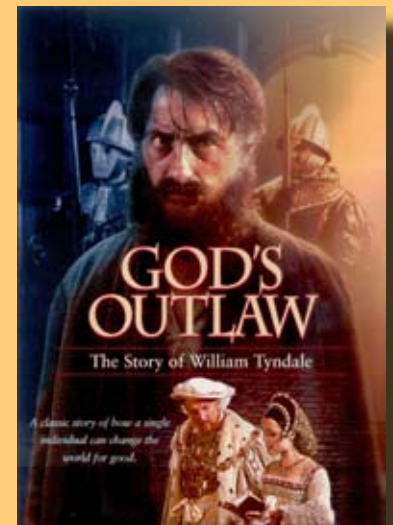
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God's Outlaw

A simple God-seeking man, William Tyndale somehow became one of the most wanted men in England and all of Europe. Pursued by King Henry VIII, Lord Chancellor Sir Thomas More, and the Pope's personal legate Cardinal Wolsey, he darted across Europe to avoid capture – always pushing to complete the task that obsessed him. The task was translating the Bible into English and publishing it for his fellow countrymen – Englishmen who lived in a country where the Bible and even prayers in English were outlawed by a harsh and rigid religious establishment. Today he is renowned as the “father of the English Bible”, and is recognized as one of the major leaders of the English Reformation. But the tale of how he lived and died as “God’s outlaw” is a compelling “rest-of-the-story”, and is especially a moving encouragement for modern people of faith.

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John Hus

Here is an important chapter in the steps leading up to the Reformation. The history books make little mention of this Bohemian priest and scholar who lived 100 years before Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation. Yet, John Hus was convinced and taught openly that the Bible should be presented in the language of the people, that salvation comes by faith in Jesus Christ, and the Word of God is the final authority. He taught in the University of Prague and as a pastor, challenged the abuses of medieval Christendom. Intrigue and false promises weave the powerful story of one man's commitment to faith in Jesus Christ. He was summoned to the Council of Constance and promised safety, but he was betrayed. In the end, Hus was accused, imprisoned, and charged with heresy. Ultimately, he was condemned and burned at the stake as a heretic.

DVD

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Reformed

TYRANNY

BY JOHN TRIPLETT



Our world today is becoming increasingly sickened by religious extremism. Islamic extremism, seems to be taking the brunt of the criticism right now. But, if you look closer, it seems that there is another religion, especially in western society, that people are becoming sickened by – Christianity. The word “extremism” is a very subjective word. To the non-believer any practice that does not conform with his or her own lifestyle is extreme. Perhaps, you are a Christian who doesn’t eat unclean meat, and you are having dinner with some old friends from High School. And they all think you are “extreme” for not ordering shrimp like they do. Is there legitimate extremism in the Christian Church? Absolutely. But, many times extremism and convictions are often confused because of the perspective of the non-believer.

In recent years, Christians have been unfairly targeted because of their convictions, all under the governmental banner of hate crime

legislation. There have been some disturbing cases, that tend to give us an idea of how those who stand for Jesus at the end of time will be treated. Let me tell you about a few people, who were persecuted for their convictions. Diane Haskett, is the former mayor of London, Ontario. In 1997, she was fined \$10,000 for refusing to proclaim Gay Pride Day. Scott Brockie, in 2001, was fined \$5,000 because he refused to print homosexual-based stationary for the Canadian Gay and Lesbian Archives. In 2002, Hugh Owens of Saskatchewan was ordered to pay \$1,500 to three homosexual activists for publishing an ad in the newspaper in 1997 quoting Bible Scriptures about homosexuality. In 2008, Arthur Cunningham 48, and Joseph Abraham 65, two American preachers sharing their faith in England got into some hot water. What was their crime? Sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in a predominately Muslim neighborhood .

