

Let Lazarus Loose!

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America, but also other nations world-wide... have known better, but have turned away, little by little, from having their taproot in God. Some societies have maintained some measure of morality, simply because they have been coasting on the momentum of past generations. Long ago, a steam locomotive (train) could coast 50 miles on the flatland after the fire had gone out in the boiler.

Proper education is to be praised, yet so-called *science* has gradually overthrown the government of minds and hearts which had been faithful to the government of God. People fear to take the bindings off, for then they think they shall look stupid. The "church" did this way back from the 1850's onward, so they wouldn't look scientifically out-dated. Gradually, wrong compromises have resulted in our present distress. But guess what? You CAN return! Lazarus CAN be raised from the dead.

Much of today's violence and the character of the offenders is a result of moral dementia, because the society's spiritual taproot is tied up. No, a well-placed spiritual taproot will NOT necessarily mean that you will feel hilarious, nor does it mean that you get rich in the things of this present world. The failure in society is also in religion; including the churches, where sadly, there is shameful unfaithfulness, hypocrisy and cover-up to hide a bound-up taproot. Surface roots can be deceitful, and much of religion, including among professed evangelicals, covers up a dead and bound Lazarus.

Like the Ephesian church in Revelation 2, we can be so "active" to compensate for inward emptiness, but to stir emptiness is futile. A little girl, having received her tea from her mother, began to stir it. She alternately stirred and sipped her tea. Presently, with tears of disappointment in her eyes, she said, "Mother, it won't come

sweet." With a smile, her mother said, "I'm sorry, I must have forgotten the sugar. No amount of stirring will ever make it sweet until the sugar is in it." Our lives do not merely need stirring—they need forgiveness, cleansing and filling.

Lazarus' sister protested to Jesus, saying that her brother had been dead for four days, and by now was stinking. Dear reader, this is exactly the condition of our present world, and it is getting more rotten by the day. This is no joke. Look around, read the papers... minus the shallow glitter of this and that. Yes, much of the binding of the present world is being carefully and systematically done by powerful outside sources, *however*, the worst binding is self-binding by means of our own choices.

As with other miracles of healing done by Jesus, or later by His disciples, sometimes the religious opponents would plot against them *even though they admit that a mighty and good miracle had been done!* Listen, you and I are no better, if we allow ourselves to continue in the fakery of trying to stir up our inward emptiness; all the while knowing we need to get right...*completely right*, with God.

Recently, Italy's highest appeal court ruled that married Italian women who commit adultery are entitled to lie about it to protect their honour! This is only *one* example of where society is: lying about themselves in a vain attempt to protect a distorted sense of honour.

Society's surface roots everywhere reveal the shame, the sham and the emptiness of a bound-up central root within. But what *WE* see dimly, God sees perfectly. The Bible says *"there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked [completely exposed] and laid open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."* Yet, those same verses, speaking of Jesus, continue *"Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses, Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy!"* (Hebrews 4:13-16 edited). Jesus said that He can set you free

Get On, Get Honour, Get Honest. This is how someone summed up many people's outlook in life. This means they seek to gain possessions, then by those possessions (whatever they are) obtain some type of respect, but at the end of life, as an after-thought, "make peace with God." Remember, the old MUST die, & the young MAY die. Because of life & circumstances, many have no last chance, or no inclination to get right with God later. You can be a "Lazarus"—risen from spiritual death—and a testimony to others TODAY!

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Public Enemy Number Two was this man, Lazarus! The religious leaders, driven by envy and fear, hated Jesus and wanted Him dead. However, they also wanted Lazarus dead because due to *him*, many people believed on Jesus. In other words, Lazarus was the chief PR advertiser for Jesus, even without being hired! As with others whom Jesus had healed from blindness or deafness or inability to walk, the locals knew those formerly handicapped people very well, and they knew they had genuinely been healed. In a way, Lazarus took things even further, for he was not just sick or handicapped, he was dead—dead, wrapped up and in the grave for four days. That glorious true story has many lessons for us, which you may read for yourself in the Bible (John 11 to 12:11).

