

LET PIONEERS IDENTIFY TRUTH

When the power of God testifies as to what is truth, that truth is to stand forever as the truth. No aftersuppositions, contrary to the light God has given are to be entertained. Men will arise with interpretations of Scripture which are to them truth, but which are not truth. The truth for this time, God has given us as a foundation for our faith. He Himself has taught us what is truth. One will arise, and still another, with new light which contradicts the light that God has given under the demonstration of His Holy Spirit.

A few are still alive who passed through the experience gained in the establishment of this truth. God has graciously spared their lives to repeat and repeat till the close of their lives, the experience through which they passed even as did John the apostle till the very close of his life. And the standard-bearers who have fallen in death, are to speak through the reprinting of their writings. I am instructed that thus their voices are to be heard. They are to bear their testimony as to what constitutes the truth for this time.

We are not to receive the words of those who come with a message that contradicts the special points of our faith. They gather together a mass of Scripture, and pile it as proof around their asserted theories. This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years. And while the Scriptures are God's word, and are to be respected, the application of them, if such application moves one pillar from the foundation that God has sustained these fifty years, is a great mistake. He who makes such an application knows not the wonderful demonstration of the Holy Spirit that gave power and force to the past messages that have come to the people of God. *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 31.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The ministry of *Future for America* is to proclaim the final warning message of Revelation 14 as identified within the prophecies of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The end-time fulfillment of Bible prophecy is no longer future—for it is taking place before our eyes. The historic, prophetic understanding of Seventh-day Adventism is now present truth. We are the final generation. Our emphasis on the prophetic word includes all the counsel of God's Word. To know what lies ahead is useless if we do not possess the experience to stand during these solemn times. Through obedience to God's law, and faith in the promises of God's Word, we are to receive that experience.

Coupled with the prophetic message, *Future for America* emphasizes all aspects of the medical missionary work. The "entering wedge"—medical missionary work—must be practiced by those who are to finish God's work in these final hours.

During this time period, country living becomes more essential with each passing moment. *Future for America* upholds and promotes this end-time truth. God's people must prepare for the coming storm, and that preparation includes the experience of learning how to survive in a simple fashion, away from the great centers of population.

Future for America intends to print and distribute truth-filled literature, while helping to establish lay-printing operations in parts of the Lord's vineyard where faithful brethren do not have the means to raise up a printing operation with their own resources.

Future for America is a self-supporting 501-C3 non-profit corporation; funded by readers like you. The cost of this newsletter and audio-tape reaching a home is approximately \$3.50.

This publication is sent out free of charge. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

MINISTRY UPDATE

Dear Friends: Beginning my first letter to everyone across the United States and even the world brings me great joy. Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Bronwyn Peck and I am turning thirty years old this summer. My husband's name is Jason. We have two children, our oldest is Austin and he is eight. Our youngest is Autumn and she is six. This month's audiotape includes a memory verse and musical selection from our children. My duties until recently have involved caring for my husband and children and attending college part time.

We moved to Arkansas almost eight months ago from Nevada. We live next door to my dad and mom who you know as Jeff and Kathy Pippenger. Due to the traveling that is involved with my dad and mom's ministry, I have helped with phones and sending out orders in the past while they were away. It was late May when my dad asked me to assist him in the desk top publishing that is required to send out the monthly newsletter that you now hold. I have agreed to do this in hopes that it will give him the extra help needed each month and to facilitate this end time message that he is proclaiming.

My experience with Christ was detoured when I entered the world as a young adult. The Lord brought me back to His fold as I was presented with the present truth message through books and tapes that my dad distributes. The power of prophecy and the significance it has brought to my life is a Christian experience like no other. In recent days my readings have led me to a passage found in Matthew twelve verses thirty-six and thirty seven which says,

But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

These verses have meant a lot to me personally and it also has significance to the editing responsibilities of *Future News*. Ellen White spoke about Matthew 12:36 in her book *Counsels on Health* in the section to nurses and helpers,

“My brethren and sisters, old and young, when you have an hour of leisure open the Bible and store the mind with its precious truths. When engaged in labor, guard the mind, keep it stayed upon God, talk less and meditate more. Remember, “Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.” Matthew 12:36. Let your words be select; this will close a door against the adversary of souls. Let your day be entered upon with prayer; work as in God's sight. His angels are ever by your side, making a record of your words, your deportment, and the manner in which your work is done.” *Counsels on Health*, 415.

I look forward to the months ahead and pray that the Lord is always on our minds whatever work we may do. Bronwyn

Hello brother Jeff,

I am from Zimbabwe Africa and my name is Admiral Ncube. I run a ministry called *Project Prepare* whose objective is to distribute truth-filled material. Our goal is in fact to prepare people for the imminent issues ahead of us by proclaiming the 3 angels messages. Our constraint however has been resources to be able to produce low cost material even in local languages. In most cases, the cost of sourcing a printing organization has been prohibitive such that at the need the price of the material becomes high. It has been my wish to start a printing operation that would cut down on costs.

We have tried to purchase books and material from USA but it is almost difficult given the foreign currency problems our country is facing such that there are strict regulations on the remitting of foreign currency. I also believe that it is cost effective to produce these pamphlets on health and prophecy here. This will also enable us to produce some in local languages for the benefit of those who are not very conversant in English. Given these constraints we have shelved our newsletter project specifically on the reason of cost involved in getting it printed.

We are a small ministry, still building up a capital base. God has been gracious with us to enable us to acquire software that we may use in the development of tracts, pamphlets, newsletters etc. At present we are being limited by the inadequacy of funds. My request to you therefore will be for assistance in anyway in starting up a lay printing facility. I believe so much in the printed page as an effective way of spreading the truth. I have had the privilege of listening to tapes by future news on prophecy, which you sent me years back as a gift on *Daniel eleven* and the *London Series*. Thank you so much, they have made impact in my life.

I wait to hear from you. I will appreciate any efforts you make even putting it in your newsletter.

We serve the same master. “We have nothing to fear for the future unless we forget how the Lord has led us in the past and His teaching in past history.”

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Jeff:

I know that you are so busy and traveling a lot, but I would like to know your comments on the attached booklet when you have time to go over it. I have always wondered about the Name of God and how we can use the same name, i.e. God, Lord, as other religions—Muslims, Indians, Buddhists, etc.—and the same name will mean different gods.

The attached booklet was written by a friend of ours who sent it to us recently for our evaluation and consideration. I am concerned that I do what is right and address my Lord and Savior, as He wants me to, but I truly don't know what is Truth.

Would you mind reading this booklet, dissect it, and let me know your comments on it? I appreciate your ability to study so thoroughly and search out the answers, so I would really appreciate your response on this article. Thank you so much, N&JD

Dear N&JD:

I will not have time to deal with this in the near future. I will forward it to P.R. who may have some available materials on the subject. I have been through this subject more than once. There is a very good article by Ralph Larson that basically points out that the very premise of this teaching denies its validity, in the sense that the ancient Hebrew scribes that wrote the Old Testament would refuse to spell out the name Jehovah do to great reverence for God's name.

The fact is that the name has never been spelled out; so to develop a doctrine about the correct name, when the correct name has never been identified is to develop a doctrine on the best guess of what God's true name is.

The second problem with this teaching is that those who propose it take the passages from Ellen White that deal with an increased understanding of God's name in end time Bible prophecy and teach that the increased understanding has to do with acknowledging their understanding of what God's real true name is. This is not the emphasis in the Spirit of Prophecy. Those passages are dealing with the truths connected with God's character as symbolized by His name being written in our hearts and minds. The teaching is a direct attack against one of the most important points of end time prophecy.

Their emphasis on the so-called correct name, also calls into question the inspiration of God's end time prophetess, for she freely used the name "Jesus" and other titles of the godhead, which they teach, are denials of truth. The one prophet that came after the Biblical record did not understand their so-called end-time revelation.

A fourth point which is circumstantial at best, but very accurate, is that when you come across those who emphasize God's name, they are also generally teaching the literal keeping of the feast days, with an emphasis on the "jubilee"; they also are usually re-applying the time prophecies of Daniel and Revelation that have already been fulfilled; and occasionally they are also anti-Trinitarian in their understanding of the godhead.