Let me tell you about a courageous man, that has articulated the fallacies of these so called “hate crimes,” in such a way that leaves no doubt to their utter lunacy. In January 2008, Ezra Levant, a practicing attorney and publisher, was charged with a hate crime by the Alberta Human Rights Tribunal. He is defending himself against charges brought against him by Islamic activists who have protested the publication of a controversial Danish political cartoon about Mohammed for news purposes in the *Western Standard Magazine* in 2006. In his opening statement before the tribunal Levant said the following:

“My name is Ezra Levant. Before this government interrogation begins, I will make a statement. When the *Western Standard* magazine printed the Danish cartoons of Mohammed two years ago, I was the publisher. It was the proudest moment of my public life. I would do it again today. In fact, I did do it again today. Though the *Western*

Standard, sadly, no longer publishes a print edition, I posted the cartoons this morning on my website, www.ezrrelevant.com.

I am here at this government interrogation under protest. It is my position that the government has no legal or moral authority to interrogate me or anyone else for publishing these words and pictures. That is a violation of my ancient and inalienable freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and in this case, religious freedom and the separation of mosque and state. It is especially perverted that a bureaucracy calling itself the Alberta Human Rights Commission would be the government agency violating my human rights. So I will now call those bureaucrats "the commission" or "the hrc", since to call the commission a "human rights commission" is to destroy the meaning of those words.

I believe that this commission has no proper authority over me. The commission was meant as a low-level, quasi-judicial body to arbitrate squabbles about housing, employment and other matters, where a complainant felt that their race or sex was the reason they were discriminated against. The commission was meant to deal with deeds, not words or ideas. Now the commis-

sion, which is funded by a secular government, from the pockets of taxpayers of all backgrounds, is taking it upon itself to be an enforcer of the views of radical Islam.



So much for the separation of mosque and state.

I have read the past few years' worth of decisions from this commission, and it is clear that it has become a dump for the junk that gets rejected from the real legal system. I read one case where a male hair salon student complained that he was called a "loser" by the girls in the class. The commission actually had a hearing about this. Another case was a kitchen manager with Hepatitis-C, who complained that it was against her rights to be fired. The commission actually agreed with her, and forced the restaurant to pay her \$4,900. In other words, the commission is a joke – it's the Alberta equivalent of a U.S. television pseudo-court like Judge Judy – except that Judge Judy actually was a judge, whereas none of the commission's panellists are judges, and some aren't

even lawyers. And, unlike the commission, Judge Judy believes in freedom of speech.

It's bad enough that this sick joke is being wreaked on hair salons and restaurants. But it's even worse now that the commissions are attacking free speech. That's my first point: the commissions have leapt out of the small cage they were confined to, and are now attacking our fundamental freedoms. As Alan Borovoy, Canada's leading civil libertarian, a

man who helped form these commissions in the 60's and 70's, wrote, in specific reference to our magazine, being a censor is, quote, "hardly the role we had envisioned for human rights commissions. There should be no question of the right to publish the impugned cartoons." Unquote. Since the commission is so obviously out of control, he said quote "It would be best, therefore, to change the provisions of the Human Rights Act to remove any such ambiguities of interpretation."

The commission has no legal authority to act as censor. It is not in their statutory authority. They're just making it up – even Alan Borovoy says so.

But even if the commissions had some statutory fig leaf for their attempts at political and religious censorship, it would still be unlawful and unconstitutional.

We have a heritage of

free speech that we inherited from Great Britain that goes back to the year 1215 and the Magna Carta. We have a heritage of eight hundred years of British common law protection for speech, augmented by 250 years of common law in Canada.

That common law has been restated in various fundamental documents, especially since the Second World War.

In 1948, the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which Canada is a party, declared that, quote:

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

The 1960 Canadian Bill of Rights guaranteed,

- 1) Human rights and fundamental freedoms, namely,...
- (c) freedom of religion; (d) freedom of speech;
- (e) freedom of assembly and association; and
- (f) freedom of the press.

In 1982, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guaranteed: ...

2. Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms:
 - a) freedom of conscience and religion;
 - b) freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of

.....
CONTINUED ON PAGE18

Understanding the Time - Fall 2008



BY JOHN TRIPLET

“And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do...” I Chronicles 12:32

► Great Awakening Needed, says Mike Huckabee, former Arkansas Governor. He, along with a host of evangelicals, demand that a great spiritual revival is needed in the United States. So much for the separation of Church and State. <http://www.cnsnews.com/public/content/article.aspx?RsrcID=34206>

► In other news, Rick Warren, Pastor of the Saddleback Mega-church in Southern California hosted what was called, “The Saddleback Civil Forum.” Basically it was a time for both presidential hopefuls to express how faith is important to them and what they intend to do if elected for people of faith. This was an unprecedented forum, and shows Bible believing Christians that prophecy is marching forward. <http://www.cnn.com/2008/POLITICS/08/16/warren.forum/index.html>

► Leaders from the Episcopal Church want to unite with the Catholic Church because of their similar beliefs. Expect other denominations to follow suit very soon. http://www.star-telegram.com/metro_news/story/828431.html

► Nebraska State Senator is suing God. You have to see it to believe it. <http://worldnetdaily.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pagelid=71524>

► Leader of Anglican Church compares gay relationships to marriage, and that they are equal in God's sight. <http://blogs.abcnews.com/worldview/2008/08/archbishop-comp.html>

► Praying in the name of Jesus in public – now branded as unconstitutional. <http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/415697.aspx>

► Endangered Species in the Churches – Men. Sad commentary on the state of society today. Men are not going to church much these days. http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/2008-07-23-males-church_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip

► Charismatic preacher claims to raise the dead. Can you say Revelation 16:14? <http://www.christianresearchservice.com/ToddBentley5.htm>

► All Croatian Shops to be closed on Sundays, effective January 1, 2009 in concession to the Mother Church. Are you ready for Jesus to come? <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=5378375>

In The Secret of His Presence

In the secret of His presence
How my soul delights to hide
Oh how precious are the lessons
Which I learn at Jesus' side
Earthly cares can never vex me
Neither trials lay me low
For when Satan comes to tempt me
To that secret place I go

When my soul is faint and thirsty
'Neath the shadow of Your wings
There is cool and pleasant shelter
And a fresh and crystal spring
And my Saviour rests beside me
As we hold communion sweet
If I tried, I could not utter
What He says when thus we meet

Only this I know: I tell Him
All my doubts, my griefs, my fears
Oh how patiently He listens
And my drooping soul He cheers
Do you think He ne'er reproves me?
What a false friend He would be,
If He never never told me
Of the sin which He must see.

Would you like to know the sweetness
Of the secret of the Lord?
Go and hide beneath His shadow

This shall then be your reward.
And when'er you leave the silence
Of that happy meeting place
You will surely bear the image
Of the Master in your face.

Ellen L. Goreh



the press and other media of communication;

Those were even called “fundamental freedoms” – to give them extra importance.

For a government bureaucrat to call any publisher or anyone else to an interrogation to be quizzed about his political or religious expression is a violation of 800 years of common law, a Universal Declaration of Rights, a Bill of Rights and

...we are headed for a total gag on the three angels' messages.

a Charter of Rights. This commission is applying Saudi values, not Canadian values.” (<http://www.ezralevant.com/2008/01/kangaroo-court.html>)

Mr. Levant's points are valid and piercing. The original intent for these tribunals was to settle petty issues, but now they have evolved into an entirely different animal - to legislate what you can say and what you cannot say.

But, you might ask, what does this have to do with you and me, and our lofty goal of preaching the Gospel to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people?