For this article, however, let's limit ourselves to the call of Jesus at Lazarus' grave. Jesus called to dead Lazarus: "Lazarus. Come out!" Jesus gave a couple

of commands to the living witnesses, too, *before* and *after* Lazarus rose from the dead. First, Jesus had told them to take the huge stone away from the grave's opening. Afterward, he told them to take off the death wrapping that bound that man. Most people today are as dead and as bound as Lazarus was, though they are very much alive to the things of the present world. Beside the action of the Lord in behalf of those "dead in sin," there are stones that the people themselves can take away, as well as assistance in the unwrapping *afterward*. God and man are to work together.

A tied-up main "taproot" turns a potentially large tree into a potted plant. Likewise man, tied-up at the main root, extends all sorts of shallow, surface roots out into our culture, education, economics, society, politics, and sadly even into religion. Surface roots have their proper place, but only if the taproot goes deeper. Our human taproot must go into the depths of God, for we were never intended to exist on surface roots alone. We are super-saturated by the things of the world, but all tied up like Lazarus when it comes to spiritual life.

Today's world has sown the wind and is reaping the whirlwind (Hosea 8:7). Many nations and its citizens...including Britain and

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"For when you were slaves of sin, you were 'free' in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become 'slaves' of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and in the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:20-23). "There is a way that SEEMS right to man, but its end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12/16:25). LLL(above) & CCC(inside). Get FREE. Get MOVING!

The 3C Highway

Gabriel L. Mancino

While I was in college and living in **Cincinnati, Ohio (USA)**, I learned of an **old highway called the 3C Highway**. As the forerunner of today's Interstate 71 (I-71), it ran from Cincinnati to Columbus and on to Cleveland, thus the three Cs! It ran through smaller towns, as well.

During our Easter season, three "Psalms" from the Bible (22, 23 & 24) connected in my thoughts like a highway. The 23rd Psalm, one of the most known chapters of the Bible, begins with "*The Lord is my Shepherd.*" I will call these three Psalms "**God's 3C Highway.**" Let me explain.

These 3 Psalms have been titled the Psalm of the Cross (22), the Psalm of the Crook (23) and the Psalm of the Crown (24). There are our 3Cs! The journey on that "Highway" is extremely important, and has connection to the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus.

Even in our sick and sagging world, I am sure there are people who have, from time to time, "**glimpses of reality,**" when they consider the real value of their soul, and have the passing desire to know God and to make it safely to eternity with God. I hope this little study helps!

"**God's 3C Highway**" begins with the Psalm of the Cross (22). That Psalm opens with some of the very words that Jesus spoke on the Cross where He died—"My, God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" This Psalm of the Cross

also has words which were actually spoken, word for word, by some of those who mocked Jesus. Psalm 22 was regarded as "a Messianic Psalm," meaning that it was considered as referring to the Messiah who was to come...and He came! That great musical oratorio, Handel's Messiah, also uses words from Psalm 22, the Psalm of the Cross.

The next "C" is from Psalm 23, which has also been called the Shepherd's Psalm. I use "The Psalm of the *Crook*" referring to the "crook" or bend, at the top of the shepherd's wooden staff. Yes, "crook" can also mean a criminal of some sort, and *that* kind of crook is found everywhere! Psalm 23 shows a true shepherd's care for his sheep, and is a God-chosen example of how He will care for *us*, especially if we let Him. In that short Psalm, the "sheep" says that God (the Shepherd) even prepares a table for him in the presence of his enemies! The Bible says that our last enemy is death. Yet even at death, God can give us a banquet—*IF* we co-operate with the Shepherd. In the face of such an enemy, it says "*Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will not fear, for You are with me.*"

In Psalm 22, we saw Jesus' victorious death foretold, and in Psalm 23 we see the victorious death of His "sheep"—as *HE* is the Shepherd. Jesus said, "*I am the Good Shepherd, and give My life for the sheep.*" Stanley Jones tells how **during World War 2 an army soldier saw a starved little girl** and offered her a sandwich, but her mind had been so poisoned by propaganda that she wouldn't take it — it might be poisoned. So the soldier took a bite and then said to her: "I take a bite, you take a bite"; "I take a bite, you take a bite." She melted and began to play the game of "I take a bite you take a bite." In Jesus we find God seriously performing that exchange with us: "I take a bite, you take a bite."

