What's Happening in the World's Religions?

Fred R. Coulter

What's happening in the world of 'religion' today? I think it's very important that we understand what's going on. Let's look at some of the Scriptures in prophecy that we've looked at before, and let's look at it from just a little bit different point of view and see if we can come to a little better understanding.

Rev. 6 is the opening of the seals, and let's look at the first seal and talk about that a little bit, and then let's see what's happening or taking place in the 'religious' circles right now, today. There's an awful lot happening.

Revelation 6:1: "And I looked when the Lamb opened one of the seals..." This tells us clearly that Christ is the One Who opens the door of all of these major events. This is a major event that is going to take place. He alone has the authority. This is why we don't go to God and tell God when the end is going to come:

- because we want it to come
- we think it's going to come
- we feel it's going to come

The end will come when the end comes, when God determines that it's going to come. Christ opened the seal!

"...and I heard one of the four living creatures say, like the sound of thunder, 'Come and see.' And I looked, and behold, *there was* a white horse; and the one who was sitting on it had a bow, and a crown was given to him; and he went out conquering and to conquer." (vs 1-2). How do we know that this is not Christ but a false Christ? How do we know?

Let's compare when Christ returns on His white horse. First of all, the white horse in Rev. 6 is on the earth and it goes forth to do its work on the earth. In Rev. 19 we have an entirely different situation because we know that the Bible tells us that Christ is going to come from heaven.

Revelation 19:11: "And I saw heaven open; and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war." He's on a white horse, but notice the difference here. Let's look at this a little bit more. Compare Rev. 6 & Rev. 19

Verse 12: "And His [Christ's] eyes *were* like a flame of fire... [it says nothing of the eyes in Rev. 6] ...and on His head *were* many crowns... [the one in Rev. 6 had one crown] ...*and* He had a name written that no one knows except Him.... [it doesn't say anything about the name of this one in Rev. 6] ...And *He was* clothed with a garment dipped in blood... [doesn't say anything about what he's wearing in Rev. 6] ...and His name is The Word of God" (vs 11-13). Now, there can be no question that that is Christ. {note: John 1:1-3-'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.'}

So, Rev. 19 identifies who this is. There's no identification directly of the one in Rev. 6. But he's doing something on the earth; he has some sort of authority because he has a crown. He's going forth 'conquering and to conquer' showing a period of time. It would have to. Let's think for a minute when this may have begun. Let's see something else that also takes place and leads up to the return of Christ. We're going to see these two events, though described differently, happen before the return of Christ. You have a broad view (Rev. 6), and you have a more detailed view (Rev. 17).

Revelation 17:1: "And one of the seven angels who had the seven vials came and spoke with me, saying to me, 'Come here; I will show you the judgment of the great whore who sits upon many waters....'" Here's the way that you let the Bible interpret the Bible. What are 'the waters'?

Verse 15: "Then he said to me, The waters that you saw, where the whore sits, **are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages.**" So, this is a worldwide thing! It's not just some small, little thing done in a corner.

Verse 16: "But the ten horns that you saw on the beast shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and shall burn her with fire; for God has put into their hearts to do His will, and to act with one accord... [agree] ...and to give their kingdom to the beast until the words of God have been fulfilled. And the woman whom you saw is the great city that has royal power over the kings of the earth." (vs 16-18). There's only one city that does that, that can fit this. Let's see how she was further described:

Verse 2: "With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication.' Then he carried me away in *the* spirit to a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet beast that had seven heads and ten horns, full of names of blasphemy. And the woman *was* clothed in purple and scarlet, and *was* adorned with gold and pearls and precious stones; *and* she had a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominations and *the* filthiness of her fornication; and across her forehead a name *was* written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" (vs 2-5). That's quite a description—isn't it?

Notice what this woman has done in the past and will do in the future, v 6: "And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And after seeing her, I wondered with great amazement." When John received this vision, this was somewhere around $95_{A.D.}$ What he was seeing was the whole counterfeit religion that was going to encompass the whole world at the end. That's why he wondered: How could this be?

Verse 7: "Then the angel said to me, 'Why are you amazed? I will tell you the mystery of the woman..."

Let's look at this a little bit more and see what else it tells us of the end-time. We're going to look at certain key things here that are very important for us to understand, to see what's going on. Then we'll look at the world's scene and see what's taking place.

Matthew 24:3: "And as He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, His disciples came to Him alone, saying, 'Tell us, when shall these things be? And what *shall be* the sign of Your coming, and of the completion of the age?" Everyone wants to know when is the end going to be! I can tell you precisely when the end will be. *When it is!* Can't be before! Can't be after!

Verse 4: "Then Jesus answered *and* said to them, 'Be on guard... [First thing He did was warn them! Watch out!] ...so that no one deceives you.... [We're going to see that Paul added to that 'by any means.'] ...For many shall come in My name, saying, "I am the Christ"... [not only meaning that Christ is *the Christ* but there will be individuals coming along saying that *they* are Christ.] ...and they shall deceive many" (vs 4-5).

Here's something that someone gave to me. This from Prem. Raja Baba, Mt. Shasta:

> Dear Editor, I gave my Christian friend a copy of the document that has been creating miraculous healings with people all over the world. I told him I wanted to know more about me and my experiences with God. I wanted him to better understand my spiritual experiences.

I want to emphasize *spiritual experiences* because this is what people are seeking for. People can seek for *spiritual experiences*, but the first thing you have to seek for is *Truth!* Vast difference! He responded like so many Christians...

