

Nov 18:1-8

(1). "Is it time to Hoist the "Blue Peter"?"

Intro:- (1). The Aug. 18th issue of "X'nty Today" carried a news item that astonished me. "Thousands of despairing X'n believers in the Soviet Union see no future for themselves in their beloved homeland, and now they want out. At least 20,000 PENTECOSTALS want to leave. Also an increasing number of Baptists want to emigrate. American sponsors are prepared to take them in. So far ONLY TWO families have arrived...Georgi Vins. leader of the un-registered Baptists, now in a labour camp in Siberia... and his son Peter, twice arrested..believed, UNTIL RECENTLY, along with other Baptist leaders, that the best policy - was to stay as witnesses, despite the persecution. Now they are ready to leave and live with Canadian relatives."

Very evidently there has been a fundamental change in attitude. (2). Are these people right in this new thinking? TOPIC. (Explain..ship ready to sail away)..Are these Pentec. and Baptists cowardly..intent on self-preservation? Jesus never said "Leave Russia to go to hell." He did say "GO ye into all the world." What you do? Easy to tell these to stay..witness..while we so comfortable here.."Conf. Pew. How far have we gone "Into the world" around us? Every run to hide in church bec. somebody scoffed..sneered? Is it ever right to get out of an evil environment..opt out of God-given opportunity to witness? Big subject! Paul faced terrible persecution..beaten, stoned, imprisoned rejected, scoffed at, robbed, half-starved...YET..Rom. 15. "I have strived to preach the Gospel, not where Christ was named...Whensoever I take my journey to Spain." GOING! No ivory tower for that man of God! Out where it hurt bec. that is where it counted for God. So, Pent. and Bap? RUN? How shall we then live in our day?

I. Face paradox indeed. Can we find true princ. of behavior

(a). First:- Part of paradox lies in fact that X'n is citizen of two worlds..and are required by their faith to behave accordingly. Lk. 20:25 "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's." While citizens of heaven, X'ns maintain residence on earth. God, whose kingdom is not of this world maintain business offices here..and somebody must man them.

(b). As this Scrip. teaches..X'n has two treasuries..one for taxes to state..other for God's money and work. Both required to meet obligations of heaven, earth. Must never be mixed. God and Caesar are not natural enemies..but they have never done well as business partners with joint bank account. But each responsibility must be carried. We are, as Paul said..DEBTORS to both..Rom.1:14...(ungodly)

The command is still imperative.. "Go ye into ALL the world and preach the Gospel to EVERY creature." NEVER REPEALED. So..not counting personal cost..our missionaries GO..even though persecuted..lives laid down..as those to Aucas. And it may be we hide and cower in our church castles..ask pastor to cuddle, coddle us..in our comfortable pew..while people perish..go to hell..just beyond church doorstep. (c). Ever read book "Quo Vadis?" Not history..a novel..about Peter in Rome.(No evidence he ever was there)..but story is that, during persec. of X'ns Peter fled while others dying among lions. On way out of Rome..met Lord Jesus appar. going other way, into Rome. Peter burst out with Ques.."Domine, quo vadis?" "Lord, whither goest thou?" "To take your place, and to die again with my faithful children." Story is that Peter turned round..eventually perished with martyrs there. Now an up-to-date story..true one. Many X'ns, including prom. Bishop..have died in Uganda under Satanic persecutions directed by Idi Amin. But Bishop Festo Kavengeri FLED..got out of country. Right or not? Known as man of God..but fled. Was it God-directed? Had time come for this? What if he had met Lord Jesus on African road leading out of Uganda? Quo Vad No, this is not criticism of this man..To own Master..... Is Uganda being abandoned by God? Satan taking over complete X'n witness finished..now time to leave to fate? What about Isa. 6: 9 God to Isaiah.."Go and tell this people" and Isa. asked..vs. 11 "Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, and the Lord have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land." Doesn't this mean..Go and tell..as long as there are any left to tell? Or just until any left who are willing to hear?

II. Yet..there is another principle that affects this matter.

(a). Per. best to call it "Principle of Separation."

Abund. illus in Scrip...First:- This separation is not to be an ivory tower situation..hermitage..monastery..nunnery.

Jesus said in His prayer for His followers:- John 17:15.

"I pray not that thou (God) shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil."

We are to live IN the world. "Stop the world, I want to get off" is NOT cry of true X'n. I Cor. 5:9-10 "I wrote unto you not to company with fornicators..yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world..covetous..extortioners..idolators for then must ye needs go out of the world." We live IN world

~~(b)xxSecondlyxx~~ Jesus accused of eating with pub..sinners. He did. But as the HOLY ONE. And as we live in such environments..make sure that the Holy One is living in us ev. moment.

(b). Secondly:- Sometimes sep. is required on spir. grounds. Paul ministered to Jews in synagogues..BUT sev. times had to

move OUT, together with his followers..bec. of blasphemous rejection of Saviour..In Corinth, next door into house of Justus..In Ephesus into school-house of Tyrannus. (Act 19:9)

(c). Thirdly:- Personal separations are necessary. Bible readers soon become aware of these. Here are some of them.. Rom. 12:1 "I beseech you therefore...be not conformed to this world...." God says:- "Don't go the world-way if you want to know beyond doubt what will of God is for you."

World systems are on diff. wave length. Tune in to God! II Cor. 6:14-18. "Come OUT from among them..Touch not..." That will govern much of social life...certainly question of the marriage yoke...and much of business life.