I am sorry that I cannot take the time to evaluate this booklet, but right now I am buried. Perhaps P. can help. Jeff

Jeff:

Thank you so much for your kindness and for taking your precious time in answering my questions and concerns on this matter. You validated what I have thought and basically believed for many years. Surely if it was that important, the Lord would have revealed it to EGW, would He not?

And you are right about this lady and the feast days. That was one of the first things that she started doing—keeping the feast days and then it was the name thing.

Anyone that I've ever seen focused on the Feast Days has eventually gone right out of the church, into eccentricism, then out of denominational church association all together.

I just want to know truth and stay balanced so as not to become eccentric or radical, except for the truth in our Lord and Savior.

Thank you so much for your time. We really appreciate the information. You are doing a fine work and we can see the Lord leading in your work. Keep the faith and the courage. We are praying for you. N&JD

Dear Jeff, on page 6 of April 2004, you made the following statement in reply to a reader: "I recommend the King James Version. The New International Version is one of many Catholic Bibles that deny the truth of God's word in a variety of ways." What is the supporting evidence that the New International Version is Catholic? K.F.

Dear Brother K.F.,

I have a friend that has spent many hours researching this subject and he has agreed to give a brief answer to your question. Jeff

Brother K.F.,

Thousands of pages have been written giving a clear picture that Satan has through his agents systematically, and with design, corrupted God's word. My first suggestion would be a book written by Benjamin Wilkenson in 1930 entitled, *Our Authorized Version Vindicated* (I purchased mine from Orion Publishing in Ukiah, CA).

Wilkenson was the dean of theology at Washington Missionary College at the time and although his book preceded the new versions he does give an excellent history of both the climate and people who produced the Revised Standard Version. During the latter end of the time of the Oxford Movement (which essentially changed the church of England from Protestant to Catholic) two Anglican ministers produced a new Greek New Testament that was based primarily on the Sinaiticus and Vaticanus manuscripts. Gnostics produced these manuscripts in Alexandria, Egypt. .

Because of the quality of the workmanship and dating many believe that they were two of the 50 Bibles Constantine commissioned Eusebius to produce for his Christian-pagan empire

Wilkenson's book contains numerous texts showing how the Jesuit bible reappears in the American Revised Version.

Gail Riplinger's book, entitled *New Age Bible Versions* is much broader in scope. This is an excellent book in which she not only demonstrates that the new versions accommodate Catholicism but that it is Satan's design that they can be used as a one world religion bible. In Luke eleven, the Lord's prayer is so generic that it can be prayed by Luciferians. The Lord's prayer in Matthew six is somewhat better. In many versions it begins with God however ends with Satan when you look at the marginal references. Cardinal Mario Martini is on the UBS Greek New Testament committee. The underlying text used by both the UBS and Nestles/Aland is the Vaticanus, which was mysteriously found in a vault in the Vatican, rejected by the reformers, but somehow accepted by our Laodicean church.

Riplingers book can be purchased by phone (800-435-4535), or online at www.AVPUBLICATIONS.com or at A.V. Publications, PO Box 280 Ararat, VA 24053 USA.

Both of the books previously mentioned are a must for reference material.

Jack Moorman's, *Early Manuscripts And The Authorized Version* can also be purchased through A.V. Publishing. This book not only documents 356 changes of doctrinal passages it denotes an intentional removal of either Lord, Jesus or Christ from the new versions. The NASB has 156 of these omissions, whereas the New International Version omits 115. He points out that this is due to the Gnostic idea that Jesus did not become the Christ until after His baptism.

This is known as "adoptionism" or "spirit Christology" and was the basis of the Alexandrian manuscripts. These are the texts underlying all of the new versions. Here I would like to refer to 1 John 2:22 that states, "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist."

Samuel Gipp's *An Understandable History of the Bible* was a very easy and enjoyable read giving even a fuller understanding of the change from the received text to that of the new versions.

For a more scholarly approach, I would suggest Herman Hoskiers *Codex B and its Allies*. He proves the corruption in these Alexandrian manuscripts. He and Dean John Burgeon have done more collations (comparisons with all the ancient manuscripts) than any person I know. Even though there are other sources, these should be sufficient.

Basically these authors support the fact that a couple spiritualists, Wescott and Hort, hating the majority text which Christianity had used since the time of the apostles, produced an entirely new Greek New Testament.

This manuscript, based primarily on the Vaticanus combined with other Alexandrian manuscripts, is the basis for not only the Revised Standard Version but also all of the new versions. As Gnosticism and Catholicism are both a combination of paganism and Christianity you can readily see why these new versions have been accepted by both the New Agers and Catholics. The question is, why has Protestantism, and more specifically Adventism, come to accept them so readily? The answer is twofold. First we are Laodiceans, asleep, not comparing scripture with scripture. And we are too tied in with the world's way of thinking. The second reason is that although some of the changes are obvious, many are very subtle and the overall content appears very religious. Let me refer to a number of passages.

Luke 2:33 where King James Version reads, Joseph and His mother, new versions read, his father and mother, thus denying His virgin birth.

Luke 11 omits any reference to heaven or evil.

Luke 4:8 Get thee behind me Satan is missing where Jesus is speaking to Peter. (It would be hard to accept that Satan could use the first pope).

Acts 13:42 states that the gentiles wanted Paul and Barnabus to preach these same words the next Sabbath. This is lost in the new versions, thus weakening the Sabbath.

Acts 16:7 pantheism can be seen in the words "The Spirit of Jesus suffered them not" rather than "The Spirit suffered them not."

The gospel is lost in 1 Corinthians 5:7 where Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, in the new versions He is just sacrificed.

Jesus is no longer the Creator in Ephesians 3:9.

Colossians 1:14 we no longer have redemption through His blood.

John 2:11 miracles become signs.

Conversion (a work of God) becomes change (a work of man) in Matthew 18:2,3 (New International Version).

The confessional is supported in James 5:16 where confess your faults becomes sins. We've been told to confess our sins only to God.

Purgatory is seen in 1 Peter 2:9 where the Lord will keep the unrighteous under punishment unto the day of judgment.

Hebrews 1:3 now opens the door for a mediatrix, (i.e. Mary) where by Himself is missing from purging our sins.

Both Mark 9:42 and John 6:47 believe on Jesus becomes just believe. (We can believe on anything).

Mark 10:24 For those who trust in riches is missing, thus insinuating that it is hard to enter the kingdom.

Believe becomes obey in John 3:36, which suggests works.

Unbelief becomes disobedience in Hebrews 4:6.

Mark 7:19 we read that all meats are clean in the new versions.

If you refer to the marginal reference the ascension is missing in Mark 16:9–20.

Revelation 1:7 opens the way for what the revisers refer to as the larger hope or universal salvation, where the nations will not wail for their lost condition but instead mourn suggesting true repentance.

Acts 3:19 the latter rain is lost and works is substituted, whereas we are told to repent and turn to God so that times of refreshing will come.

Psalms 8:5 man was created a little lower than God, whereas Jesus in Hebrews 2:9 was created a little lower than the angels.

The person of Christ is the catholic doctrine of transubstantiation. This can be clearly seen in 1 Corinthians 11:29 (New International Version).

1 John 5:7 is missing from new versions. This is our strongest support for the doctrine of the Trinity.

1 John 4:3 we're told in the King James Version that every spirit that confesses not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is antichrist. New versions eliminate not only Christ but also in the flesh in that very same verse.

Revelation 22:14 states "Blessed are they that do His commandments that they may have right." New versions replace do His commandments with wash their robes.

Amos 3:3 deals with the spiritual concept that "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" In new versions it requires an appointment.

Lucifer is missing from Isaiah 14:12 and in some cases a marginal reference sends you to Revelation 22:16 where Jesus is the bright and morning star.

There are thousands of changes in the new versions. However space, and my ability to present the complete list, will not permit.

I would like to close with three passages of Scripture. Deuteronomy 19:15 states "at the mouth of two witnesses or at the mouth of three witnesses shall the matter be established." Note that we have presented many more than two or three witnesses. Next I would present Revelation 22:18,19 "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book". Have we not seen this very thing being done in the new versions? Do we not believe this statement from Revelation?

Gail Riplinger points out an alarming fact. Five people involved in translating the new versions lost their ability to speak; man should not have altered God's word!