Friends, we are headed for a total gag on the three angels' messages. Soon it will be illegal to speak openly about the identity of the little horn power of Daniel 7, the true Sabbath day of Creation, and the fact that Jesus Christ is the only way to eternal life. We have been warned time and time again in the Bible and in the Spirit of Prophecy that times will get harder, and so these recent developments should not be a surprise to us. Even in many church denominations, an overly apologetic attitude must of necessity

precede any reference to sin and sinners. Friends, Jesus is coming soon and He wants us to know of the developments just on the horizon so that we can be prepared for

them. May God give each of us the love of Christ so that we can tell it straight and still be tactful and loving. Let us hold on to the words of Peter and the other apostles, “We ought to obey God rather than men.” ■

Any organization or movement that could hold the center stage of history for 1260 years ought to be a subject of vast importance. What political kingdom or empire has had so lengthy a history? Longer than the days of Great Britain, enduring more years than imperial Rome, even rivaling the centuries wherein the Jews were the chosen people, is the record of the Church in the Wilderness. And yet, the history of this clandestine and renitent church is often treated by historians as a blank. Why are the vast achievements during this period ignored? Has the Bible prophesied in vain concerning this church? Is the allotment of divine revelation of 1260 years of history to this organization nothing in the judgment of historical researchers?

For 1260 years, unknown and forgotten men and women kept alive the truth of Word of God, often paying for it with their lives. What was their battle about exactly? The history of Christianity is a record of bitter theological controversies and bloody encounters, as well as the stirring consecration of godly evangelists' tireless labours for the salvation of the benighted and hopeless.

In the days of the apostles, the gospel spread like wildfire to the surrounding nations of



A Forgotten

Europe and Asia. Before even the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., the gospel had already gone to Samaria, Ethiopia, Syria, Asia Minor, Greece, Italy, and India. It evangelized Zoroastrians, Buddhists, Greek philosophers, and Confucianists. Although the gospel was first preached to the Jews of Israel and to the Samaritans, as the apostolic church advanced, the gospel was planted in different languages: Syrian (spoken in Syria, Assyria, Persia, India, and China), Celtic (spoken in Galatia and France, Ireland, Scotland, and England), Greek, and Latin. In the town of Antioch in Syria, a new center for the gospel was founded. When Jerusalem, the original headquarters, was destroyed, church leadership moved to Antioch, where the name of “Christian” first fell into use. Antioch's rival was Alexandria, Egypt. There gnosticism arose as a union of pagan philosophy and gospel truths. Although it appeared in Christian garb, founding churches and building colleges, Alexandrian “Christianity” rejected the Old Testament, denied creation, and held in



ten History. Back to the Mother Church?

BY WENDY GOUBEJ

contempt all Jews, even Christian Jews. This is part of the “mystery of lawlessness” that Paul mentioned in his writings saying it had already begun to work in his day. Alexandria and Antioch quickly became antagonists, “Alexandria representing a mystical transcendentalism and promoting the allegorical interpretation of the Scriptures; Antioch insisting on the grammatico-historical interpretation of the Scriptures, and having no sympathy with mystical modes of thought.”¹

It was during this period of history that the Textus Receptus, on which the King James Version is based, was translated into Greek by the scholar Lucian who founded a school of theology in Antioch to rival Alexandria, and who defended, preserved, and passed on to other generations the true text of the Holy Scriptures. The difficult and dangerous situation in which Lucian lived can only be imagined. Alexandria had, for more than two centuries before Christ, been the real capital of the Jews who were compromising with paganism. Soon the churches of Rome and Alexandria entered into

an alliance. In this environment the movement to make Sunday the prominent day of worship in the church began. From this same Alexandrian/Roman union came other false doctrines such as *Manichaeism* (rejection of creation and a miracle-working God and belief in the celibacy of leaders, and the worship of the sun as the supreme dwelling place of Deity), and *Gnosticism* (built on Greek philosophy and promoted by Simon Magus, it denied the incarnation of Christ and, among other things, taught that humans are gods. Gnostics believed they had exclusive knowledge and fostered a spirit of superiority.) The very foundation of the gospel was at stake by these influences, and it is to Lucian that we are indebted for the preservation of the true Biblical faith.

Prominent ‘church fathers’ of Christianity such as Augustine, Justin Martyr, Clement of Alexandria, Origen, and Eusebius, although at times persecuted by the “Church” were not necessarily correct in their theology and belonged to the Alexandrian arm of Christianity. These church leaders,

who left a record of their faith in writing, are not genuine “fathers” of the gospel.