I guess this person is a Hindu or something. With a name like Raja Baba, probably is.

He wrote a letter to the editor saying how wrong I am and how right Christians are. This is not about right or wrong. We stop the argument by saying we don't want to discuss right or wrong. It's about personal preference.

I'm okay, you're okay!

Spirituality is a very personal thing and is different for everyone, even from one Christian to another. Because I'm not a big pharmacological corporation, I can't do costly double-blind experiments with technology I discover, but I have had great results from people all over the world who transform their lives instantly by signing it.

That is this document.

I would love to go to the hospital and let my cancer-ridden friend sign a copy of the document and see if they are healed. How about it! As to the rest of the readership, I know I am a god! But I am not sure about the rest of the world. If you want to see if you are a god or not, write the following statement and sign it and date it. If you are not a god nothing will happen, it is best you stay with your religion. If you are a god, your life will transform radically and you will feel the divine transformation and empowerment that is your birthright.

In other words, you will be instantly demon possessed. Because if you claim you are God, and you get that kind of experience, that is not from God, because you're sitting in God's seat. Here is the document:

The personal laws of [put your name there] I am the god of my realm. [signed and date]

I'm not here to sell this to anyone. I respect a person's spiritual choice. That is what America is all about, freedom of religion, isn't it?

Let no man deceive you! Let no woman deceive you! We are going to see some things today—I'll read them—that are amazing, that are happening.

Jesus says, v 11: "And many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many.... [He says it over and over again.] ...and because lawlessness shall be multiplied, the love of many shall grow cold. But the one who endures to *the* end, that one shall be saved. And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be proclaimed in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall the end come" (vs 11-14).

But since the end is not here, yet, this has not been finished, yet. We don't know what God is going to do or how He's going to do it, and we can't say all of this falls to the two witnesses. Maybe a good portion does, but that doesn't let us off the hook.

Verse 24: "For there shall arise false Christs..." They are the ones saying they are the Christ, they are the Messiah. They are saying that they are the same as Jesus.

"...and false prophets..." (v 24). Whenever you have a false Christ, you have to have a false prophet. In this case (this letter I just read), you just become 'God' and you become an end unto yourself. Like she said, 'I don't know about the rest of the world.'

"...and they shall present great signs and wonders... [marvelous things, and some of these have been happening] ...in order to deceive, if possible, even the elect" (v 24). Those are some pretty powerful things that are happening.

- What kind of generation loves signs?
- Did all of the miracles of Jesus convert the whole generation of those in Judea when He was here on the earth?

All of the miracles:

- feeding of the 4,000
- feeding of the 5,000
- raising the 3 dead people

No, very few!

Matthew 12:38: "Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, 'Master, we desire to see a sign from You.' And He answered *and* said to them, 'A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign..." (vs 38-39). When there's an evil and adulterous generation, they're seeking after signs. That's what people want. It starts with Disney World. All the kids are reared on Disney World. If you don't believe it, just watch it.

Ask yourself: How many little god-fairies and witches, demonism and all of this stuff is right there for the children to partake of, getting them ready for this 'wicked generation'? Then you have all the magic shows, where they can even make buildings disappear—supposedly. That is a *sign* and a *wonder*. That's why God does not give *signs and wonders*.

He had a lot to say here in the book of Matthew about teachers, scribes and Pharisees.

When Christ was on the cross dying, they said, 'If you be the Son of God come down off the cross and then we will believe you. Well, He would have disobeyed God—wouldn't He?

Matthew 16:1: "Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came to Him, tempting Him and asking Him to show them a sign from heaven." Call down fire! Make it rain! Send us food! Give us manna!

Verse 2: "But He answered *and* said to them, 'When evening has come, you say, "*It will be* fair weather, for the sky is red." And in the morning, you say, "Today *it will* storm, for the sky is red and lowering." Hypocrites! You know *how* to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot *discern* the signs of the times'" (vs 1-3).

Just think about this statement for just a minute. This is telling us that no hypocritical religious leader will understand the Truth of the Scriptures in the times in which they are living. Does that answer as to why there are so many false prophecies, though they may use the Scriptures? We can think on that as we go along.

Verse 4: "'A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, but no sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.'.... [and He told them back in Matt. 12] ...Then He left them and went away. Now, when His disciples came to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. And Jesus said to them, 'Watch out, and be on guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees'" (vs 4-6). That's where we need to be aware of false doctrine, false teaching by 'religious' authorities. It doesn't matter where they come from.

Verse 7: "Then they reasoned among themselves, saying, '*It is* because we did not take bread.'.... [Was that the reason?] ...But when Jesus knew *this*, He said to them, 'O *you* of little faith, why are you reasoning among yourselves that *it is* because you did not bring bread? Do you still not understand? *Do you* not remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets you took up?'" (vs 7-9)-12, a basket for each tribe

Verse 10: "'Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets you took *up*? How is it that you do not understand that I was not speaking of bread *when I told* you to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?' Then they understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees" (vs 10-12). That is the teachings! So, we're told to beware!

Now, let's look at something else which fits right in here. People can use the Scriptures; they can be quite good at it. But then they do something with the Truth, which then makes it tell a different story. We'll see some of that today.