Finally I would suggest that we look for the spiritual application of Malachi 1:6,7 "O priests that despise my name. And ye say, wherein have we despised thy name? Ye offer polluted bread upon my altar." Jesus is the Bread of Life. He is also The Word. In many pulpits today we are offering polluted bread on God's altar. This is a very solemn thought.

Bud Alavezos—CA

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. Revelation 22:18, 19.

HOW THE EVANGELICALS AND CATHOLICS JOINED FORCES

In 1960, the last time a Roman Catholic ran for president on the Democratic ticket, evangelical Protestant leaders warned their flocks that electing John F. Kennedy would be like handing the Oval Office to the Antichrist.

So deep was the antipathy toward Catholics that the president of the *National Association of Evangelicals* sent a distressed letter to pastors saying:

"Public opinion is changing in favor of the church of Rome. We dare not sit idly by—voiceless and voteless." The Reverend Billy Graham's magazine *Christianity Today* said in an editorial that the Vatican "does all in its power to control the governments of nations."

Forty-four years later, less than a fortnight in Christian history, evangelicals and conservative Catholics have forged an alliance that is reshaping American politics and culture.

Now another Catholic Democrat from Massachusetts, Senator John Kerry, is running for president. But this time evangelicals are cheering on the handful of Catholic bishops who have said they will deny communion to politicians like Mr. Kerry who support abortion rights. In an about-face, *Christianity Today* says in a June editorial that it is "certainly appropriate" for bishops to expect a Catholic president to submit to Vatican authority. More than political expediency is at work here. Once blinded by suspicion, evangelical and some Catholic leaders have spent more than a decade laying the groundwork for a religious realignment. Though the old animus is not dead, there has been a rapprochement with both moral and theological dimensions, and broad political implications.

Coalitions of Catholics and evangelicals form the backbone in the fights against gay marriage, stem-cell research and euthanasia, and for religious school vouchers. Catholic and evangelical leaders who forged relationships in the anti-abortion movement, which the Baptist theologian Timothy George has called "the ecumenism of the trenches," are now working side by side in campaigns on other culture war issues, and for Republican candidates.

Catholics, once a solidly Democratic voting bloc, are now fractured. Polls of the 2000 election showed traditionalists and centrists breaking away to join conservative evangelicals in voting for George Bush. "Voting groups are far more fluid than they used to be," said Patrick Allitt, a professor of American history at Emory University.

Mr. Allitt recalls seeing his glimpse of the new alliance at an *Operation Rescue* anti-abortion rally in Atlanta in the 1980's.

Now conservatives in both groups share the sense that they are fighting a losing battle against secularism, relativism and a trend that the *Christianity Today* editorial brands "hypermodern individualism." Though miles apart on salvation, they find common ground in the language of moral absolutes. Evangelicals have thoroughly adopted Pope John Paul II's language on the "culture of life" to convey their anti-abortion principles. In a recent poll of evangelicals, the pope had higher favorability ratings (59 percent) than either Jerry Falwell (44 percent) or Pat Robertson (54 percent).

"This is a phenomenal change from the days when the pope was considered by evangelicals who were not on the fringe as the Antichrist," said Reverend Richard Cizik, who handles government affairs for the *National Association of Evangelicals*.

"There is many an evangelical now who believes that they have more in common with the Catholics down the street than they do with mainline Protestants," he said, a reference to the Presbyterians, Episcopalians or Methodists, whose churches are internally divided over homosexuality.

Evangelicals in past generations were once among the loudest voices calling for separation of church and state, largely as a defense against government financing for Catholic parochial schools. But with evangelicals busy building their own private Christian academies in recent years, they have joined forces with Catholics to push for government vouchers for parents who choose to send their children to private or religious schools.

Audiences of evangelicals and Catholics defied critics and made *The Passion of the Christ* one of most profitable films ever produced. Catholics regard the film as a thoroughly Catholic spectacle, focused as it is on the Virgin Mary and Jesus' suffering. Yet Mel Gibson, a traditionalist Catholic, built an audience with screenings in evangelical megachurches, even hiring Billy Graham's public relations man. Many evangelicals embraced the movie as a way to strike a blow of their own in the culture wars.

EVEN A DECADE AGO, MUCH OF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN A SURPRISE. IT IS TRUE THAT FOR CATHOLICS, THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL IN THE 1960'S SET THE STAGE FOR CATHOLIC ACCEPTANCE OF ECUMENICISM. BUT THE EVANGELICALS STILL HAD A LONG WAY TO GO.

Exactly 10 years ago, a group of evangelical and Catholic leaders and scholars released a document called *Evangelicals and Catholics Together*. It was the result of a dialogue started by two men: the Reverend Richard John Neuhaus, a Catholic priest in New York who edits the journal *First Things*, and Charles Colson, the former Nixon aide who became a born-again Christian while doing time for the Watergate cover-up.

Mr. Colson said in a recent interview that he had reached out to Father Neuhaus because he had admired a book by the priest, *The Naked Public Square*, which argued that public life was slowly being stripped of the religious. The two men convened a group of prominent theologians and religious leaders. The evangelical side included the late Bill Bright, founder of *Campus Crusade for Christ*, the religious broadcaster Pat Robertson and theologians like James I. Packer. The Catholic side included the late Cardinal John O'Connor of New York and the theologian Avery Dulles, now a cardinal.

Their manifesto was primarily theological, but it included overt political pledges to work together on issues like abortion, government aid for religious schools and strengthening the "traditional family," in part a reaction to the growing gay rights movement.

The document shook the evangelical world. "Friendships and institutions were blown apart," Father Neuhaus recalled in an interview. One hundred evangelical leaders signed a statement denouncing it. Mr. Colson said his organization, *Prison Fellowship Ministries*, lost about a million dollars in contributions. He received more than a dozen letters a week from angry evangelicals.

But over the next several years, the letters stopped. By 2000, Mr. Colson and James Dobson, the broadcaster who founded *Focus on the Family*, were invited to the Vatican to address the bishops on the breakdown of the family, the first such appearance ever. Evangelical institutions like Wheaton College in Illinois and Gordon College in Massachusetts began inviting Catholics to speak on campus, Mr. Colson said.

Father Neuhaus said he has been among the Catholic leaders urging bishops to publicly confront Catholic politicians like Mr. Kerry who defy church teaching on abortion. The dialogue group has continued meeting, and is at work on another statement on the meaning of holiness. This is not to say that everyone sees eye to eye. There is plenty of anti-Catholic residue among evangelicals. Christian bookstores still sell books arguing Catholics are apostates. The best-selling *Left Behind* series, so popular among evangelicals, featured a distasteful Catholic cardinal who assists the Antichrist.

On political matters, evangelicals and Catholics will not fall on the same side of the divide on every issue. The Vatican opposed the war in Iraq, while many evangelicals were hawkish. And many Catholics still profess a strong social-justice, pro-union, Democratic orientation that makes them natural antagonists of evangelicals, who largely swing Republican.

Father Neuhaus confided, "There is much in the evangelical culture that grates against me—the overly confident claims to being born again, the forced happiness and joy, the awful music."

But the alliance, he said, is "an extraordinary realignment that if it continues is going to create a very different kind of configuration of Christianity in America."

BUSH LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING WITH THE POPE

President George Bush says he will be all ears when he meets John Paul II in the Vatican next week, according to an interview in the magazine *Christianity Today*.

Bush, who is visiting Rome to celebrate the 60th anniversary of its liberation by the Allies during World War II, asked for a special visit with the Pope. This will be the third time that the two leaders have met.

Asked if he had a particular message for the Pope, Bush said, "No. I'm there to listen. I will respond. If I would even dare give him a message it would be, 'Hold the line.'" Bush, a Methodist, told the magazine that he has been in awe when meeting with John Paul II. "He is a strong man," the U.S. president said. "He's got a huge presence and it's an honor to be with him. It truly is."

"He'll have something to say," Bush added. "Believe me, he'll use this as an opportunity to talk about a world problem or an issue, and he'll do it in a loving way. I mean he's the kind of person that makes you feel good." *Zenit.org*, May 28, 2004.

"To secure worldly gains and honors, the church was led to seek the favor and support of the great men of earth; and having thus rejected Christ, she was induced to yield allegiance to the representative of Satan --the bishop of Rome." *The Great Controversy*, 50.