Let us have a quick look at some of the beliefs of the famous men of the Alexandrian school:

Justin Martyr (c. 100-165) held on to some of his pagan philosophies after embracing Christianity, including the allegorical and mystical interpretation of Scripture and the idea of a “middle state” after death that eventually would become Rome’s doctrine of purgatory.

Tertullian (c. 155-255) who lived in Carthage, although he fought against Gnosticism, also taught that the church’s authority was above Scripture, that the bread of the Lord’s Supper was Christ, that widows who remarried committed fornication, that baptism is for the forgiveness of sins, that Mary was the second Eve who by her obedience remedied the disobedience of the first Eve, and more.

Origen (185-254), though he endured persecution and torture under the emperor Decius, was loaded with false teachings. He denied the infallible inspiration

of Scripture, rejected the literal history of the early chapters in Genesis, accepted infant baptism, believed in purgatory and that the Holy Spirit was a created being, believed that men’s souls are pre-existent, denied the bodily resurrection, believed Jesus to be a created being and not eternal, allegorized the Bible, and was one of the fathers of the a millennial method of prophetic interpretation further developed by Augustine and later adopted by the Roman Catholic Church doing away with the imminency of the return of Christ.

Eusebius (263-339) promoted the erroneous teachings of Origen, and was hired by Constantine to produce Greek New Testaments. Many of the omissions in the modern versions can be traced to this period. Many textual authorities have identified Vaticanus and Sinaiticus, the manuscripts so revered by modern textual critics, as two of the copies of the Greek New Testament made by Eusebius. These manuscripts also contained the spurious apocryphal writings, Shepherd of Hermas and the Epistle of Barnabas, even though Origen had con-

sidered these two uninspired and fanciful books as canonical Scripture. Constantine, however, ordered them included.

Augustine's (354-430) theology was polluted with many false doctrines and he helped lay the foundation for the formation of the Roman Catholic Church. For this, Rome has honored Augustine as one of the "doctors of the church". Augustine was the father of the doctrine of persecution. The historian Neander observed that Augustine's teachings "contains the germ of the whole system of spiritual despotism, intolerance and persecution, even to the court of the Inquisition". He taught that the sacraments are the means of saving grace. He believed in infant baptism. He taught that Mary did not commit sin and promoted her worship and claimed she played a vital role in salvation. He believed in purgatory and in the celibacy of priests, exalting the authority of the church over that of the Bible. He interpreted the early chapters of Genesis figuratively and taught that God pre-ordained some for salvation and others for damnation.



What does this all mean, other than that readers should be careful which of the historical figures they read? Well, many Protestants revere these church fathers. After studying the "church fathers", John Henry Newman, an Anglican priest, converted to Roman Catholicism in the late nineteenth-century. More recently, Scott and Kimberly Hahn, Presbyterians, joined the Catholic church because of the influence of the afore-mentioned "church fathers". In 1985, Thomas Howard became another famous Protestant convert to Rome. Most of the "church fathers" are actually more Catholic than Protestant, yet Protestants seem to find no problem reading their works.

The move to Catholicism is expanding to more prominent leaders, such as Tony Blair who has made the formal step to convert to Catholicism.² It is even being reported that President George Bush is thinking about converting to Catholicism as his brother Jeb has already done.

Another convert to Rome is Francis Beckwith, former president of the Evangelical Theological Society. In May 2007, he tendered his resignation and converted to Rome, admitting that his reading of the early church fathers convinced him, and stating that the early church was more Catholic than Protestant. This is absolutely true. It was, in fact, Catholic, if one looks at the theology of Alexandria and Rome. But that was not the only Christian message being preached.