2-Corinthians 4:1: "Therefore, having this ministry, according as we have received mercy, we are not fainthearted. For we have personally renounced the hidden things of dishonest gain, not walking in *cunning* craftiness, nor handling the Word of God deceitfully..." (vs 1-2)—wrongly applying, wrongly interpreting. How many times do we spend answering false doctrine? *I would say 50% of the time answering false doctrine!*

"...but by manifestation of the Truth, we are commending ourselves to every man's conscience before God. But if our Gospel is hidden, it is hidden to those who are perishing; in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of those who do not believe, lest the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, Who is *the* image of God, should shine unto them. **For we do not preach our own selves**..." (vs 2-5). There's a key! All of those who handle the Word of God deceitfully preach themselves. Here's one that didn't even use the Word of God, just preached herself and said, 'make your own document.' That's worse, yet.

"...but Christ Jesus *the* Lord, and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake" (v 5).

Let's look at some other things that are important for us to understand. Living in this age, we have to be more alert than anybody else. Never ever has there been a time when so much information is available. So many books, so many radio stations, so many television stations, so many things on the Internet—and that's getting to be one of largest means of communication in the world today. It's a source of information that is just mindboggling. Here's what we have to know and understand:

1-John 4:6 talks about false spirits and false prophets (v 1): "We are of God; the one who knows God listens to us; the one who is not of God does not listen to us. By this *means* **we know** the Spirit of the Truth and the spirit of the deception." We have to know. And the people of God today, as in no other time:

- have to *know* the Scriptures
- have to *think* with the Scriptures
- have to *understand* with the Scriptures
- have to *know the Truth* of the doctrines

There are so many things out there that *it's unreal!*

If we would go back before the turn of the century—go back almost a hundred years—they had just invented the telephone, discovered electricity and everything was nice and quiet: no radios, no televisions, no rapid transportation, no airplanes,

none of that. Your life consisted of your little town in which you lived and the people that you knew, or a neighborhood in a big city in which you lived and the people that you knew there, and your relatives and that was about it. People would spend their time with people, talking with people. Today we don't do that. We spend our time with our machines, listening to machines, talking with machines, writing to machines, reading machines, reading machinedriven articles and papers and books and listen to machine-driven tapes and television and all of that. That's not wrong if it's rightly applied.

But you see how much more complicated this world is today? Therefore, we as Christians, have to be that much more knowledgeable of the Word of God, that much more understanding of what is Truth and what is error. We are to know the Spirit of Truth, we are to know the spirit of error. That's where so many people have gotten themselves in trouble.

Let's talk about the Truth of God's Word \underline{vs} the 'wonderful' ecumenical movement, because we find it here:

Proverbs 27:5 "Open rebuke *is* better than secret love." Why? *The one who is going to be giving you some information and correction is looking out after your welfare*. 'Secret love' is done deceitfully. That's all over the afternoon 'soaps.'

Verse 6: "Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend..." Sometimes it's hard, but it's faithful. It's not meant to hurt or destroy. Wounds can heal.

"...but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful." When the enemy says, 'Oh, we welcome you.' Watch out! You're in trouble! What was the most deceitful kiss in history? *Judas Iscariot!* Amazing!

Now, let's see what happens when people do not understand the difference between the deceitfulness of flattery and the Spirit of Truth and the spirit of deception. Let's see what they do. There are all kinds of it out there, just lying in wait.

Ephesians 4:14: "So that we no longer be children, tossed and carried..." If you're 'tossed to and fro,' what's the problem? *You're as a child!* What else?

James 1:5: "However, if anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, Who gives to everyone freely..." That's where our understanding comes from, brethren. *It comes from God!* It doesn't come from the self. It doesn't come because we're intellectual or smart. *It comes because of God's Spirit!*

"...and does not reproach *the one who asks*; and it shall be given to him. But let him ask in faith, not doubting at all because the one who doubts is like a wave of *the* sea that is driven by the wind and tossed *to and fro*" (vs 5-6)—which is saying you are lacking in faith if every wind of doctrine comes along and you go with it. 'Oh that's interesting? What do you know about that!'

Ephesians 4:14: "So that we no longer be children, tossed and carried about with every wind of doctrine by the sleight of men in *cunning* craftiness, with a view to the systematizing of the error." They're just waiting! Got to have a convert! 'Sign this statement, it's wonderful!' Understanding the Spirit of Truth \underline{vs} the spirit of error also comes about with obedience and doing.

Colossians 2:2: "That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love ... "Brethren, I want to tell you something: God wants us in a relationship of love with Him! I'm going to give a sermon on hierarchy in response to a sermon a man gave saying, 'Brethren, you all love hierarchy'; putting every relationship in the world in a hierarchical stance. Even a marriage is a hierarchy. *No, it is not!* It is a covenantal relationship; it is not a hierarchy. Just because you have someone that's the head, does not mean it's a hierarchy. But did we not take that in our marriages and destroy them? And in our families and destroy them? Yes, we did! God wants a relationship based upon love! If you love God you will obey Him. Can you have a hierarchy, law and order, and obedience without love? Yes, without a doubt!

"...being knit together in love..." (v 2). Heart to heart, that's what it's talking about. Brethren, this is a close relationship with each other. That's something we need to learn.

"...unto all riches of the full assurance... [no doubt] ...of understanding..." (v 2)—that you know that you *know!* You know the difference between the Spirit of Truth and the spirit of deception or error.

"...unto *the* knowledge of the mystery of God, and of *the* Father, and of Christ; in Whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (vs 2-3). Not in Kabala, not in Rosicrucianism, not in Catholicism, not in Buddhism. *In Christ and God the Father!*

Verse 4: "Now, this I say... [He says, 'This is the reason I'm telling you this.'] ...so that no one may deceive you by persuasive speech." You know they're not going to come along and say, 'I am the big bad wolf and I'm going to eat you up. Ignore the sheepskin I'm covered with.' Well, today it's so bad some people can't even tell a wolf in wolf's clothing, let alone a wolf in sheep's clothing. Sometimes it gets that way.