BUSH TO AWARD POPE A MEDAL OF FREEDOM

During their meeting here Friday, US leader George Bush will award John Paul II the *Presidential Medal of Freedom*, Vatican sources reported. Last November, the U.S. House of Representatives by voice vote approved a bipartisan resolution encouraging President Bush to award the government's highest civilian honor to the Pope.

In 1963, President John Kennedy authorized the practice of awarding *Presidential Medals of Freedom* to persons "for especially meritorious contribution to (1) the security or national interests of the United States, or (2) world peace, or (3) cultural or other significant public or private endeavors," according to an executive order.

About 400 such medals have been awarded. Pope John XXIII was among the first 31 honorees. President Lyndon Johnson presented the award posthumously in December 1963.

In 2000, the US Congress awarded its *Gold Medal* to John Paul II. *Zenit.org*

WHEN PROTESTANTISM AND POPERY COMBINE

"The persecutions of Protestants by Romanism, by which the religion of Jesus Christ was almost annihilated, will be more than rivaled when Protestantism and popery are combined. The darkest pages of history will be opened in that great day when it will be too late for wrongs to be righted. Registered in the book are crimes that have been committed because of religious differences. We are not ignorant of the history. Europe was shaken as though with an earthquake, when a church, lifted up in pride and vanity, haughty and tyrannical, devoted to condemnation and death all who dared to think for themselves, and who ventured to take the Bible as the foundation of their faith.

"Our own land is to become a battlefield on which is to be carried on the struggle for religious liberty to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. Then can we not discern the work of the enemy in keeping men asleep who ought to be awake, whose influence shall not be neutral but wholly and entirely on the Lord's side? Shall men cry peace and safety now, when sudden destruction is coming upon the world, when God's wrath shall be poured out?" *Manuscript Releases*, volume 16, 239-240.

BUSH, POPE TO MEET TODAY AT THE VATICAN

Rarely have politics and religion become so intertwined as they have this year in the pursuit of Roman Catholic voters. . . .

But he has courted conservative Catholics and reached out to the church's hierarchy ever since to expand the Republican coalition. His appeals to evangelical Christians on social issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage are aimed at a segment of the Catholic population as well.

Since his election, Bush has systematically reached out to the Catholic community. . . .

Education and affluence changed the face of the Catholic Church in the United States in the second half of the 20th century and, with it, the voting patterns of its members. What once was a predominantly urban, ethnic constituency now is wealthier and more suburban. . . .

"The Protestant-Catholic split was once very real," said John Kenneth White, a professor of political science at Catholic University. "But the big split now is between those who go to church frequently and those who don't. . . .

Catholic leaders want the church to have a strong voice in politics, but some worry that it could be dragged into a partisan battle at a time when American politics are growing increasingly acrimonious.

"We're in a time here in our country where there is more radical annoyance with anyone who doesn't take your side. There's almost a lack of civility . . . that creeps into every institution in society," McCarrick said. "Right now I think the church is okay. But the waters are swirling around us, and they're waters that are filled with distrust and with anger and with annoyance." *Washington Post*, June 4, 2004.

"The Roman Church has not relinquished her claim to supremacy; and when the world and the Protestant churches accept a sabbath of her creating, while they reject the Bible Sabbath, they virtually admit this assumption. They may claim the authority of tradition and of the Fathers for the change; but in so doing they ignore the very principle which separates them from Rome—that 'the Bible, and the Bible only, is the religion of Protestants.' The papist can see that they are deceiving themselves, willingly closing their eyes to the facts in the case. As the movement for Sunday enforcement gains favor, he rejoices, feeling assured that it will eventually bring the whole Protestant world under the banner of Rome." *The Great Controversy*, 448.

GEORGE BUSH'S ADDRESS TO JOHN PAUL II "WE WILL WORK FOR HUMAN LIBERTY AND HUMAN DIGNITY"

Following John Paul II's welcome address today during an audience, US President George Bush addressed these words to the Pope.

"Your Holiness,

"Thank you very much for receiving Laura and me and our delegation.

"I bring greetings from our country, where you are respected, admired and greatly loved.

"I also bring a message from my government that says to you, Sir, that we will work for human liberty and human dignity in order to spread peace and compassion; that we appreciate the strong symbol of freedom that you have stood for, and we recognize the power of freedom to change societies and to change the world.

"And so, Sir, we are honored to be here; perhaps the best way I can express my country's gratitude to you and our respect to you is to present to you the Medal of Freedom from America and, if you might, allow, I'd like to read the citation attached to that honor.

"A devoted servant of God, His Holiness Pope John Paul II has championed the cause of the poor, the weak, the hungry, and the outcast.

"He has defended the unique dignity of every life, and the goodness of all life.

"Through his faith and moral conviction, he has given courage to others to 'be not afraid' in overcoming injustice and oppression.

"His principled stand for peace and freedom has inspired millions and helped to topple Communism and tyranny.

"The United States honors this son of Poland who became the Bishop of Rome, and a hero of our time."

"Romanism is now regarded by Protestants with far greater favor than in former years. In those countries where Catholicism is not in the ascendancy, and the papists are taking a conciliatory course in order to gain influence, there is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part will bring us into a better understanding with Rome. The time was when Protestants placed a high value upon the liberty of conscience which had been so dearly purchased. They taught their children to abhor popery and held that to seek harmony with Rome would be disloyalty to God. But how widely different are the sentiments now expressed!

“The defenders of the papacy declare that the church has been maligned, and the Protestant world are inclined to accept the statement. Many urge that it is unjust to judge the church of today by the abominations and absurdities that marked her reign during the centuries of ignorance and darkness. They excuse her horrible cruelty as the result of the barbarism of the times and plead that the influence of modern civilization has changed her sentiments.

“Have these persons forgotten the claim of infallibility put forth for eight hundred years by this haughty power? So far from being relinquished, this claim was affirmed in the nineteenth century with greater positiveness than ever before. As Rome asserts that the "church never erred; nor will it, according to the Scriptures, ever err" (John L. von Mosheim, *Institutes of Ecclesiastical History*, book 3, century II, part 2, chapter 2, section 9, note 17), how can she renounce the principles which governed her course in past ages?

“The papal church will never relinquish her claim to infallibility. All that she has done in her persecution of those who reject her dogmas she holds to be right; and would she not repeat the same acts, should the opportunity be presented? Let the restraints now imposed by secular governments be removed and Rome be reinstated in her former power, and there would speedily be a revival of her tyranny and persecution.

“A well-known writer speaks thus of the attitude of the papal hierarchy as regards freedom of conscience, and of the perils which especially threaten the United States from the success of her policy:

“There are many who are disposed to attribute any fear of Roman Catholicism in the United States to bigotry or childishness. Such see nothing in the character and attitude of Romanism that is hostile to our free institutions, or find nothing portentous in its growth. Let us, then, first compare some of the fundamental principles of our government with those of the Catholic Church.’

“The Constitution of the United States guarantees liberty of conscience. Nothing is dearer or more fundamental. Pope Pius IX, in his *Encyclical Letter of August 15, 1854*, said: “The absurd and erroneous doctrines or ravings in defense of liberty of conscience are a most pestilential error—a pest, of all others, most to be dreaded in a state.” The same pope, in his *Encyclical Letter of December 8, 1864*, anathematized “those who assert the liberty of conscience and of religious worship,” also “all such as maintain that the church may not employ force.”

“The pacific tone of Rome in the United States does not imply a change of heart. She is tolerant where she is helpless. Says Bishop O’Connor: “Religious liberty is merely endured until the opposite can be carried into effect without peril to the Catholic world.” . . . The archbishop of St. Louis once said: “Heresy and unbelief are crimes; and in Christian countries, as in Italy and Spain, for instance, where all the people are Catholics, and where the Catholic religion is an essential part of the law of the land, they are punished as other crimes. . .”

“Every cardinal, archbishop, and bishop in the Catholic Church takes an oath of allegiance to the pope, in which occur the following words: ‘Heretics, schismatics, and rebels to our said lord (the pope), or his aforesaid successors, I will to my utmost persecute and oppose.’”—Josiah Strong, *Our Country*, ch. 5, pars. 2-4.” *The Great Controversy*, 563–565.