Beginning in Paul's day right down through the 1260 years

and into the Protestant Reformation, there were men and women who maintained and preserved the purity of the gospel and the Scriptures. While reading about Augustine and other famous men, who only served to promote erroneous teachings, the work of godly leaders of the Church in the Wilderness goes unnoticed. Many of their writings have not been preserved, burned in the fires lit by their enemies. Lucian of Antioch was followed by Vigilantius, leader of the Waldenses, Patrick, the father of Irish Christianity, Columba who renounced his right to the Irish throne to promote a greater Kingdom in the country of Scotland, doing so long before the Dark Ages were over, Pappas, first head and guardian of the Church in Asia, and Ulfilas, missionary to the Goths who won great victories for Christ. Who remembers these names? The history of Christianity as it is being told us is skewed to the side of error. If instead we understood that the chasm between dark and light began in Paul's day, and continued throughout the history of the church, we would fall less into the hands of the Catholic fathers and more into the stirring accounts and truths of God's Church in the Wilderness, which survived the greatest and longest assaults ever waged against any empire.

The truth was miraculously preserved by God and His men and women for more than a millennia of darkness and oppression. Today, although the Bible is readily available, darkness and depression still threaten the truth, with oppression looming

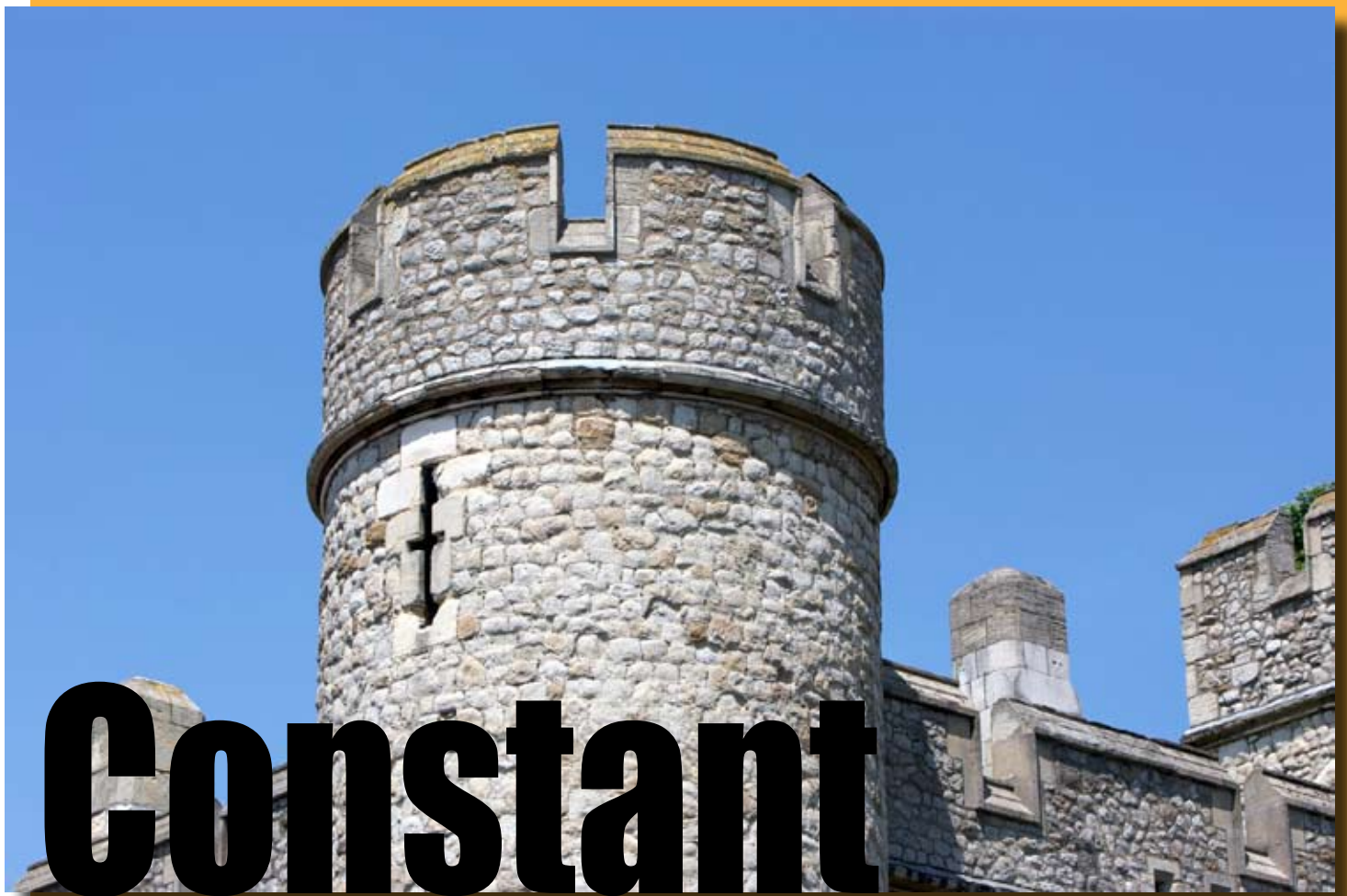
on the horizon. Are we willing to stand for the truth as were the godly individuals who quietly and steadfastly maintained the purity of the faith? We will not be if we do not learn from history, for it is only by a correct understanding of the past that we can make sense of the present and the future. Those who have been taught falsified history or who have had their minds filled with twisted interpretations of events gone by, stagger like the blind with a darkened mind.