Jesus warned of false prophets coming before His return. Religious counterfeits are adding confusion, thereby actually assisting the world-controllers/manipulators like the Bilderbergs to keep people confused/divided while they "tighten the screws" as time runs out. YouTube on Google, for example, has LOADS of very good information on this (...but lots of junk, too!) Don't fail to pray, read your Bible... and mind God!

The 3C Highway (cont. from left)

Jesus "*tasted death for every man,*" but He also tasted *life* with every man. The word "*tasted*" here means to personally experience. He asks us to do nothing but what He himself does. If we are born in poverty and rejection, remember He was born in a stable, for there was no room for them in the inn. "*He was tempted in all points like as we are.*" He knows us — from within.

So, Jesus faced death victoriously (Psalm 22), so that we may face death victoriously, too (Psalm 23). But what happens "at the end of the road" *after* death? What I find in the Bible I pass on to others, and in this case, sometime after death, we either go to the good place or the bad place; call it heaven or hell if you like...and it is forever. No one in their right mind would desire to go to hell, but a chief characteristic of sin is to conceal the actual direction it is taking you. You should know, however, that the Bible has only one good thing to say about hell—no one needs to go there!

Psalm 24 is that final "C" in God's 3C Highway, for there we see the Psalm of the Crown! There is a crown of victory at the end for those who finish the race *God's Way*, and no matter how slow you are, you *CAN* finish the race! Out of the ten verses of Psalm 24, the first 2 say that God owns the world and all the people because *HE* (not Darwin or the Devil) made them. Verses 7-10 paint a vivid picture of Christ's Ascension, after His victorious Cross and Resurrection. But in verses 3-6, it asks what kind of people, among those referred to in verse 1, will *ascend*, rather than *descend*, after they die. The answer is given: those who live in God-given holiness in heart and life—inside and out. "This is the kind of people" (v.6) that properly journey "God's 3C Highway," and **YOU** can make it, too!

Britain throws away 1/3 of its food, so don't buy it anymore! This is the same foolish idea in the news today regarding marriage, but God still put His seal of approval on marriage for life—one man with one woman, & God "hates divorce." As to CCTV in crime hot spots being against human rights?? Give me a break. Britain just needs to get back to the God of the Bible; not just Christian "religion," but true obedience to God!

We meet at Christ Church on the corner of Brent Street and Heriot Road in Hendon (NW4) at 5:45 pm Sundays. Nearest Tube: Hendon Central.



A **new name** is added to our usual one, for we will begin referring to our Free Paper as **The London Light!** If ever we need light—clear, spiritual light—it is now. London's spiritual light has become as the darkness which was one of the God-sent plagues on Egypt in Moses' day. It was "*a darkness that could be felt!*" Yet, in the midst of this darkness, God's people "*had light in their dwellings,*" and you and I can, too! The Bible also refers to people who were "*sitting in darkness,*" now seeing the light. That Light was and *IS* Jesus Christ.

I hear personally and have read in papers the comments of people who cannot comprehend how so many crazy things are being permitted, legalised, encouraged and cultivated in this country, not to speak of other countries. These crazy things are taking place in legal, education, and other branches. With so many aspects of society turned upside-down, with seeming planned perfection, what are we to expect from the human/animal embryonic research...though "it is all for human benefit?" (Yeah, right!)

Dear one, little before Jesus was crucified, He spoke of the signs of the end times, the first of which was "*Take heed that no man deceive you...*" and He repeated that warning. We are in "the fog of war," and your eternal soul is the chief target. If your house is seriously on fire, I doubt if you even phone the vicar, imam, rabbi or guru for advice...you'll just get out, and save as many of the family as you can. Society's sense of direction has gone bonkers. The compass is broken.

BUT THERE IS LIGHT! WALK IN IT!!