BUSH USES CATHOLIC BUZZ-WORD

In the Executive Branch Thursday, President Bush signed into law the *Unborn Victims of Violence Act*, criminalizing death or injury to an unborn child during a federal crime committed against the mother. . . . The moral concern of humanity extends to those unborn children who are harmed or killed in crimes against their mothers, and now the protection of federal law extends to those children, as well. With this action . . . we reaffirm that the United States of America is building a culture of life." *The Federalist*, April 2, 2004.

Editor's Note: The words, "culture of life" are Catholic buzzwords that Bush uses to attract Catholic voters.

PRO-LIFE AMERICANS GROW

The number of Americans who consider themselves pro-life continues to grow in America. In a new *Zogby poll* (April 2004), 56% of the American people are against 98% of abortions (in other words, they are against all abortions except for rape and incest: 33% are against all abortions or only to save the life of the mother). Young people are even more pro-life: 60% of young people (ages 18-29) are against all abortions except for rape/incest abortions. 78% of Hispanic-Americans are against all abortions except for rape/incest abortions. 62% of African-Americans are against all abortions except for rape/incest abortions. Radical pro-abortion groups brought lawsuits in 3 federal courts against the *Partial-Birth Abortion Ban* passed by Congress overwhelmingly in 2003 and signed into law by President George W. Bush. The subject of fetal pain during such a barbaric abortion procedure has been discussed in at least one of these 3 trials. An astounding 77% of the American people (versus 16%) agree with this statement/question: "There is a growing consensus among scientists that human fetuses can feel pain after 20 weeks in the womb. Do you favor or oppose laws requiring that women who are 20 weeks or more along in their pregnancy be given information about fetal pain before having an abortion"? *CCA Washington Weekly Review*, May 1, 2004.

NO COMMUNION FOR PRO-ABORTION POLITICIANS

Politicians who support abortion must not go to Communion and priests must deny them the sacrament, says Cardinal Francis Arinze.

In response to a journalist's question, Cardinal Arinze said: "If the person should not receive it, then it should not be given. Objectively, the answer is there." The cardinal explained that a priest must not give Communion unless it is a surprise occasion and "he does not have the time to reflect."

One of the journalists asked the cardinal if he could give his judgment on the concrete application of this norm in the case of US Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, who says he is a Catholic but supports abortion. "The norm of the Church is clear," he said. "The Catholic Church exists in the US and there are bishops there. Let them interpret."

Kerry supports abortion and has said he would nominate only US Supreme Court justices who support his position. Pro-life groups in the US say Kerry has a "perfect record" of voting for legislation that allows abortion.

Arinze, a Nigerian who has been mentioned as a possible successor to Pope John Paul II, did not comment specifically on whether presidential candidate John Kerry should be excommunicated. But the inference was clear—and Reuters news wire as well as others said the Cardinal's remarks were a clear shot across Kerry's bow. The cardinal left no doubt about Kerry by saying that an "unambiguously pro-abortion" politician "is not fit" to receive communion.

"If they should not receive, then they should not be given," he noted. The cardinal's directive "could influence the U.S. presidential race," Reuters observed. Already several leading Catholic laity and clergy have told Kerry that he is excommunicated from the Church because of his abortion stance. Kerry, meanwhile, planned to campaign with pro-choice groups today and denounce President Bush's greatest success in human rights: a ban on gruesome partial-birth abortions. *Newsmax.com*, April 23, 2004.

“The Roman Catholic Church, with all its ramifications throughout the world, forms one vast organization under the control, and designed to serve the interests, of the papal see. Its millions of communicants, in every country on the globe, are instructed to hold themselves as bound in allegiance to the pope. Whatever their nationality or their government, they are to regard the authority of the church as above all other. Though they may take the oath pledging their loyalty to the state, yet back of this lies the vow of obedience to Rome, absolving them from every pledge inimical to her interests.” *The Great Controversy*, 580.

THE NEW EUGENICS

“[Pro-abortion] marchers starkly spoke of ‘wanted’ and ‘chosen’ children, the upshot of which is that unwanted and unchosen children be aborted. During one moment in the march, the emcee appeared to announce a ‘missing child’ in the audience. Was the child lost or unwanted? Many children were missing at the march, and marchers were doing their best to brainwash women into not missing them. The children enlisted into propaganda service at the march were mere survivors, utterly random recipients of life in a culture otherwise prepared to abort them had they proven ‘damaged’ or inconvenient.” *The Federalist*, May 3, 2004.

Editor’s Note: Here we see an idea similar to the Eugenics movement in Nazi Germany, which exterminated even the living that were “damaged or inconvenient.”

UNION POWER GROWING

A major scandal is brewing in California. Now that the unions have closed down some grocery-store chains, they want to kick *Habitat for Humanity* out of the state! They no longer will allow volunteers in class rooms (love that teachers union) and if you want to have a Boy Scout troop to clean up a local creek, the unions say, “flood it, don’t fix it”.

A 1930’s law makes public works project subject to “prevailing wage”. All went well until 2001, when the “Pay for Play” Governor, Gray Davis, signed over control of all efforts that receive tax dollars to the unions.

Now, while everyone is wringing their hands that this is wrong, the unions refuse to negotiate. Oh, they will give in, as long as the volunteers are paid. I bet they will then demand that volunteers join the union as well.

Isn’t it time to recognize the number one problem in California is not the [extravagant] workers compensation fund, not regulations or high taxes, but the control unions have over laws and regulations, causing the aforementioned problems?

Our schools are a mess. The drop-out rate for Los Angeles schools went up 50% in one year. Our workers comp problem was caused by greedy unions demanding more benefits, with one sided control, by them. The cost of building public facilities is 25-30% more than real cost, since government projects must, in many cases use Labor Agreements, not the open market for vendors. That means our tax dollars are wasted, going into the pockets of union bosses, to use to “contribute” to more elected officials who will give the unions more power.

Now, the unions want to get rid of the Boy Scouts, the Rotary and Kiwanis, veterans groups, and student volunteer organizations from helping their neighbors and community. This is outrageous conduct that must be stopped immediately, and no excuses from any elected official. *California Political News and Views*, May, 2004.

TWO LABOR UNIONS JOIN EFFORTS TO INCREASE POLITICAL CLOUT

An alliance formed this year between the United Steelworkers of America and Nashville-based PACE International Union is intended to strengthen the unions’ clout in politics and could lead to a merger.

The alliance joins about 800,000 union members in grass-roots programs that seek to influence national elections and focus on workplace issues, including safety and overtime pay.

While union officials downplay the immediate prospects, the alliance could lead to a merger of the two unions.

"First and foremost, we're gaining political strength," said Leo Gerard, president of the Pittsburgh-based United Steelworkers International.

The alliance, formed in March, joins the 532,000-member Steelworkers union with the 274,000-member PACE.

For now, the two groups are focused on political and workplace issues through the Steelworkers' political action program, which mobilizes voters and organizes letter-writing campaigns to public officials, and PACE's rapid response team investigations of industrial accidents that injure workers.

"It's an evaluation of how we can join forces on behalf of our members," said Leeann Anderson, executive assistant to PACE International President Boyd Young.

Both unions were formed through mergers. PACE was created in 1999 by the merger of the United Paperworkers International Union and the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers. The Steelworkers merged with the United Rubber Workers in 1995.

The two organizations face declining membership, a trend common to all industrial unions in the United States. Combining forces could bolster their clout, said Gary Chaison, a professor at Clark University in Worcester, Mass., who studies union mergers.

PACE's membership dropped almost 12 percent from 2000 to 2002, said reports filed with the U.S. Labor Department. The Pittsburgh-based Steelworkers reported a 13 percent decline in membership in the same period.

Any growth in union membership has come from the service sector, especially in the Service Employees International Union and unions that represent government employees.

Unions have relied on mergers to maintain their strength. Finding common ground in the political arena is usually a first step to merging, but the details of some mergers have taken years to complete, Chaison said.

A combination of the Steelworkers and PACE would form the nation's largest industrial union, moving ahead of the United Autoworkers of America, which had about 640,000 members in 2002, and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, which had about 673,000 members. *Miami Herald*, June 4, 2004.

LABOR UNION SUPPORTS BUSH TIPS PLAN

A type of neighborhood anti-terror program launched by the Bush administration will be up and active this month in 10 cities across the country and some of those recruited could be neighborhood truck drivers, utility employees and train conductors.