By failing to note the true centres of Christian activity in the past, we can be led astray. We can realize altogether too little the meaning of the momentous events taking place today because we are ignorant of the historical background.

The upcoming Reformation series is designed to strike at our misinformation and wipe away the deception and twisted interpretations we have gained through popular sophistries. If you cannot come to the seminar, call our office and order the series for your family. This is a series no Christian should be without. ■

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Constant Resistance

The year was 1730 and it was a dangerous time to be in France. Fifty years before, the Edict of Nantes guaranteeing freedom of religion to Huguenots had been revoked and Roman Catholicism had been reinstated as the only authorized religion. Protestant worship and education were expressly forbidden. Thousands had already fled France to seek freedom and peace in a new distant land. Most had made the long and arduous journey south across the Mediterranean to the tip

of Africa settling in Cape Town. But many were not able to leave France. Those that stayed had two options: give up their faith or face the penalties imposed for practicing their faith - imprisonment, death, or life as a galley slave.

The Protestants named the times they lived in as the 'Desert'. In the history of French Protestantism, the expression 'Desert' defines the period of time between the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes (1685) and the French Revolution (1789), when the

Protestants of France were deprived of freedom of worship, meeting far from cities, hidden in isolated areas, deserts (in the wilderness, forests, caves, or gullies...), where they were obligated to live out their faith in hiding. The 'desert' title was a reference to the church in the wilderness described in Revelation 12:6.

The word Desert also had a biblical sense for them, the 40 years the Hebrew people of Exodus wandered in the desert, a place of tribulations, temptations and despair, but also



Ascribed to Marie's hand, one word remains still visibly etched on the cold stone walls of the Tower of Constance: 'Register'- resist.

where they would hear the word of the Lord.

Life was not easy. Huguenot families that chose to stay in France lived a life of secrecy, their homes equipped with hiding places for the family Bible and even family members, their children raised with danger and uncertainty constantly hanging over them threatening their future. The king of France pursued with relentless focus the eradication of the Protestant heresy. It was into this perilous time that Marie Durand was born in 1715. Marie's family chose not to give up their beliefs even if it meant practicing their religion in secret and living in constant peril.

When Marie was a young girl, her mother, G\Clau-dine, was arrested after attending a secret Protestant service and died shortly thereafter. Marie's older brother, Pierre, became one of the 'pastors of the desert'. These men preached in open fields, caves, and homes to those in exile and in hiding, who were in continued defiance of the restrictions placed on them by the French monarchy.