Verse 5: "For though I am indeed absent in the flesh, yet, I am with you in spirit, rejoicing and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, <u>be walking in Him</u>... [that's how] ...being rooted and built up in Him, and being confirmed in the faith, exactly as you were taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. Be on guard so that no one takes you captive..." (vs 5-8). Spoil you, corrupt you and make you rotten fruit.

Have you ever had an apple that looked wonderful on the outside and your mouth was all set for a wonderful bite of this delicious apple, and you went clunk and it went squish! and you went yuk! and it went ooze! because it was rotten? Then you nearly vomited? I've had that happen. That's the same thing here. 'Let no man spoil you' (*KJV*).

"...through philosophy and vain deceit, according to the traditions of men, according to the elements of the world, and not according to Christ" (v 8).

And that's what all this world's ecumenical movement is all about! They are moving to get it done. The Jesuit Agenda (video) is very important to understand, because it shows you the powers behind the scene. Remember this: It is not the appearance of power that you need to be concerned about; it's the power behind the appearance of power that makes it run-that you need to be concerned about. If you read the book: All Roads Lead to Rome? you'll know the Jesuits are everywhere. They are seeking to establish a great world religion by getting them step-by-step-by-step to conform. They first start by saying, 'Let's agree to disagree.' That sounds wonderful. 'I can believe what I want to believe, and you can believe what you want to believe.' 'Why, that's just fine! Let's talk about the things we have in common.' You're dead!

Mother Teresa undoubtedly did many wonderful things and helped the downtrodden. That is true, but she never once showed *why* those people are in that condition. Why? Isn't it more important to understand why they're in it than to treat the effects? I mean, you can be model and sentimental, kiss every hand of every leper and every deformed human being that there is and say 'I see God in all human beings and look saintly, and never tell them why they are that way. They're that way because the Indians, of all people on earth, are the most wickedly idolatrous and sexually licentious people in the world—period! That is why! And until you get at the cause, all of the works of Mother Teresa are for nothing!

Who was the power behind the throne of

Mother Teresa? *Well, she was trained by the Jesuits from age twelve!* Anything to promote the Catholic Church, especially in a heathen country where it can bring about ecumenism. They're not interested in religion. They're interested in control. Always remember that.

It's like we said of the *mark of the beast*, it is not just to buy and sell; *it is to control you!* Now they have chips that they're working on that they can put into human beings. They not only can tell where you are, what you are doing, what you are buying, they can tell your heart rate, your blood pressure, your hormone activation—which they use on pedophiles. When the hormone activation on the pedophile starts coming up on the monitor screen, push the little button and the chip within them activates and forces to change that hormonal arousal so they will not act on their pedophilia. That's what they want. We need to understand what's going to happen in the world is bigger, the stakes are a whole lot higher, and it's going to be awesome, indeed!

From the newspaper on Mother Teresa:

A vendor displays photographs of Mother Teresa along side brightly colored prints of Hindu gods and goddesses as if in testimony to the late nun's convictions that good deeds and piety transcends religious barriers. Someone once asked her, "Do you convert?" and the answer was, "Of course, I convert. I convert you to be a better Hindu, a better Muslim, a better Protestant. Once you've found God, it's up to you to decide how to worship Him."

Pretty powerful statement—isn't it? That's as ecumenical as it can be—right? *Yes*!

NO! It's not up to you to decide how to worship God! *God tells you how to worship Him: In Spirit and in Truth!*—according to the Word of God! God *is* God and you worship *Him.* You don't come to God and say, 'Oh, God, I've had a 'religious' experience. I just signed this document. Get off Your throne, I want to sit on it.' NO ONE tells God what to do! *Spare us that!* Now let's see what else is happening:

Three Major Church Denominations are Deciding to Go Back Together

I brought about one-fourth of my file on the coming one-world religion.

Lutherans to Vote on Ending Their Schism: Landmark spiritual agreement which could end nearly 500 years of rivalry between two of Christendom's...

I like that. I wish they would spell it 'dumb.'

...largest denominations comes before the Lutheran this leaders week in Philadelphia. The outcome could help redefine Christianity of the 21st Century. The delegates are expected to lift the condemnations of the Roman Catholic Church that split Christendom in the 16th Century, which gave rise to the Reformation.

You compare that with *All Roads Lead to Rome?* Very important, because now the writer shows how that the Catholics, the Vatican and the Jesuits are bringing Protestantism in England to its knees. This shows how it's going to bring Lutheranism—which started with Martin Luther—to its knees. And now you have the two major hotbeds that started the Protestant Reformation movement back in the fold.

There is a bursting forth of ecumenical fervor.

We'll talk about that and we'll read a little bit about that.

Jesus told His flock to be one, but how to be one?

Very cleverly. 'Let no man deceive you.' Clever words. *Be one!* 'Oh, yes, that's nice, we all ought to be unified.' But how? Christ says, 'In Christ and God the Father' not by political agreement!

> I think the breeches in the Reformation period are going to be healed in the next generation. Jesus told His flock to be one and the ecumenical movement, which tries divided Christian to reconcile denominations, this is a defining moment. True modern Christian denominations are beset with division over the role of women, homosexuality and other issues, and Lutheran leaders say that the proposals for full communion, with the four Protestant branches, face tough opposition over contemporary hot-button issues and century's old matters of theology.

