

Each of us is a unique individual. We like to be thought of this way, though it is easy to stereotype *others!* And greater than the Crown Jewels is the glorious potential of each person in the sight of God. That same God-like assessment of others must be transferred to being viewed from OUR hearts and eyes! I quoted some issues ago that each person is "a diamond in the rough, but a diamond, sure enough!"

Sin perverts human abilities in different ways, including man's sense of values. If we could "see beyond today as God sees," then "the things of earth would grow strangely dim!" (two church songs blended).

Imagine having the key to a house that is promised to you IF you can get to the door...the path to which is purposely cluttered with obstacles to hinder your success! The incomparable gifts of salvation from sin, fellowship with God, and eternity safe "in the glory world" are gifts that nothing need prevent you from obtaining, if you seek them with all of your heart (Jer. 29:13).

Yet, most people work daily at the job of going to Hell, for "the EARNED WAGES of sin is everlasting, eternal death!" (Rom. 6:23). They stitch their own garments to fit perfectly for that next world. Someone recently said to me, "I think Hell will be tailormade for each person." I immediately replied, "Yes, and WE are the tailor!" We haggle for penny wages (Matt. 20:13) then, not trusting God, "tailor-made" man *sells himself* cheap!

In Jesus' story, the man is asked kindly, "Friend, how did you come in here, not wearing the wedding garment? And he was speech-less!" (Matt. 22:12). That man's punishment

SUPER-GRASS (from front page)

get thoroughly right with God! (See Dan. 4). Yes, sin today is enormous! BUT, "where sin multiplied, God's love, favour and mercy overflowed even more! (Rom. 5:20). God can grow fruit trees in the most polluted ground, if we let His healing waters flow in!

Make no mistake—you will be grassed-up one of these days! Moses declared "Be sure your sin will find you out!" (Num. 32:23). Jesus said "For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops" (Lk. 12:3). The Bible also says that when Jesus returns, He "will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the motives of the hearts" (1 Cor. 4:5).

The Bible again foretells this great event, saying "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10). But that scene is described in visionary "Real Time," as well: "And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books" (Rev. 20:12).

My sister in law used to Grass on her sisters, saying **"They're looking at me!"** Joe Valachi's **Grassing** on the Mafia is equally ridiculous...compared to the coming Judgement! Let a thorough "cleaning" house" begin today! Let God have full right of way, and Britain and the world will really see CHANGE! The effects of true repentance and revival for people and nations are immeasurable. A GRASS-roots illustrates being cast into Hell forever. Let **movement** of TOTAL self-Grassing now God provide you with *HIS* tailor-made garment that will fit you perfectly in holiness! would be the most powerful and effective SUPER-GRASSING *ever* on earth!

Tailor-Made Triumph or Tailor-Made Torment? Both have tears; one of rejoicing; the other of regretting. Both are endless and both are indescribable. Jesus spoke of both, but of the horrible one most...no doubt, in love to warn us not to go to that awful place. To those self-deceived in self-sufficiency Jesus said: "I counsel

you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent." -(Rev. 3: 14-22). God says that those provisions are to be purchased, but free of charge! (Isa.55:1).

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London Christian Standard "...and Provincial

"Lift up a standard for the people." Isaiah 62:10

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SUPER-GRASS! Gabriel Mancino Joe Valachi was the first member of the Mafia to break the code of silence, and live to tell the story! His testimony before a Senate Committee in 1963 was aired on radio TV. and resulted making the Mafia visible and real. Valachi

also gave details of Mafia history and structure that helped authorities piece the puzzle together more perfectly. This was a **Super Grass!** To "grass" up (or on) is to give information about someone in such a way as to betray or compromise others.

"Mafia" comes in different flavours these days: Russian, Chinese, Mexican and so on. The Italian-American Mafia oddly continues to warm many hearts and minds as a kind of precious folklore or hero-worship. Global organised crime is an enormous, deadly evil, with bribing, intimidating, murderous tentacles

stretched in all directions. If only people could realise that ALL who refuse to walk with God share the same heart with these, and will share the same place in eternity.

