

IN THE FACE OF FAMINE

Gabriel L. Mancino



A fellow, opposite Angel Station last month, was trying to raise support for endangered tigers. I had already been standing there offering that month's issue of this little paper. I told him that I *DO* care about endangered species. Yet, having told him what I was doing, I assured him in a brief, quiet moment that **there would be no tigers in Hell!** He chuckled and added, "No, there won't be *any* animals in Hell!" He's correct. I said that to him in order to emphasize the unthinkable and immeasurable threat facing *Man*, who is the most endangered of all species on earth.

Various charities provide **food, water, clothing and medical needs** (to name a few) to people around the world. I recall God's words regarding a *spiritual "famine"* that was coming (Amos 8: 11-14). God Himself sent *that* famine due to the people's determined idolatry. It was much like the plagues God poured out upon Egypt for their sin and stubborn resistance of Him.

There is a strangely interesting account of another **famine** that came in Israel's history, recorded in 2 Kings 6-7. Let's focus on only one of the great lessons from those two chapters. In the midst of terrible famine, God's prophet foretells **plenty of food** by the very next day in the starving capitol city of Samaria! The king's close and trusted servant was unbelieving, and said "Look, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, could such a thing be possible?!" The prophet replied, "In fact, you shall see it with your eyes, but you shall not eat of it." Both

happened, for **plenty of food** came...but crowds of people trampled the man to death at the gate where he was stationed.

*1) Jesus cast demons out of a demon-possessed man, so that he ceased running mad and naked, cutting himself and unable to be restrained. **He was the town's "worse case."** Yet, the townspeople told Jesus to leave! *2) The Bible book of Acts tells of a **lame man** healed through Jesus' name by Peter and John. However, it also tells that the religious leaders resisted, saying, "What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name" (4:16,17).

The two examples of spiritual famine given above represent the endless excuses why people resist turning their lives completely over to God. Whether it is the capitol city of Samaria or Jerusalem, or Pharaoh's capitol in Egypt or indeed today's London, shall we resist the extended love and mercy of God amid a *world... a nation... a capitol* that has **the evidence of famine** in easy view of all?

True, even Jesus Christ was resisted and crucified. Yet God indicates that He is looking for even one person who will truly and fully represent Him amid a grossly sinful world (Ezek. 22:30; Ps. 106:23; Isa. 59:16; Jer. 5:1). God has raised up individuals from time to time, whom He used to turn many back to God (Mal. 4:5,6; Lk.1: 16,17). When *that* happens, communities change, cities change, nations change. It *has* happened in Britain before! God used Jonah to turn the ancient Assyrian capitol to genuine repentance. Elijah was used of God amid horrific national spiritual **famine**. But we need, not only *Elijah*, but also need to cry out: "Where is THE LORD GOD of Elijah!?" (2 Kings. 2:14).

"I'm Up For The Fight To Change Britain," said Mr. Miliband, vowing to write a new chapter in Britain's history. Such "chapters" are decided by enormous evil powers who control most world leaders. In the meantime, there seems to be no **FAMINE** of fun and fashion...at least not here...not yet. Screws are tightening. The net is closing. Change **IS** coming. BUT LISTEN! God, too, is up for the fight to save Britain, and to write a new chapter greater than ever before. This could be Britain's Finest Hour. "Who is on the Lord's side?" (Exodus 32:26) God's windows are open! (Mal. 3:10) He seeks faithful "fighters" (Ezek. 22:30) who will use God's "weapons," (2 Cor. 10:4-6; Eph. 6:10-20). Pray! Obey! Go! Tell! Trust God!

Google: "Give me a man of God, one man- George Liddell"

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Koining A New World

"Buy of Me, gold refined in
the fire, that you may be rich!"
—Jesus' words in Rev. 3:18
(See God's question in Isa. 55:2!) GLM



To "**Coin a word**" is to invent a new word. The correctly-spelled title (above) refers to a *far bigger* purpose and goal!

A "**New World Order**" **IS** coming, but not as "the big boys" think or want. They have been, for at least two centuries and *behind the scenes*, steadily moving the world toward being under their total control. They control world governments, yet do not acknowledge nor submit to the government of God. Today's economic chaos, as well as the big-news anti-government trouble in nations (*and much more!*) is largely due to them. With world economic control central to their strategy, they could say "**Coining A New World**," is a more accurate title. But any *apparent* success on their part will be short-lived, for "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep!" (see Jn. 5:17).