Then it shows what they're going to do to overcome it.

The difference that has historically separated the church: the interpretation of the Eucharist.

What are they talking about? What is the Eucharist? *That is the taking of the wafer while the priest drinks the wine*.

Catholics say that by the prayer of the priest, they command Christ to come into the bread and into the wine.

So, when you take of that bread and drink of that wine it is His literal flesh and His literal blood which is not true! That's the doctrine of transubstantiation.

I have another one here which shows that Lutherans (Associated Press, Aug. 30, 1997)—with the bread and the wine—have agreed to give it to infants who have been baptized.

(go to the next track).

Remember the three things that the Jesuit Agenda pointed out that they want conformity on. It's interesting, they always infiltrate a hierarchy church. They want agreement on the Eucharist, ministry and baptism. They are moving closer and closer to it. This article shows that the Lutherans believe that the bread is symbolic; Catholics believe it's literal. Now they're saying it really doesn't matter, you believe in your heart what you believe, but let's be friends. That's all waiting for a miracleworking pope, who then will command. Then it's too late. They're talking about 'free grace'; not by our own works but by 'free grace.'

From *The San Jose* Mercury:

An international committee of scholars from both churches have written a declaration which says, "Salvation rests in God's hands alone."

So, you take a true, broad, general statement and you say, 'Oh well, we can agree to that.' I think of it what I want to think of it; you think of it what you want to think of it. I'm ok; you're ok.'

The entire arrangement is an unhappy one for the Lutherans who believe the Episcopal Church deals too leniently...

There's going to be Episcopals, Lutherans, and certain Catholic Churches—not all of them but certain ones—those three where homosexuality is going to be accepted. You can be guaranteed it's going to be accepted, without a doubt! What's going to happen? *They're going to infiltrate everywhere* and say, 'Na, na, na-na, we are here! We are queer! We won't go away! We are here to stay! *We* are the bishops, and *we* are the cardinals, and *we* are the priests, and *we* are the nuns.'

From *The New American*, Aug. 18, 1997: Pagans of the World Unite!

Not even quiet or bashful! This is over here at Stanford University:

On June 23, Stanford University played host to a gathering of 200 delegates from scores of religious bodies around the world. Among the assembled were Christian ecumenical leaders, black Muslims, American Jews, Australian aborigines, California pagans, South African Hindus, Thai Buddhists, British Bahais, Catholic priests, Indian sheiks and other leading "lights" from across the spiritual spectrum.

The purpose of the gathering was to begin working on a charter for an international inner-faith organization tentatively called the United Religions (UR).

Isn't that interesting? What an anachronism: United Religions—the u and the r—quite an anachronism.

The United Religions imitative is presided over by Rev. William Swing. The Episcopal bishop of San Francisco who seeks the creation of something like the United Nations for all religions. According to Bishop Swing, his imitative is a continuation of the century old campaign. In 1893 the Parliament of World Religions—it was so exciting to see all religions together for the first time that people began to expansively to think about something like this. But there was no infrastructure, there was no world consensus around that kind of idea in 1893, so it died.

Then when the League of Nations began, people began to say, "Why don't we have the League of Religions." All those efforts amounted to resolutions that were quickly passed and forgotten. No one really worked at it. It hasn't been much more than a daydream than an on-the-ground hard work.

So, that's what Swing started to do in 1993. He's been traveling around the world to network with leaders and representatives of religious communities from many religions.

This has strengthened the constituency for Swing's initiative and, according to the bishop, provided him with new spiritual insights. "I spent a lot of time praying with Brahmans, meditating with Hindus, begin silent or chanting with Buddhists."

I wonder if he blew their horns, clanged their cymbals and beat their drums?

Swing proudly states, "I've been enormously enriched inwardly by exposure to these folks. I've gone back and read our own Scriptures and it's amazing how they begin to read differently when you're exposed to more truth from more people in other parts of the world."

'Let' no man deceive you with enticing words by any means.'

The process began the creating of a community among diversity to examine the ongoing changes on the planet and how we are to deal with each other in the new century. Hartford explained that "the UR has held regional conferences across the world in collaboration with...

Pay attention to this:

... the UN's Temple of Understanding.

Did you know the UN has a Temple of Understanding? You've heard of the meditation room at the UN. If you haven't, you'd better find out about it! That's as ecumenical as it gets.

The UN's Temple of Understanding is a group which conducts spiritual summit conferences in conjunction with UN political summits.

Did you get that statement? In other words, every time the UN has some sort of committee to get together, these spiritual gurus are there to help them spiritualize mentally, in order to make the politics work. Makes you wonder about when all of the G-7 and G-8 get together, what goes on? What if the UN spiritualists are there with that?

> Bishop Swing, who consulted with Hans Kung, the Swiss theologian who authored the Declaration of Global Ethic.

When that comes out you're going to be surprised how that follows along the Noahide Laws almost verbatim. A brief examination of Kung's handiworks suggests that it is less about uniting religions in the cause of peace than about harnessing them to serve the interests of globalism. *Control!* Remember, the bottom line is *control!*

Although the document is silent about the duties of man to God, in fact the word 'God' does not appear in this document. It contains very specific directives regarding global responsibility, self-determination, self-realization, are thoroughly legitimate as long as they are separated from human self-government and global responsibility. That is responsibility to fellow humans and for the planet earth.

So today, they don't want you to hug a tree, because it may be 'God'; hug the earth because it's the 'mother goddess.'

School children must be taught that their freedoms are limited by the need of the common good.