Those are just some of the jobs taken by Teamsters union members, which has signed up to help the Justice Department with its Operation TIPS.

TIPS — the Terrorism Information and Prevention System — is one of the core elements of President Bush's Citizen Corps Program. The national system for reporting suspicious and potentially terrorist-related activity is predicated on the assistance of do-good local citizens who would be in positions to witness unusual or suspicious activity in public places. Volunteers will hand tips over to the Justice Department via a toll-free hotline or online.

The Teamsters union is throwing its support behind Operation TIPS not only as a means to show its nonpartisan stripes, but to lend an effort to homeland security, said Teamsters spokesman Rob Black.

Teamsters President James Hoffa — re-elected last November to run one of the nation's oldest and largest unions — "made clear" at the end of June during a meeting with Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge that "the Teamsters fully support Operation TIPS," Black said.

"Mr. Hoffa said that Teamster members can be the eyes and ears on the war on terrorism," he added.

But groups like the American Civil Liberties Union say that asking workers who have access to private residences to report possible suspicious activity could turn neighbors against each other and generate thousands of unreasonable and unwarranted charges against innocent people.

"The administration apparently wants to implement a program that will turn local cable or gas or electrical technicians into government-sanctioned peeping toms," Rachel King, an ACLU legislative counsel, said in a statement.

The ACLU is even providing forms to citizens to encourage them to write to their utility companies protesting their involvement in TIPS.

The Teamsters' support of TIPS, however, is not attributable solely to its Good Samaritanism. The union, which has traditionally leaned more Democratic, wants to demonstrate that the labor group should not be written off as only supportive of Democratic initiatives.

"The fact is that since Mr. Hoffa took office, he's made it extremely clear that on the legislative and political strategy, that the Teamsters will have no permanent friends, only permanent interests," Black said. "With regards to the Bush administration, that is exactly what we have done."

The Teamsters are doing more than supporting TIPS to show they should not be taken advantage of as a Democratic union.

The group has supported a mixed bag of political priorities. It has gone from supporting Bush's idea to drill for oil in Alaska, to opposing Bush's pet priority: fast-track trade negotiating authority. The group also fought the administration over safety standards for trucks crossing the U.S.-Mexico border.

"Our approach is not to buddy up to one party or the other, but it's to build a Teamster majority at all levels of government," Black said.

It is building its majority in part by donating more to Republican campaigns than it has done in the past. During the 2000 election cycle, the group donated \$2.9 million to various candidates; 93 percent went to Democratic candidates and only 7 percent went to Republicans.

But so far in the 2002 election cycle, Teamsters have donated \$1.2 million — 85 percent of which has gone toward Democratic candidates and 15 percent to Republicans.

Hoffa recently said in an interview with *The Washington Times* that he is considering endorsing Jeb Bush, the president's brother, for a second term as Florida's governor. The Teamsters are also endorsing a number of other Republican candidates, such as gubernatorial candidates George Pataki in New York and Bob Taft in Ohio. Hoffa also told the *Times* the Teamsters have more access to the Bush White House than to the Clinton White House. *Fox News*.

"For years I have been given special light that we are not to center our work in the cities. The turmoil and confusion that fill these cities, the conditions brought about by the labor unions and the strikes, would prove a great hindrance to our work. Men are seeking to bring those engaged in the different trades under bondage to certain unions. This is not God's planning, but the planning of a power that we should in no wise acknowledge. God's word is fulfilling; the wicked are binding themselves up in bundles ready to be burned." *Counsels on Health*, 273.

"The trades unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon this earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the world began." *Last Day Events*, 116.

"Those who claim to be the children of God are in no case to bind up with the labor unions that are formed or that shall be formed. This the Lord forbids. Cannot those who study the prophecies see and understand what is before us?" *Selected Messages*, book 2, 144.

"Last night I slept only three hours, from eight to eleven. Oh, how my soul longs to see the people of God zealous in repentance. I entreat them to prepare to meet their God. Can they not see in the rapid growth of trades unions, the fulfilling of the signs of the times? Those forming the labor unions are determined to have their own way. Violence and death mean nothing to them if their unions are opposed. The spirit is working in those who profess to believe the truth, but who, because they do not live the truth, are always in contention.

The judgments of God are in the land. The wars and rumors of wars, the destruction by fire and flood, say clearly that the time of trouble which is to increase until the end, is already in the world." *Manuscript Releases*, volume 4, 89.

MIXING SPECIES —AND CROSSING A LINE?

[Scientists] want to trace how well human embryonic stem-cells turn into specific tissues and organs —the very shape-shifting quality that could make these cells an endless source of transplant tissues to treat diseases like Parkinsons' and diabetes. Israeli scientist Ronald Goldstein implanted cells from human embryos into chicken eggs. He did not let the eggs hatch, and he made sure the human cells could not mingle with all of the developing chicks' tissues to create true chimeras, but other researchers are pursuing far more intimate marriages of human and animal tissue. South Korean scientists say they've created early mouse embryos marbled with human embryo cells — the very outcome Goldstein set out to avoid with his chicks, and US researchers have proposed slipping another kind of stem-cell into a mouse fetus to make an animal with a brain formed entirely of human neurons. Crossing species barriers in the lab is nothing new —scientists have created mice with human immune-system cells and organ-donor pigs with human genes. To many people, though, implanting stem-cells in an animal is a different matter because these cells are the clay from which human beings are made.

An article about the "moral confusion regarding social and ethical obligations to novel interspecies beings" in the current *American Journal of Bioethics* is drawing unprecedented response. And a project to look at the ethics of stem-cells has formed a special panel on chimeric brains. Where one expert sees a routine study, another might see a risky bid to endow an animal with a touch of humanity.

The South Korean firm injected human embryonic stem-cells labeled with a fluorescent protein into 11 mouse blastocysts. Foster mouse mothers carried the embryos, and five babies were born with fluorescence in tissues including the heart, bones, kidney, and liver. But the team shut down the project after the company "coped with severe protests" from the public.

Upcoming workshops on chimeric brains will bring together experts on primatology, neurology, ethics, and stem cells to assess whether such experiments might create monkeys capable of humanlike thought or experiences. If so, the panels will need to ponder whether scientists can ethically create such beings, and how researchers might recognize that their monkeys had become something more than lab animals.

It's familiar ground for Stanford University bioethicist Henry Greely and stem-cell researcher Irving Weissman [who have been] thinking about experiments in fetal mice that would replace part or all of their brains with human neural stem-cells. A living mouse with a brain made entirely of human neurons could be a boon for scientists trying to test drugs aimed at the nervous system, but they knew the proposal would generate controversy, so they put together a team of experts to consider it. "We ultimately concluded that it should be taken slowly and carefully," Weissman said. For example, scientists could monitor the brains to ensure they retained normal mouse structures, like a smooth surface. Any change that made the mouse brain look more like the wrinkly human organ would require a pause and reconsideration, but Greely thinks real problems seem unlikely, as mice have tiny brains.

Primates, he says, are a different story. "Nobody expects a mouse to stand up on his hind legs and say, 'Hi, I'm Mickey,'" Greely says, "If you proposed doing this experiment on fetal chimps, I would be a lot more leery." *U.S. News & World Report*, October 27, 2003.

"But if there was one sin above another which called for the destruction of the race by the flood, it was the base crime of amalgamation of man and beast which defaced the image of God, and caused confusion everywhere. God purposed to destroy by a flood that powerful, long-lived race that had corrupted their ways before him. He would not suffer them to live out the days of their natural life, which would be hundreds of years. It was only a few generations back when Adam had access to that tree which was to prolong life. After his disobedience he was not suffered to eat of the tree of life and perpetuate a life of sin. In order for man to possess an endless life he must continue to eat of the fruit of the tree of life. Deprived of that tree, his life would gradually wear out." *Spiritual Gifts*, book 3, 64.

CANADIAN ADVENTISTS WARY AS "HATE SPEECH" IS DEFINED TO INCLUDE BIBLE AND SERMONS

Seventh-day Adventists in Canada are casting a wary eye on their sermon notes and publications in light of the enactment April 29 of Canadian Bill C-250, which adds "sexual orientation" to a list of "hate crimes" for which perpetrators can be charged with an "indictable offense," equal to a felony in the US.