(d). And per. most important of all..separation because of total degradation in moral and sex-perversion realm... Scrip. gives two dreadful examples..and proph. a third. First one...DAYS OF NOAH..when society disintegrated. God gave 120 years grace..warning..calling..until thoughts of men hearts "only evil continually." Then it happened..the great and PERMANENT separation by the Flood. When conditions become exceedingly wicked..God calls for total separation.

Second one:- SODOM..noted for sex perversions..homosexuality "Men of Sodom were sinners exceedingly"...And God called out Lot, wife and daughters..and the fire fell..PERM. SEPARATION Third..the proph..Rev. 18:4...Story of a future city of Bab..

filling to overflowing with evil.."the habitation of devils ..every foul spirit..every unclean thing." So we read:- "I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partaker of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." TOTAL SEPARATION

Such conditions are referred to in Heb.6, regarding those who have refused the truth.."It is impossible to renew them again to repentance." and Heb. 10:26 "There remaineth no more sacrifice for sins but a certain looking for of judgment" - People, societies, nations can sin beyond the grace of God! - PERHAPS..Kevengeri was right to leave blood-soaked Uganda. ..X'ns to leave Russia..as Lot told to leave Sodom to doom. Some day ev. X'n will leave whole world to wrath of God!

Conclus:- 1. Until then..what? FIRST:- Make quite sure that you are not in devil's family..but in God's family through your simple, personal faith in Jesus X..Saviour..... SECOND:- God helping you, GO AND TELL that lost world.. the one right around you..of the love that God gives..and salvation He offers. THIRD:- Draw the lines of separation that will keep evil out of your home..family..church. Build a wall..as Nehemiah did...and shut the gates..Lit. gate.. radio gate..TV gate..against the filth of the world.

2. Many today deeply concerned about our public schools. What can be done? NO..I do not believe it is time to abandon the kids in those schools. We need X'n witness still. But it should be on ~~mature~~, informed level. God give us dedicated Bible-taught X'n teachers! We still need to tell. God bless ev. X'n club and its witness...ev. work of Creation Research Society to insist that Bible creation theme be taught as a scientifically valid alternative to evol. theory. God give us informed YP in our Universities...able to give full measure back to any who seek destroy X'n faith..c/f Berean..Sc & Bibl

3. But what do with children when a school becomes a Sodom...dismal swamp of moral turpitude? Satan hates your children and God loves them..and says this: to fathers.."Provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them UP in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Parents are responsible for their children...for physical, moral, spiritual welfare. I HEAR REPORTS OF SOME SCHOOLS THAT I CANNOT REPEAT IN PULPIT OR ON RADIO B'CASTS. I did use this report from recent RD..Feb. 1978...(clipping) Godless Communism uses this subtle, devil-inspired attack, as seeks destroy our children.. by means not allowed in own schools.

4. What to do? In many places people convinced school system become evil beyond redemption. ^{Academy - things of flesh} Some started Totally X'n schools..despite financial burden. Sometimes these can become ivory towers..and students not well fitted to face world later on. Some begin Value Schools..where highest moral standards as well as educ. standards maintained. In these there are usually unsaved children..that can be reached for Christ..and so fulfill the "Go and tell" commandment.

5. God give all of wisdom! To guard our outreach to others yet keep us also guarding our homes and children. Remember..our Lord said "Suffer the little children to come unto me." Give them the WORD OF GOD. Lift them to God every day in your fervent prayers. Set before them bright example of X'n home..filled with love and worship. Lead them to full trust in the great Saviour of men...

Started in Knoxville - filtered down into H.S. - now into lower grades of defenceless children

Innisfail Bap. - Sept 17/78

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more wildly aimed shots punched into the cabin ceiling. Then the tall woman terrorist slumped to the floor bleeding from several wounds.

— *Newsweek*

FROM Wischnewski's plane 500 yards away, his pilot described the scene to Lufthansa air control in Frankfurt. "The doors of the plane are open and the guys are entering the plane . . . The emergency doors are open now, and I can see six, seven, eight hostages rushing from the plane . . . 35, 36 hostages are out. Cars are picking them up. The guys have control of the plane. It

is over. The operation is all over."

Frankfurt said calmly: "We would like to know how many casualties there are."

Minutes later: "Frankfurt here is Oscar X Ray. Three terrorists killed, one badly wounded." One commando, one stewardess and four passengers were slightly injured. Except for the murdered Captain Schumann, all the hostages survived.

"Copied okay," Frankfurt replied. That was it: no fanfare. The next instructions simply ordered the plane to return to Germany.

— *Time*

Class Struggle

"BEDLAM" has been the bitter one-word description used for too many Italian schools, especially in northern industrialized Italy. Extremist agitators, mostly of the communist-inspired far left, had carried "permissiveness" to a point where students did anything but learn. Strikes, picketing, shouting parades through corridors, walls covered with leftist and often obscene scrawls, filthy language in class, destruction of school property, teachers drowned out by mass jeering, hippie clothing, smoking in class and hours-long assemblies demanding "democratic rights" have too often made education a sad joke.

One day, Prof. Francesco Garofalo, principal of the Edmondo de Amicis school in San Remo, presented an unusual code of rules for student conduct. Some of them: "Obey the teacher's orders without objection, come to school clean and neatly clothed, sit up straight in class, stand up respectfully when teachers enter the classroom, stand up when questioned and sit down only when the teacher gives permission, refrain from vulgar language, cursing, smoking, gambling in class or damaging school property, and when meeting a teacher in the street, greet him courteously."

Before anybody could raise the customary cries about "authoritarian," "reactionary" and "fascist," Professor Garofalo said with a smile, "I have quoted these rules only as a matter of interest. These are the rules in force today, and strictly obeyed, in the schools of the Soviet Union."

— Gordon Gaskill

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