What's another word for common good? Communism! You thought Communism was dead, *NO!* just redressed!

> The global ethic also obliquely addresses the subject of religious fundamentalism by suggesting that religious leaders who stir up prejudice, hatred and enmity toward those of different beliefs, deserve the condemnation of mankind and the loss of their adherence.

You think on that statement, because that is setting it up for 'religious' inquisition!

> No rational person would define prejudice, hatred and enmity. Would this language apply to Christians who carry out the Biblical commission to evangelize the world?

Of course not! Love one another! Then it talks about pagans all getting together and Gorbochev's earth charter is an example of pagan monoism. Monoism is one-world pagan religion.

> Dr. Jones, author of the new book Spirit Wars: Pagan Revival in Christian America defines the monist's world view as one in which the cosmos itself is divine, as is humanity. The whole creation you look at is Divine—that's God; as is humanity—you are God.

Not much different from the first thing I read there.

All is one and one is all and we're part of a pantheistic collective. This is in sharp contrast in the deist worldview in which God is viewed as Creator and is not consubstantial with the creation. Monoism teaches people to look for God within you, while deism seeks to direct men's eyes outward and upward toward God.

Then it goes on showing how pagan monism is gaining strength and adherence everywhere. Do you know there's a pagan church in San Francisco? Here on our local public channel—they're not to promote religion. Separation of church and state means separation of Christ and everything pagan included. They had a documentary about the witches who get out here in the hills north of San Francisco and do their little routine. 'What a wonderful experience this is.' People are after *experiences*. They're after *signs*. They're going to get them! Who's going to bring the *signs*? *False prophets!* Didn't we read it? *Great signs and wonders!*

> <u>Religions Converge for Right</u>: December is a busy month in the world's religious calendar. Christians celebrate the birth of

Christ, Jews celebrate Hanukah, Muslims celebrate the ascension of the prophet Mohammad in preparations for the 'holy month' of Ramadan. They are pagan holidays, Shinto holidays and even sacred days in lesser known religions such as Jainism and Zoroastrianism.

Did you know there was a church of Zoroastrianism here in San Jose? They have a little temple up in the foothills there, and they go up and they worship the fire.

> It only makes sense to Rev. Aaron Zahir of the inner-faith's seminary in Santa Cruz to have a worship service today to honor as many religions as he could, in spite of the wide diversions of theology. "We can't include something from every tradition, because there are literally hundreds, but we'll have a great diversity. In this way the service will be sort of a spiritual UN."

Notice those words! United Religions; spiritual UN. They're actively working in doing it. Read in your paper about inner-faith services. Read in your paper about Jews and Buddhists worshipping together; Christians and Buddhists worshipping together. There's a book by the Dalai Lama, where he goes through and expounds Matt. 5 and the Sermon on the Mount.

A Buddha-lama will chant, pagans will light candles...

Isn't that wonderful, 'we'll light candles.' What is the big mystery in lighting candles. If you don't blow out the match you'll burn your finger. Always happens to me!

...and sing songs to welcome the return of the world's light and to honor mother earth.

It's coming!

Christmas and Jewish songs will be sung and a native American invocation will be performed. There will be dances and chantings in Arabic and from the Koran. Such gatherings are slowly becoming more common. Last week one was held in the Santa Clara Valley and probably the largest one was held in San Francisco in 1993.

From the San Jose Mercury News, June 15, 1996: <u>Charismatic Catholics</u>.

Pentecostal Catholics, speaking in tongues! They want an experience! They want a feeling! Satan's going to give it to them.

The SR Faithful Join March

Who are the SR? This is from the San Jose Mercury News:

Communion on the square. They're all standing with the hands in the air waiting for the experience. One thousand are on this march and it's a congregation of Christians... [supposedly] ..."One thousand strong prayed through downtown Santa Rosa on Saturday morning professing their faith."

From the San Francisco Chronicle: Mystic Takes San Francisco Pulpit to Read Love Letter from Jesus.

This is about a Vassula Ryden who claims that she is a channeler for Jesus. You're going to see more and more and more women who come out as preachers, but they are really witches in disguise.

Here's a press release concerning the Parliament of the World's Religions (1993). Such renowned religious leaders such as the Dalai Lama, Mother Teresa, Archbishop—and it talks about what they did. They had the Wicca group, Covenant of the Goddess, an international umbrella organization with members or covens throughout North America, Europe and Australia. The Covenant is one of 200 parliament co-sponsors and so forth.

This is quite interesting. This is also from the religious section of:

The Arizona Republic: <u>New Vestments Stir</u> <u>Controversy</u>

Everything is going to be *new!* Do not think of Catholicism as you did 30-years ago or 50-years ago. That's dead, that's over, that's through. They now have *new* vestments.

The French courtier, beloved by superstars for his playful style, designed vestments for Catholic world-youth day celebration.

Special ones! Guess what colors they are? *The* rainbow colors! Does that strike a cord? Who uses the rainbow? Jesse Jackson! United Way! United Religions! Noahide Laws! It's coming!

Men of the cloth walked under the Eiffel Tower on Tuesday morning wearing Jean-Charles de Castelbajac's robes, brightly trimmed with a stripe of rainbow colors. With glee, some commentators noticed the design resembled the rainbow symbol of the Gay Right's movement.

It's coming! Everything is mystic! Everyone wants a religious, spiritual, mystic experience! It's going to

happen in Catholicism, Buddhism, Protestantism, Pentecostalism, Churches of God. It's going to happen in the Jewish religions. It's going to happen in all of them, because that's Satan bringing them together. And I say, Churches of God BEWARE! If that happens where you are, WATCH OUT! Check your doctrines!