How wonderful if, within the ranks of Mafia-ism and other high-levels of criminality, there was sudden Super-Grassing that would send the biggest earthquake-tsunami the world ever felt! The best Grassing of all would be due to these people desiring to get right with God! Frankly, it is a glorious miracle when ANY "common" person in London, or elsewhere in the UK or the world gets *thoroughly* right with God!

The phenomena I propose is that people Grass on *themselves!* THIS is repentance; when a person confesses ALL to God, and is ready, then and there, to get rid of every aspect of sin. True self-Grassing gets rid of it all. "Dutch Shultz" asked his gang (regarding his seemingly-unkillable enemy, "Legs Diamond"): "Ain't there nobody that can shoot this guy so he don't bounce back?" Up-to-date, "full salvation" kills sin!

The *radical* salvation of Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon's great king, is stunning evidence that it is possible for evil people (including hidden leaders of the highest level today!) to Grass on themselves and their goals, and

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Behind Closed Doors. The Best Man Wins! John the Baptist said, "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease" (Jn. 3: 29,30). Jesus is the Bridegroom (Groom). Those who truly walk with God are His Bride. John played the part of "Best Man," pointing people to Christ. Jesus said that God's Spirit does the same, i.e. exalting Christ to us; trying to save our soul. WE, as soul-winners, are to be wise (Prov. 11:30). "Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever" (Dan. 12:3). Jesus' disciples wanted Him to teach them to pray, as John taught his disciples to (Lk. 11:1). Jesus said, go in privacy and shut the door (Matt. 6:6). THAT'S what John did!



Why the clipart of the caterpillar and locust?! Gabriel L. Mancino

"Yesterday" is a place people may or may not have a desire to visit. The Past offers much to value and apply, but also much to be abhorred and forsaken. The Bible says, "Do not say, "Why were the former days better than these?" For this is not a wise question to ask" (Eccl. 7:10). Such a question can simply be an excuse for evil or careless living. There has <u>always</u> been evil. BUT God is <u>always</u> the same, extending mercy and salvation, even in the worst times!

God knows that there is both good and bad relating to "looking back" to former times. So, God says without contradiction, Look Back, and Don't Look Back! There is a time for both! Amid terrible suffering and persecution, and when their faith was wavering, first century Christians were told "recall the former days!" (Heb. 10:32). That "point of reference" was to aid their recovery and encourage stability. Yet. Jesus reminds us NOT to look back, by referring to the woman who looked back to Sodom (Lk. 17:32). He also said that improper "looking back" disqualifies us from being one of His disciples (Lk. 9:62).

Let's apply this to *practical* living! So, where can I obtain "patterns" to illustrate the greatest source of individual and national benefit and hope? I obviously cannot point to **the future** for examples! **The present** day seems quite stripped of models for adequate clarification. I am left with seeking patterns, from **the past.** In providing "patterns," be assured that, 1) I will not offer you an unworthy example to follow. 2) I will not try to *cover-up or deny* the existence of unworthy examples of the past.

I prize memories of my **Italian**-**American** upbringing! Yet, cultural roots are no substitute for what individuals are meant to obtain through God's great Provision in Christ. "The Faith Chapter,"-(Heb.11) uses Old Testament characters to illustrate the kind of faith and life acceptable to God. Some of those examples would pre-date the founding of most (or all) countries of the world. The people would ALL have been "gone" after the Flood in Noah's day, anyway. Thankfully, Noah was in that chapter on faith!

What am I saying? Simply *this*! No nation or culture, alone, has the answer or can provide the remedy for man's central deficiency, no matter how far back you go. We must get back to God, Who is *international*! God is not merely a *European* or *American* God. Some of Israel's enemies assumed that God was only "a God of the hills, not a God of the valleys," for they had lost the war fought in the hills. Wrong! God is God of all *periods, places, people...*and "*the God of all comfort,*" as well! (2 Cor. 1:3,4).