Under the amendment to the law, the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada said sexual orientation is added to the prohibited grounds for "advocating genocide," or advocating or promoting genocide; "public incitement of hatred" which is defined as communicating statements in a public place that incite hatred; and the "willful promotion of hatred," which the Canadian law defines as communicating statements, other than in private conversation, that willfully promote hatred against any identifiable group.

According to the Evangelical Fellowship, "a 'public place' is defined as 'any place to which the public have access as of right or by invitation, express or implied,'" which presumably would include most churches. Barry W. Bussey, legal and public affairs director for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, said Adventist pastors will have to carefully watch future developments.

"It's a wait-and-see attitude right now," Bussey told ANN on May 3. "We don't know how a court will basically deal with adding 'sexual orientation' in the hate crimes section of the Criminal Code. All we can do is look at hints in recent court decisions."

Those hints aren't overly promising: In December of 2002, the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench ruled against a Christian who printed a newspaper advertisement objecting to homosexual conduct and citing references to Bible verses proclaiming severe penalties for such conduct. They rule this as spreading "hate." Justice Ronald Barclay, in an opinion, stated: "The use of the circle and the slash combined with the passages of the Bible herein make the meaning of the advertisement unmistakable. It is clear that the advertisement is intended to make the group depicted appear to be inferior or not wanted at best."

About 18 months earlier, in May 2001, the Supreme Court of Canada said graduates of an evangelical teacher's college could hold a view opposing homosexual conduct and be licensed as teachers; but in the exercise of their beliefs they must not discriminate against homosexuals.

"I think we have to follow the scriptural adage, 'be wise as serpents and harmless as doves,'" Bussey said. "We continue to live our lives as Christians and we let the chips fall where they may. When we have to speak out, we need to speak out, obviously very carefully and wisely and with concern for our fellow man."

He said the church would defend its own pastors—and support cases on pastors from other denominations—brought up on charges under the new statute. At the same time, he noted that the hate crimes legislation does have some protection. For example, the attorney general has to approve prosecutions, and there is an exemption for those who in "good faith" "expressed or attempted to establish by argument an opinion on a religious subject."

"However, it only takes one person to make a complaint, and only one police officer to lay a charge" against a clergy member, noted Dr. Janet Epp Buckingham, general legal counsel for the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. "I will say that in past cases, the court has set the standard pretty high. You have to say something that demonizes people in the group ... that advocates violence against them, that would encourage people to be violent," she added.

Dr. Buckingham told *Adventist News Network* that it will be important for all pastors to weigh their words as this new law takes effect.

"Bill C-250 makes it clear that pastors need to think about the effects of what they say, before they say it. Now, I would argue that pastors should do that anyway, but this imposes an additional obligation on them," she said.

Ironically, Canadian Member of Parliament Svend Robinson, who sponsored C-250, was not able to witness the passage of his law. Two weeks before the event, Robinson confessed to the theft of a Canadian \$50,000 ring from a jeweler, and is on "medical leave" for treatment of "extreme stress" while prosecutors weigh potential criminal charges. *Adventist News Network*, May 4, 2004.

Why Republics Fall

"Republics are created by the virtue, public spirit, and intelligence of the citizens. They fall, when the wise are banished from the public councils, because they dare to be honest, and the profligate are rewarded, because they flatter the people, in order to betray them." *The Federalist*, April 16, 2004.

THE BROKEN DAM

"To cite another metaphor, the old earthen dam that has held and protected the reservoir of Judeo-Christian values and beliefs since the days of our Founding Fathers has been leaking for decades. Even the most casual observer has witnessed greater structural damage each passing year. But in recent weeks, the entire superstructure appears to have given way. What thousands of homosexuals in San Francisco have achieved represents the collapse of the rule of law, with no legal or governmental official being willing or able to stop it or provide more than a temporary stay. A revolution of striking proportions now looms before us. . . [The pervading] reticence on behalf of Christians is deeply troubling. Marriage is a sacrament designed by God that serves as a metaphor for the relationship between Christ and His Church. Tampering with His plan for the family is immoral and wrong. To violate the Lord's expressed will for humankind, especially in regard to behavior that He has prohibited, is to court disaster." —Dr. James Dobson *The Federalist*, May 3, 2004.

CIVIL UNION

"France presented also the characteristics which especially distinguished Sodom. During the Revolution there was manifest a state of moral debasement and corruption similar to that which brought destruction upon the cities of the plain. And the historian presents together the atheism and the licentiousness of France, as given in the prophecy: 'Intimately connected with these laws affecting religion, was that **which reduced the union of marriage**—the most sacred engagement which human beings can form, and the permanence of which leads most strongly to the consolidation of society—to the state of **a mere civil contract** of a transitory character . . .'" *The Great Controversy*, 270.

MORALITY AND LEADERSHIP

America is a fabulously wealthy and unbelievably strong nation. It can lose many material things and still survive. What it cannot lose and expect to survive as a nation is its national character. And if America's leadership loses its character, rooted in morality, the rest will of necessity follow. *The Federalist*, April 7, 2004.

"Satan studies every indication of the frailty of human nature, he marks the sins which each individual is inclined to commit, and then he takes care that opportunities shall not be wanting to gratify the tendency to evil. He tempts men to excess in that which is in itself lawful, causing them, through intemperance, to weaken physical, mental, and moral power. He has destroyed and is destroying thousands through the indulgence of the passions, thus brutalizing the entire nature of man. And to complete his work, he declares, through the spirits that 'true knowledge places man above all law;' that 'whatever is, is right;' that 'God doth not condemn;' and that 'all sins which are committed are innocent.' When the people are thus led to believe that desire is the highest law, that liberty is license, and that man is accountable only to himself, who can wonder that corruption and depravity teem on every hand? Multitudes eagerly accept teachings that leave them at liberty to obey the promptings of the carnal heart. The reins of self-control are laid upon the neck of lust, the powers of mind and soul are made subject to the animal propensities, and Satan exultingly sweeps into his net thousands who profess to be followers of Christ." *The Great Controversy*, 555.

A NATION OF ROBOTS

The Watchful State isn't really here in force yet, but it is aborning. All the pieces exist. We may find that laws that made sense when they weren't enforced very well become a smothering blanket when backed up by mindless software with police powers. A nation with no slop in the legal gears will be, I suspect, a nation of robots." *The Federalist*, April 12, 2004.

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Revelation 13:16-17.

THE HOMELAND SECURITY DECEPTION

The IRS is currently providing illegals with taxpayer identification numbers so employers can deduct taxes, but the IRS will not provide the Homeland Security Department with the names of the six million illegals who have received these numbers. So much for Homeland Security. Most other countries place military units on the border. Try getting into Mexico from Guatemala. Even China has the Red Army patrolling its borders, and nobody in his right mind wants to get into China!

One of these days, some terrorist is going to walk across our border and do something dastardly. When the story is exposed, the politicians will cry and promise to fix the problem. Of course, it will be too late for the unlucky Americans who will be dead, but hey, that's life in the political world. *The Conservative Chronicle*, October 15, 2003.

TOO MANY LAWS

Last week, Martha Stewart was convicted of lying to federal investigators about a crime with which she was never charged. Most analysts agree that prosecutors never charged Stewart with the crime of insider trading because it's a law too complicated for most jurors to understand. Putting your personal opinion of Stewart aside for a moment, the case prompts larger questions about the laws and regulations that govern our land: If jurors can't understand a law well enough to determine if someone broke it, just how do lawmakers expect citizens to understand it enough to obey it? Do we really want to live in a country where good-intentioned people are required to pay high-priced attorneys to tell them whether or not they're breaking the law? America has too many laws, and the laws we do have are tedious, overly complex and sometimes not only impossible to understand, but impossible to comply with. Our elected officials pass laws in fits of whimsy, responding to the latest scare headlines, demands from interest groups or data from polling firms. Reason, freedom or constitutional authority rarely enter into the debate. www.foxnews.com, March 11, 2004.

"There are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. Those who hold the reins of government are not able to solve the problem of moral corruption, poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis. If men would give more heed to the teaching of God's word, they would find a solution of the problems that perplex them." *Testimonies*, volume 9, 13.

"By the decree of enforcing the institution of the Papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, **our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution** as a Protestant and Republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan, and that the end is near." *Testimonies*, volume 5, 451.