From: San Jose Mercury, Religion Ethics:

<u>Centuries old Mystic Kabala Excites New</u> <u>Interest in Hollywood</u>: Kabala is the rage in 'Tinsel-Town.' "I'm a Catholic Sheikh," actress Diane Ladd says. "I'm on a spiritual journey. I believe we can learn from all religions."

That's what they want everyone to believe! What did Christ say?

John 14:6: "Jesus said to him, 'I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through Me." No such thing as great, wide ecumenical movement—getting a little bit from all religions.

> The Los Angeles Kabala Learning Center—the University of Judaism teaches that nothing in the world happens by accident.

It's fatalism!

It's good for everybody. And Kabala is about the connection between mind, body, astrology, Atlantis, re-incarnation and computers—and the whole thing.

San Jose Mercury News, Religion and Ethics: Promise Keepers

Promise Keepers is another vast movement. What is that about? *That's about a religious experience* having a certain set number of seven... Keep that in mind

...promises that they're going to keep.

And the Jesuits are behind the scene manipulating this. Church of God, unfortunately, has gotten into it.

A bold attempt to close a breech between religions. One Buddhist had been promoting a united religion for the past 25years and had prepared a possible place in Korea where a similar number of Christians and Buddhists live. Moreover, as the United Nations is located in the States, a united United religion organization should be located somewhere else.

They want to have it everywhere. I'll have to say

that the *San Jose Mercury News* does a pretty good job in getting some of these things out.

San Jose Mercury News, Nov. 2, 1996:

Three years ago Steven Todrank began to deliver a series of sermons on global transformation of Christianity. The Los Gatos minister had some unorthodox ideas for example, that re-incarnation has possibilities as a Christian concept. Christianity is evolving along ten pathways.

What did we just read?

Jesus said, 'I am the ten pathways and the ten truths and the then lights.'

There you go! Nonsense!

From exclusivism to pluralistic; from hierarchal to democratic; from bodydenying to body affirming

-and so on. He's a graduate of the Harvard School of Divinity. Wonderful! Here comes the bombshell:

<u>Mary</u>: Two thousand years after the nativity, the mother of Jesus is more beloved, powerful and controversial than ever before.

Here's a picture of it on the cover of *Life Magazine*! As they say, 'bigger than life.' This article was leading up to what came next. Let's see what has just happened.

from *Time Magazine*: <u>Hail Mary!</u>

A growing movement in the Roman Catholic Church wants the pope to proclaim a new controversial dogma that Mary is a co-redeemer. This week a large box shipped from California and addressed to his holiness John Paul II will arrive at the Vatican. The shipping labels list a dozen countries from every continent by Antarctica. The quantity of signatures inside-40,383-each signature is a attached to a petition asking the pope to exercise the power of papal infallibility to proclaim a new dogma of the Roman Catholic faith that the virgin Mary is coredematrix, co-mediatrix of all races and an advocate for the people of God.

Think about this statement. Can a statement by the pope while sitting in his official throne make a lie *truth? To the Catholics, yes!* But *it cannot in fact!* So, what they are asking him to do is to abuse something that is supposed to insure purity. Never did! But this statement in itself shows that it's never used to proclaim Truth. It is used to make people

believe an untruth as a dogma!

Such a move would elevate Mary's status dramatically among what most Christians profess. In the last four years...

This is why it's been going on:

...the pope has received 4,340,429 signatures from a 157 countries, an average of 100,000 a month supporting the proposed dogma.

In his heart he wants to, but I'm sure he cannot. Then it lists all of those extraordinary doctrines, and the Protestants that are going along with ecumenism said this sets it back, so then, lo and behold, we have a step backwards. You don't believe the Catholic Church uses the dialectic method, which is the method of dialecticism—two steps forward, one step back. This tells you what it's going to be, but now is not the time. Wait till the pope comes on with miracles and then he says this miracle, 'Mary says that she is.' Wait! What's going to happen is going to be astounding! For now, they had to take a step back.

> "The latest idea trumpeted by *Newsweek Magazine* (front cover) should be left hanging," this Vatican spokesman replied. "The virgin Mary will not be upgraded to co-savior alongside Jesus Christ." The *Newsweek* report...said what it's going to do. They said, "no we can't do that."

Now is not the time, but they're going to continue pushing it. It's going to come out everywhere.

Mary Mother of God: What All Mankind Should Know: Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary Litany of the Blessed Virgin

She has got 50 or 60 titles on this printout, and this is from the Internet. I'm going to take the time to read this, just so you know what's going on:

Lord, have mercy on us; Christ, have mercy on us; Lord, have mercy on us; Christ, assist us.

This is the prayer that you get!

Christ, graciously hear us; God the Father of heaven, hear us; God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us; God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us; Holy Trinity One God, have mercy on us...

They're leaving nobody out—right?