Fighting this evil power by means of anarchy is just as evil and foolish.

But God has ordained a way to combat this enormous world evil. First of all, the evil is not just in "the big boys." There are only two roads to travel in this life—i.e. 1) truly loving and fully obeying God, or 2) not. If **NOT**, then we are on the same road with "the big boys," regardless of our *seeming* innocence. The "**NOTS**" are therefore in league with all other evil people and groups we know of, or can imagine.

Anyone may join the path of those who truly love and obey God *on HIS terms*. **But Watch!** it is possible to be among those who "*think they do God service*" (John 16:2), while actually resisting God, resisting God's way and God's people. Too often in history, *including current history*, those who do such resisting are found in religious groups, though certainly not all. They may be **cults** or **cut-throats**...by *false* methods or **force** methods. Neither of these are God-approved means, regardless of how big they may grow.

So, what is the right means and method? Human invention (*religious or otherwise*) will never satisfy man's need nor his heart, nor be acceptable to

(continued inside)

THE GREATER DEBT: The same evil power that caused the 1929 crash and other crashes back then, caused and is perpetuating the worsening economic situation today...and it is **NOT** with our best interest in mind. Jesus answered a "trick question" intended to get Him in trouble with the government. His reply? "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God" (Mk. 12:17). Jesus had asked whose face was on the coin brought to Him. The last part of His answer declares that Man has God's image inscribed on him. Therefore, we are *intended*...yes, even bound to give to God our *all*. Jesus here tells us that we owe our entire being to God. St. Paul said the same. But *this* is a debt of love, and **IS** with our best interest in mind... *and heart!* "I forgave you ALL THAT DEBT!" (Matt 18:32).

KOINING A NEW WORLD

(continued from front page)

God. God Himself “coined” the means of acceptance. He coined it, that is, He made it, He invented it, He planned it, He provided it. It is God’s means of acceptance for an individual, for a nation, for the entire world. It works, and it is powerful. NASA, NATO, the UN, the EU, the IMF, etc, etc. have nothing to compare to it...and they know it. They fear it more than anything! “No brag, just fact.”

The article title’s use of “**Koining**” rather than “**Coining**” is precise and relevant. Words alone ...even Bible words... are insufficient as a fit reply to such evil as fills our world today. God’s Word must be burned into our hearts and minds and lives as by fire. This is the significance of Pentecost, as promised by God in the Old Testament, by Christ in the Gospels, and seen fulfilled in Acts 2.

The Foundational hope for our world is *genuine* “**relationship**” with God— on *HIS* terms! Another word for relationship is “**fellowship**.” But just what constitutes *relationship* or *fellowship* with God is open to error. Remember, many people call darkness light, evil good, etc...and the visa versa of each...and God condemns it all (Isa. 5:20). Nevertheless, through Jesus, God extends His own cure, as we see so clearly, for example, in Rev. 3:14-22.

The too-common tendency of people toward a **wrongly assumed “fellowship with God”** is why John (“the apostle of love”) wrote, “*If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and are not living the truth*” (1 Jn. 1:6). “**Fellowship**,” in that verse, is also translated *partnership* or *communion* or *joined to*. John later writes “*He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him*” (1 Jn. 2:4). Another translation says “*...is false, and there is nothing true in him.*” Wow! Other translations end the verse as follows: “*and the truth has no place*

in him”... “*has no place in his heart.*”

In our world so full of lying and corruption of every sort, at every level and among all types of people, *genuine fellowship with God*” is the only curative radical enough to bring a halt to the fountain of filthiness at its source. I titled this article “**Koining a New World**” since the original Biblical Greek word for this “Fellowship” is **Koinonia**...and *true fellowship with God* is clear and makes no compromise with or excuses for sin.

St. Paul joins St. John in clarifying this matter. In 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:2 he writes, “*Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’ Therefore ‘Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty.’ Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. Open your hearts to us. We have wronged no one, we have corrupted no one, we have cheated no one.*”

St. Paul exhausts vocabulary to get the point across of separation from worldliness. His call rests on God’s promises, and presses us onward into holiness of heart and life. St. John put it this way, “*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him*” (1 Jn. 2:15-17 w/ Matt. 6:24; Rom.12:2; James 4:4).

