

THE GREAT GRAND-FATHER OF ALL BOMBS

(continued from inside)

Canaan for 40 years. Then, after they had entered in, it was disobedience that got them put out and returned to captivity in foreign lands. This is not what God wanted...for Adam and Eve, for the ancient Jews or for us today!

Angels disobeyed, too. That's why there are demons. See some of these examples in 2 Pet. 2: 4-6; Jude 5-7; Heb. 3 & 4. By God's grace, all of us can be "*diamonds in the rough.*" But if we disbelieve and disobey God, then we are "*demons in the rough,*" no matter how much brain or body "cosmetic" we have, nor how dazzling and impressive our life may appear.

Antagonism To Pentecost: Jesus had told His disciples: "*The servant is not better than his master. If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you. If they receive Me, they will receive you.*" (Jn. 15:18-25). The Lord was "*despised and rejected of men,*" (Isa. 53:3). **Right after Pentecost,** a man was healed by the power of Christ though His disciples, Peter and John (Acts 3 & 4). That man, lame from birth and now 40+ years old, had been placed near the Temple

to beg for money. He was healed! The "authorities" met and decided that though they could not deny that a miracle had been done, yet they wanted this type of thing to stop!! (Acts 4: 15-17). Can you see the dementia of sin and the deceitfulness of the human heart? (Jer. 17:9; Heb. 3:13). Soon after, they killed young, God-filled Stephen, who had the face of an angel (Acts 7: 59, 60).

So, ok, world powers have their **Father and Mother of All Bombs.** But God has a "bomb" to cleanse wickedness as no human bomb could ever do—**The Ability of Pentecost!**



Pentecost Is About Holiness of Heart and Life

"*The pure in heart*" - (Matt. 5:8)

"*Made perfect in love*" - (1 Jn. 4: 17, 18)

"*Full of light...no part dark*" - (Lk. 11:36)

"*Completely holy—body, mind and soul kept blameless*" - (1 Thess. 5:23)

"*Having [God's] promises, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God*" - (2 Cor. 7:1)

God said "*Be holy, for I am holy*" - (1 Pet. 1: 16)



THE GREAT GRANDFATHER OF ALL BOMBS is the Holy Spirit. He is the Promised Person and Purifying Power of Pentecost. In Bible verses like Ps. 24, we find that those who go to heaven are those "with clean hands and a pure heart." St. James calls us to that very experience, saying "Cleanse your hands you sinners and purify your hearts you double-minded!" (4:8). These do not refer merely to external washings or rituals. The person who really wants to get to heaven will purify himself just like Jesus, who is the only perfect Standard God gave us for measuring ourselves (1 Jn. 3:2,30). In God's loving efforts to get us to heaven, the Holy Spirit will be a stricter Guard and more refining and personalized Guide than the Bible itself, but He never contradicts it! "Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord," the song says. (see Matt. 5:6; 7:7).

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THE GREAT GRANDFATHER OF ALL BOMBS!

(Who do you think is the intended target?)

Gabriel L. Mancino

USA officials named their recently-used bomb, **MOAB**, standing for **Massive Ordnance Air Blast**. In the Bible, "**Moab**" was a child from the notoriously-evil city of Sodom. Anyway, **Moab's** name got used for the bomb referred to as "**The Mother of all bombs!**" (also MOAB!)

Wesley's Chapel, near **London's Old Street Tube Station**, is called "The **Mother** Church of Methodism." An old fellow working at Wesley's Chapel in **Bristol** laughed and said: "If London's is "The **Mother** Church," *this* is the **Grandmother!**"

Russia has their own bomb—*evidently four times more potent than*



MOAB—which they call "**The Father of all bombs**" (FOAB).

America, Russia, China and some other countries may be proud and confident in their military technology.



As destructively powerful as these countries may be...*even if they would work together...*yet, they are *nothing* in comparison to the power of God.

So, is God's power destructive? Many people would have us believe that God is horrible. The fact is, the power of God is only a threat *to*, and a destructive force *against*, one thing: Sin. **THIS** is the reason people fear God's purifying power. They don't like it, and try anything and everything to avoid or weaken it.

The title of this article, **The Great Grandfather Of All Bombs**, refers to "*The Promise of the Father*" (Lk.

(continued inside)

"**THE GREAT GRANDFATHER OF ALL BOMBS**" went off in Britain before! It's massive and beneficial "fallout" carried on. The mighty force of those "explosions" was the gentle, passionate, yet powerful force of God's perfect love in men and women through God's Spirit. But Pentecost is a worthless religious showcase *if the "teaching" is all we have*. Only the real experience can do for us and for the world what God planned and provided. I pray for an unprecedented Pentecost right here in London, and that the effects go near and far. Where will the epicentre, "Ground Zero," be? May it be in **YOU & me!**

GREAT GRANDFATHER OF ALL BOMBS

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24:49). Jesus identified this “Promise” as The Holy Spirit. In a new way, foretold by Old Testament prophets, God gave His Holy Spirit. It happened 50 days after the Jewish Passover the year Jesus was crucified, and during the Jewish Feast of **Pentecost**. This year, June 4 is **Pentecost Sunday**.