Pierre Durand was wanted by the government for

his subversive activity. Unable to lay hands on Pierre, officials arrested Marie's father in 1728. Before he was taken to prison, Etienne Durand married his young daughter at the age of 13 to Matthew Seres, hoping that she would be protected by this move. The plan failed when in 1730, at the age of fifteen, Marie Durand was arrested and taken from her home in Bouchet-de-Pransles to the Tower of Constance to be used as bait to capture her Protestant brother. Her husband, Matthew was soon imprisoned along with her father in the fort. Pierre was told that if he gave himself in, his sister and father would be freed. In 1732, Pierre was captured and hanged.

The Tower of Constance stood on swampy land near the Rhone River, in Aigues Mortes, France, not far from the Mediterranean Sea. It was built by Duke Philip the Bold, its architecture designed to imitate Jerusalem architecture. The stronghold also served as a lighthouse, with a lantern in the top-most tower, and was known as 'the beacon of Charlemagne'. During the French Civil Wars between the Protestants and Catholics

following the Reformation, the tower had fallen into Protestant control. But in 1632, Louis XIII regained control of it. King Louis XIV then converted it into a women's prison.

The prisoners were kept in the upper room. A little light and air came through narrow windows. In the center of the floor was an opening onto the guardroom below. The guards saw this as the perfect place to hold and torture those they considered to be heretics. When Marie entered the Tower - which was always cold in Winter and hot in summer - it was as if a ray of sunshine had penetrated its darkness and despair.

Despite her tender youth, Marie became the Christian focal point of the Tower and an encouragement to the other women with whom she was imprisoned. For 38 years, Marie served as nurse and spiritual leader. She read psalms, encouraged the dying, sang hymns, and prayed daily.



Above: painting by Jeanne Lombard

She also acted as official correspondent, penning letters for those who could not write, and sending petitions to government officials informing them of the prison's horrible conditions and petitioning for release and assistance. Many of her letters still exist today. Marie never wavered in her strength or faith.

In 1767, Prince de Beauveau, the governor of Languedoc, horrified by the conditions the women endured inside the Tower of Constance, ordered their release against the will of Louis XV, and in 1767 Marie and her fellow captives began a new life outside the tower walls.

Marie returned to her family home as the sole survivor of the attack mounted against her faith and family.



Left: *The Tower of Constance today.* Photo courtesy of E.L. Bisreverri. You may visit his photostream at www.flickr.com/photos/elbisreverri



Her father and husband had been executed long before. She herself died in 1776, after only 9 years of freedom outside the Tower.

What would make a girl, only 15, hold so tenaciously to her faith and resist the pressure and temptation to recant and have a normal life outside the walls of the Tower? All she was required to do by the Catholic authorities was to recant her Reformed faith. Many did so, and immediately went back to their Reformed faith, but Marie would not be dishonest. At any time, she could have given up her faith for a life of sunshine, green grass, hygiene, better food, activity, friendship, and possibly a new marriage and children. Instead she scratched the word "Resist" into the stone

walls of a Tower to remind her and all those with her that staying there was of more value than the advantages outside.

How many of us hold enough to our faith and beliefs to do the same? Islamic fundamentalists seem to have a faith that doesn't falter even in the face of a fiery death. Do we have the tenaciousness and conviction to hang on even if everything is taken from us even for the better part of our lives?

Our society is not geared for that kind of sacrifice. We live in a world of instant gratification - microwaves, fast foods, credit cards. We wear clothes to fit in, and are upset when someone cuts us off in traffic on our way to work or shopping. There are

few limits we experience in our country of freedom. As long as we don't cheat on our taxes, don't steal from vendors, show up at our job, and obey the traffic signs, we are free to do as we like.

But do we value our freedom? Are we using our time to work for the Lord and are we spending our resources to further His work? Now, as the last golden rays of sunshine slip over the horizon of our earth's long and tortured history, we still have a few moments in which to share our faith in freedom. We should

not miss the opportunity. The work we have neglected to do in a time of prosperity, we will have to do under great trial and peril. What costs us little now, will someday cost us our very lives. Let us not shame the legacy of those that have gone before us and given their lives. Can we do any less in these last moments of history?

I pray not. ■

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