To follow this theme of God making a New World Order through true fellowship with Him by His Spirit,
SEE THE NEXT ARTICLE.

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.

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Gabriel. L. Mancino



That great Yorkshireman, James Hudson Taylor (1832-1905) founded The China Inland Mission. My wife and I lived in a beautiful complex in Hendon built in 1893. That same year, Taylor wrote his masterful book, “**Union** and Communion.” I will borrow his book title to continue thoughts on “*Fellowship*,” which word means the same as his title.

Taylor’s book is a commentary on the Bible book, *Song of Solomon*. However, Taylor points our hearts toward **one greater than Solomon!** In Matt. 12:42 and Lk. 11:31, Jesus identifies this “*greater than Solomon*” as *Himself*. That was no idle boast. The Bible book called Hebrews tells us that Jesus is “*better than*” the High-Priesthood of Moses’ brother, Aaron, and “*better than*” the Lawgiver, Moses, himself, plus “*better than*” the angels, etc. *No one* in the pages of history...religious or not, past or present...surpasses the description of Christ in Heb. 1:2-3. Hebrews makes it unmistakably clear that no one comes in at even “**a close second-place!**” A “second place” position just doesn’t exist.

Union and Communion, or *Fellowship* with God is clearly spoken of by Jesus in what is called Christ’s High-Priestly Prayer, recorded in John 17. That prayer-chapter is “divided” into three parts wherein Jesus first prays for Himself, then for His immediate disciples, and finally for all those believers *after* the disciples...including us today!

There is a *purpose* in obtaining **true union** and communion with God, and the purpose is not simply to “feel or appear religious!” However, to be fair, let me add that God recently poured such heavenly honey into my soul that if that is just a spoonful, I can’t imagine what the whole load will be like! God is to possess us *completely—body, mind and soul*...and that includes our emotions, though it doesn’t *end* there.

In the prayer section that refers to us, v. 20-23, Jesus uses the connecting word, “*that*,” seven times...cause-effect, cause-

effect, etc. The article ending on the left finishes with Bible verses that show clear-cut separation from the world if we expect to walk in **union** with God. In John 17, Jesus uses various terms and phrases to indicate that His disciples were, at least, in the beginning stage of true **union** with God. Twice, Jesus says to the Father in prayer regarding these men, “*they are not of the world even as I am not of the world*” (v. 14, 16). That sounds clear cut!

Notice the standard of measurement: “*even as I!*” As we read Christ’s words in John, it lifts and clears our vision, giving no room for “fuzziness!” Our love, our **union** with God, our relationship to the world is measured only by “*even as I.*” So, *professed*-followers of Christ that are absorbed with and snared by the things and fashions of “*this present world*” (Titus 2:12; 1 Jn 4:17) deceive themselves and are disqualified as “*salt in the earth*” (Matt. 5:13). “*Even as I!*” Jesus said.

Jesus told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for “The Promise of the Father,” which referred to the long-promised outpouring of God’s Holy Spirit. This Promise was fulfilled on Pentecost (Acts 2). In John 17, Jesus said that the instantaneous sanctifying of these men, for which He prayed (v.17) would **1)** cleanse and purify them within, **2)** **unify** them to the Father— “*even as I*”— **3)** **unify** them to each other, *and furthermore* **4)** thrust them “*into all the world*”...not as lawyers, lecturers, debaters, nor even mere sermonisers, but witnesses! They were to be *True* “Witnesses” by the cleansing and filling Baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire! (Lk. 3:16; 24:48,49; Acts 1:8; 2:32).

This unifying Baptism is the needed Foundation throughout this world; inside and outside the church. It does not replace government or anything else, but it is the Foundation for the best society, the best people and the best life. Some people say The Early Church was made up of the first Communists since they shared everything among themselves (Acts 2: 44,45). Yeah, right...and Johnny Nuzum once told me he had an aircraft carrier tied down at Wood’s Boat Dock! Those disciples were in **union** with the One who atheists deny exists! The chicken and the egg. Get the order right. National and international leaders of *any* and *every* group can only be at their best who are in **union** with God...as Jesus said, “*even as I!*” No corruption can exist in the pure environment of this **Union!**