Apparently, a USA **MOAB** bomb destroys everything within a mile in every direction, and costs about £13M each. Now, let’s consider the **effect** and the **cost** when God “precision bombed” Jerusalem by The Holy Spirit on the Day of **Pentecost** (Acts 2):

1) **The Immediate Effect:** People attending the **Pentecost** Feast that year came from at least 16 countries (which are listed in Acts 2: 9-11)—from as far east as modern Iran, to Turkey and Rome on the west, and north Africa’s countries of Egypt and Libya, as well as Arabians. I’d say that exceeds **MOAB’S** 1 mile radius, or that of Russia’s competitor. **“Pentecost Pilgrims”** were stunned by what they saw and heard. 3,000 people came to Christ that first day (Acts 2:41).

2) **The “After-Shock:”** “*These that have turned the world upside down have come to us!*” (Acts 17:6). The extent of Pentecost’s after-shock is well told by these alarmed people: **“the world!”** Jesus had told His disciples: “*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to ME [not to Jehovah] in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the uttermost parts of the world.*” (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28: 19, 20). They, and **ALL** who truly know and have received the Lord Jesus, are under His orders.

3) **The Cost:** Referring to Jesus, Peter explained to the shocked and gathering crowd that day, saying: “*Therefore [Jesus] being exalted to [or by] the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear*” (Acts 2:33). My next paragraph shows how Peter’s words, above, refer to “The Cost.”

Jesus’ death, resurrection and ascension were God’s required “first-step” to this “*Promise of the Father*”- (the Holy Spirit), given on that Day of Pentecost. Pentecost was the direct, God-planned result of the Cross. **Peter summed up the Crucifixion as follows:** (please read it carefully)

*“You know that you were not redeemed [purchased] from the empty, [spiritually unproductive] way of life handed down from your forefathers, with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the **precious blood of Christ**, as of a pure and perfect [sacrificial] lamb.*

He, indeed, was known and appointed before the foundation of the world, but appeared [was plainly and publicly shown] in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.” (1 Pet. 1: 18-21).

The above Bible verses refer to God “redeeming,” “purchasing” or “buying us back” from sin. **What was The Cost? “The precious blood of Christ!”** That Cost goes beyond the understanding of the richest and most educated people on earth. **MOAB’S £13M cost** per bomb is not even a penny on the pavement (nor even the chewing gum there) com-

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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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pared to the price of our rescue from sin: **“the precious blood of Christ!”**

MOAB has a blast equal to about 22,000 pounds of TNT (**dynamite**). Russia’s bomb equals about 88,000 pounds of TNT, producing a temperature twice as high as **MOAB**.

Pentecost relates to these bombs in the following ways:

1) **It is the same “root word.”** Yes, Jesus had told His disciples: “*And you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you*” (Acts 1:8). The word, “**power**,” in the original language, is the same word from which we get the word “**dynamite**.” “**Dynasty**” also comes from this root. No wonder Jesus said that **Pentecost** results in our being world-witnesses to **HIM** for spreading God’s **Kingdom...HIS Dynasty**.

2) **It is the dynamite our world desperately needs to change to.** Similar to **dynamite** and **dynasty** is “**dynamic**.” Synonyms for “dynamic” are: lively, active, self-motivated, energetic, vibrant, vigorous and full of life. But the world **IS** full—and is sagging under the load. Pleasures, entertainments and “successes” of all sorts are eagerly and constantly sought for, yet the world is sicker by the day. It is like the Israelites who kept demanding food from Moses which God had not given them...**so God gave it to them!**...so much that it made them sick (Num. 11:18-20). They also got the consequence of spiritual “lean-ness;” a starvation of soul (Ps. 106:15).

I recently remembered (with embarrassment!) the time I was playing in a school basketball game. I got the ball, but in my panic and inexperience, I started bouncing the ball the

wrong direction and tried to make a basket in the hoop of the opposing team! That is what the world is doing — by playing with the Opponent’s dynamite!

3) **Our world needs the temperature turned up.** The heat from the USA and Russian bombs is intense. But “heat and pressure” have already been increased upon this world by the human powers that run it. It would be no surprise if they have planned a global inferno, for they are following their Boss’s orders, and he is used to it.

God has a **far better option!** Maybe I should say, a **fire better option**. On that Day of **Pentecost** in Acts 2, God’s Holy Spirit came upon Jesus’ waiting followers in what seemed **like an actual flame of fire** over their heads. But the experience wasn’t just in their **heads**. First and foremost, it changed their **hearts**. Looking back and comparing to **that first Christian Pentecost** years before, Peter said that “*God purified their hearts by faith*” (Acts 15:9).

Pentecost is the experience of the pure heart. Jesus came and died and rose again to provide this experience. God offers this experience to true believers in the Christ of the Bible; the Christ of the Cross. “Converted,” “born-again” believers gathered together in obedience to Jesus to “*wait for the Promise of the Father*,” and He came on the Day of **Pentecost**.

Antecedents to Pentecost: “*God gives His Holy Spirit to those who obey Him!*” (Acts 5:32). Faith and obedience receive **Pentecost**. Disobedience in unbelief will keep us from it or can cause us to lose it—ask Adam and Eve. The Garden of Eden was a **Perfect Pentecost Paradise**, but they lost it. Unbelief kept ancient Israel out of The Promised Land of

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