US CONSTITUTION NULL & VOID?

US District Judge Napoleon Jones Jr. refused to permit the Justice Department to file a brief in support of the *Desert Pacific Council of the Boy Scouts*, declaring that the federal government fails to have any "strong interest in the constitutional principles involved with this case." The essential underlying issues, which the Justice Department wished to assist in championing, are the First Amendment rights of the Boy Scouts to determine membership requirements along moral lines without government interference or prejudice attempting to change their moral principles. And if those constitutional principles are not essential to the federal government, then our Constitution is null and void. *Federalist.com*, March 22, 2004.

TO REPUDIATE THE CONSTITUTION

The overarching issue is that the system of government envisioned by our Founders and defended in *The Federalist Papers* – a government "to . . . establish Justice," a republic where "we, the people" would elect representatives who were to be held accountable by an independent judiciary—has devolved into little more than a system of government by judicial decree. Alas, our Founders expected judges to honor our constitution; to be constitutional constructionists bound by the letter of that

to be above the whims that would, inevitably,

But once an activist words of that stalwart to "interpret the what it would have said Founding Fathers, had Constitution is, in effect,

No sooner had "interpreting" the comported with their the courts became Elected officials were based upon who they'd knowing that those reflect a particular

Thomas Jefferson tyranny of the "despotic Judiciary department, deprived [the people] of

original error [was in] establishing a judiciary independent of the nation, and which, from the citadel of the law, can turn its guns on those they were meant to defend, and control and fashion their proceedings to its own will. . . . The opinion which gives to the judges the right to decide what laws are constitutional and what not, not only for themselves in their own sphere of action but for the Legislature and Executive also in their spheres, would make the Judiciary a despotic branch. . . . It is a misnomer to call a government republican in which a branch of the supreme power [the judiciary] is independent of the nation. . . . It has long, however, been my opinion, and I have never shrunk from its expression...that the germ of dissolution of our federal government is in the constitution of the federal Judiciary; working like gravity by night and by day, gaining a little today and a little tomorrow, and advancing its noiseless step like a thief, over the field of jurisdiction, until all shall be usurped."

Indeed, virtually all has been usurped. Jefferson, in his great wisdom knew that human nature being what it is, judges would eventually abandon the plain language of the Constitution. www.federalist.com, February 27, 2004.

"Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected." *The Great Controversy*, 592.

venerable document; of democratic elections politicize the courts.

judge begins, in the old Senator Sam Ervin, Constitution to mean if he, instead of the written it," our rendered null and void.

judicial activists begun Constitution such that it political agenda, than political instruments. thereafter chosen appoint to the courts, appointments would political agenda.

warned of the potential branch": "Over the the Constitution [has] their control. . . . The

Dear Jeff,

We just listened to your Welcome to Bogata tape. What a story! I am very glad that you are home safe. You are too valuable for the Lord to let anything happen to you. Your work is just beginning to blossom and be noticed. Like the Oklahoma meetings. I will be ordering everything you are offering about it soon. KA—CA, Saw you at Colton. Where will you be speaking in California next? The date is on the web site. I am glad to see the site taking shape at last.

We recorded these presentations in Oklahoma at the *Lifestyle Center of*

America. There were eighteen invited guests and a few others who attended occasionally. The purpose of the meetings were to study the last six verses of Daniel eleven. Some who attended delivered one presentation but the bulk of the presentations were done by Jeff Pippenger and elder Frank Hardy.

There are eleven video tapes which cover the entire presentation and amount to almost twenty-two hours. We also have the handout material that is designed to accompany the presentations. The brother who prepared the videos took it upon himself to make an abbreviated set of videos that are primarily Jeff Pippenger, Ron Goss, and a few others giving single presentations. This abbreviated set does not include elder Frank Hardy's presentations. The abbreviated set is six tapes and can also be purchased with the handout material.

Dear Mr. Pippenger,

Recently friends sent me several of your tapes and copies of your magazine, *Future News*. I have listened to most of the tapes, and scanned the papers. I found some interesting thoughts. The tape that I especially found interesting was your interview with John Robbins on his book, *Ecclesiastical Megalomania*. However, it seemed to end in mid-interview, almost mid sentence with Mr. Robbins speaking. Is there a sequel to this tape that completes the interview, and how may it be obtained?

I was interested in the quotations, which you both confirmed from various Catholic sources that Rome is "the mother of all churches," and the Protestant churches and others are "daughters". As "the mother" seems to think that she will regain her lost dominion, and "her daughters" need to come into line, I was reminded of a statement that appeared in 1850: "The Mother of Harlots . . . was not the daughters, but separate and distinct from them. She has had her day, and it is past, and her daughters, the Protestants sects, were the next to come on the stage and act out the same mind that the mother had when she persecuted the saints." I am assuming that you may believe that the second beast of Revelation 13 could well represent the United States, and that this government will form an image to the first beast. After reading A.T. Jones' book *The Great Prophecies of Prophecy*, I'm beginning to think that America will establish a copy, or image, of the pagan system of governance, where the government controlled the church. Thank you for the above requested information. Sincerely, RB—CA

Dear RB,

There are two tapes in the John Robbins interview. I believe the second beast of Revelation is the United States, and it is well on its way to building the image of the papacy. Jeff

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Hello and Greetings Jeff:

Thank you for your latest tapes and magazines. I was glad to see that you're open to future applications in Revelation and that you see how important they are to the church in terms of guidance and revival and reformation.

I thought I'd copy you below my brief comments on your latest two tapes that I posted on MSDAOL's 'new light' forum. Many blessings in your ministry to you and your wife and staff and associates. Mark Shipowick

Topic: Jeff Pippenger Sees Future Application of Trumpets and Seals

A couple days ago I got two of the most recent tapes from *Future News*, a monthly prophecy magazine and tape ministry that's being sent to me free of charge. Pippenger is the editor and he's a good Bible student. We don't agree on some things but I believe his heart is in the right place and he has some valuable insights.

He says in his most recent tapes that he believes now that Sister White placed much of the book of Revelation in the future. (He hasn't come to see yet I don't think that there are sections of Daniel that will also be re-fulfilled.)

As many of you know, I agree with this. If you study her many statements on the topic, one is hard pressed to hold any other conclusion, but in the past Pippenger has had some trouble seeing this because he tended to accept the historicists view that these statements where Sister White makes future applications really don't mean what they say. Pippenger is a cautious person and he knew that she also says that our past experience in the three angels messages will be repeated and she admonishes us to study the 1844 movement to better understand the final gospel work of the three angels.

So, what he's done in these two recent tapes is to show how these prophecies—the trumpets, seals, etc might be fulfilled in light of the initial fulfillment in the 1844 movement. I have some reservations about his conclusions, but not with his methods. His basic approach is sound. Unfortunately he has no web site. Phyllis Valieres in Madoc handles his Canadian mailing list. phyllisv@primus.ca. He is busy with his ministry so I don't think he will dialogue here, but I'll email him a copy of this.

Brother Shipowick,

It is unfortunate that you listened very loosely to my presentations. I still believe that to reapply prophecies which have previously been fulfilled is fanaticism. My understanding of Revelation has not changed. Revelation portrays the end of the world, so most definitely it is identifying issues that are still ahead. You twist my material to make it sound like I have suddenly come to some new position concerning the Spirit of Prophecy and Revelation when you state, "he believes now that Sister White placed much of the book of Revelation in the future".

I know that Sister White's statements mean what they say, but I also know that you, and others twist them to fit into your own ideas. What I showed in the presentation was that the third woe, not the first six trumpets, or the seals, but simply the third woe, which began in 1844 was prefigured in the previous six trumpets. I did not teach the first six trumpets are repeated, nor did I reject the pioneer understanding of those events as you do. Jeff

"The Scriptures were sufficiently clear to prove that Christ was the Son of God, the Messiah, the 'light to lighten the gentiles,' and 'the glory of thy people Israel;' but the minds of men were so darkened by the misapplication of Scripture, that, although prophecy was fulfilling before their very eyes, in the teachings and miracles of Christ, yet they failed to recognize the fulfillment of prophecy and remained in darkness. At times they were convinced of the truth, but the humiliation of acknowledging the truth was greater than they would endure." *Signs of the Times*, October 17, 1895.