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Yet, Israel, too, suffered God's judgment, due to their rebellion and idolatry. God is "no respecter of persons!" (Deut. 10:17; 2 Chron. 19:7; Job 34:19; Acts 10:34; Gal 2:6; Eph 6:9; Col 3:25; 1 Pet. 1:17). "God so loved <u>the</u> <u>entire world</u> that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes on Him may not perish but have everlasting life" (Jn. 3:16).

True godliness in Britain has been slowly and subtly eroded by various means. Is there any way back? Is there any way to regain what has been lost, and get out of the "sinking sand?"

Britain is full of people from all over the world; many of whom couldn't care less for Britain, its' past history, its' future... and certainly not its salvation! These merely added to *existing* national apathy. The culture, history and *apparent contributions* of those of other nations, in themselves, offer no hope for Britain or the world. *Generations* have seen steady decline and deterioration from *various* causes. These "causes" are as if swarms of insects have destroyed the entire harvest.

These causes are, in fact, only the *effects* of one grand cause: SIN! Sin is always against a holy God who cares for people, but Who will *not* compromise with sin. *WAIT*! God made ONE "compromise" with sin: in the Cross of

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Christ! <u>THERE</u>, God punished sin in perfect justice, yet made a way to pardon any person that comes to Him in full confession, faith, humility, surrender and obedience (Rom. 3:26). By the way, God extended similar mercy (*before* Jesus came in the flesh!) in the ancient Assyrian capital city of Nineveh...and *they were not Jewish!*

God had warned Israel of judgment that was just around the corner for them. The prophet, Joel, told them— "What the chewing locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; what the swarming locust left, the crawling locust has eaten; and what the crawling locust left, the consuming locust has eaten" (Joel 1: 4).

In the next chapter, however, Joel reports this good news from God— "So I will <u>restore</u> to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the crawling locust, the consuming locust, and the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you" (Joel 2: 25, 26).

Oh, it is nice...it is wonderful to hear God promise restoration...a Road Back To The Yesterday that was destroyed! But there is something else we must not miss! Joel is sometimes called "The **Prophet of Pentecost.**" The verses immediately following God's promise of restored years, are words of promise that Peter quoted on "The Day of Pentecost," as recorded in Acts 2: 17-21. Joel deals with the cleansing from sin, "The Promised Gift" which "rained down" on Pentecost. This is the radical rain of righteousness that is desperately needed now! "THIS is that," said Peter, "which was spoken of the prophet, Joel." And "THIS is that" which will restore the ravages of the world today...starting with you and me...starting with Britain!

God emphasized man's need for inward purification also through the prophet, Malachi. **Handel's Messiah, often heard at Christmas,** *also* takes words from Malachi 3 which mentions God's promised *purifying* work in man. It *IS* a fearful work (v.1-3), for it burns away all of man's junk! But, oh, the results! Just like Joel, Malachi says "<u>THEN</u> shall the offering...be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old, **AS IN FORMER YEARS!**" (v.4).

Hosea, God's loving prophet to His spiritually-adulterous people, calls out to us all: "Put in the seed of righteousness, reap the harvest in God's mercy and loving kindness, let your hard, unploughed earth [i.e. your heart!] be deeply turned and broken up: for it is time to make immediate and unceasing search for the Lord, until He comes and sends righteousness on you like rain" (Hos.10:12).

Such promise, set in the background of "red alert" emergency, must never be delayed. Shall we wait for Jewish Yom Kippur, or Christian Lent or Muslim Ramadan or any other "scheduled" and "proper" time of telling God "you are sorry!" The people of Nineveh didn't wait one minute! Neither must the inhabitants here in the UK! There IS a Road to Yesterday. Let's get going!

"IF My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, THEN I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. NOW My eves will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in THIS PLACE." (2 Chr. 7: 14, 15). Conditions? Yes! "IF... THEN." Timing? Yes: "NOW" Special Venue? Yes! "THIS PLACE" WHAT Place ?? The "place" of wholehearted confession, humility, prayer, seeking, turning, as described in that verse. THIS is The Road to Yesterday! ...and the Future's Hope, as well! Go for it, full speed ahead! Don't look back!