Holy Mother, pray for us; etc.; Holy Mother of God, only virgin of virgins, mother of Christ, mother of divine grace, mother most pure, mother most chaste, mother inviolate, mother undefiled, mother most admirable, mother most admired, mother of good counsel, mother of our great God, mother of our Savior, virgin most prudent, virgin most venerable, virgin most renowned, virgin most powerful, virgin most merciful, virgin most faithful, mirror of justice, seat of wisdom, cause of our joy, spiritual vessel, vessel of honor, singular vessel of devotion, mystic rose, tower of David, tower of ivory, house of gold, arch of the covenant, gate of heaven, morning star, health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comforter of the afflicted, help of Christians, queen of angels, queen of patriarchs, queen of prophets, queen of apostles, queen of martyrs, queen of confessors, queen virgins, queen of all saints, queen conceived without original sin, queen ascended into heaven, queen of the most holy rosary, queen of peace, queen of Poland

That's all the titles just on this one page! Guess how many pages there are on the Internet on Mary! 40,000 pages! Is Mary phenomenal worldwide? Yes! Here's just part of it, all the things about the blessed virgin. Here are the apparitions that have been seen, going right down and listing every century where they've been seen. What about a miracle-working nun? What about the first ordained woman priest doing wonderful things in Mary's name? Think big, folks, BIG! **BIG! BIG! HUGE!** GIANT!

Here on the toy front: Every girl could use a good witch—Barbie doll witch! There you go, send off for it. Are they not witchizing our little girls? If that's not good enough, how about a little angel. You can send away for it. This ad was in *Good Housekeeping*. How about that, *Good Housekeeping* promoting every girl could use a good witch. Wonderful! Wholesome! Vibrant! Family oriented!

Here's one showing about making Mary coredematrix. Here's one from the U.S. News and World Report showing about the Jesus Seminar and how they're tearing apart the Gospels and reinventing Jesus—going to have a 'new' Jesus. Here is the Torah and the Dharma, which is Judaism and Buddhism combined together.

> Eastern spiritual paths from the Torah and the Dharma providing fulfilling holistic approach to life without overtly contradicting or threatening Judaism.

Mystic Judaism is pagan to the core! You need to understand that. Judaism is not the 5,000 little men with their funny little hats and curls hanging down who rock back and forth when they pray. That is a distinct minority of Judaism.

Using different religious systems as a pathway to Judaism, encouraging unity. Both Zen meditation and yoga and the Jewish religions, religious feminism. Many of the seekers are looking for a way to have a direct spiritual experience without having to deal with our historic, particularly all of our trauma and textural and theological baggage.

In other words they're saying they want to dump Judaism and become religiously experienced.

[transcriber's note: missing audio, then it continues]

Mysticism is simply seeking the divine within one's consciousness. Consciously sidestep dealing with the God issue...Jews would never consider practicing Christianity

The international court issuing a permanent international court, which would, for the first time have power to try individuals. A meeting of legal experts concluded at the United Nations last week, with a clear picture of what the court will be and how it will function. Although there are scores of questions still to be settled, overt opposition to the tribunal has largely been replaced with quibbling over details.

"I do not know any state opposition to the creation of the court," said Andrian Bust, the Dutch Chairman of the working group. The new court would investigate and prosecute individuals committing crimes against humanity...

Notice the broad definition here:

...humanity, genocide and war crimes.

Why is that important? A declaration is going to set up the court system, which will eventually have infused into it these things of the Noahide laws. This is something! This gets scary! They say this:

There are seven laws governing the children of Noah and when one takes these seven laws...

But there are not seven laws there; and what is the sign of the children of Noah? *The rainbow!* See the rainbows coming everywhere.

Courts of law: The children of Noah are commanded

By who? Now we're getting into strong doctrinal dogmatic statements.

...to establish courts of law that will carry out justice according to the seven universal

laws.

A court system that perverts justice and so forth. It goes through showing how they will mete it out. The only punishment meted out by a Noahide court of laws and criminal cases is the death penalty. How do you think Christians are going to be killed? *By this court system*, whether it's called Noahide or the UN Court, or whether the United Religions Court. It lists it all out here in great, great detail. It's too much to go into, except to tell you that they're trying to get this down through the United Nations and we just found they agreed to a form of it.

Remember this: Agreeing to a form of it is very important, because you can always change it. Remember, when they graduated, progressive income tax was voted in in the United States, it was said it would never be over one percent. This is what's happening on the religious front. I haven't brought anything what's happening on the political front. But watch how the UN and NATO and regionalization just keeps coming and building and building. It's going to be something the way that this is going to be as we head into the end-time.

This is the same system that was already working in Paul's day, 2-Thessalonians 2:1 "Now we beseech you, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, that you not be quickly shaken in mind, nor be troubled—neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by epistle as if from us, *saying* that the day of Christ is present" (vs 1-2).

What has been the biggest 'bugaboo' in all the Christian religions? *This right here!* We've all experienced it—haven't we? *The failure of people saying it's at hand!* 'We're in the gun-lap.' We've been in the 'gun-lap' for 50-years and we've shot off our toes and feet and calves and we're working on the upper part of the thighs. We're running on stubs.

Verse 3: "Do not let anyone deceive you by any means... [they're going to use every trickery involved] ...because *that day will not* come unless the apostasy shall come first..." So, the whole uniting of religions is going to take place and be accomplished.

The first seal that we looked at when we began in Rev. 6—going forth and conquering and to conquer—we are seeing that taking place right now! It's going to culminate in the false prophet, which I believe is going to be *the false prophet* who's going to be the pope who will perform great miracles. The *beast* is going to be the political leader. It talks about both of them here. The apostasy will culminate in that.

"...and the man of sin shall be revealed..."

(v 3). He will have been on the scene. We will know! When he comes on the scene you'd better understand, if you have some repenting to do you don't have many days to get it done!

"...-the son of perdition, the one who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is an object of worship; so that he comes into the temple of God and sits down as God, proclaiming that he himself is God" (vs 3-4). Those things must take place.

Notice how he is going to come, v 9: "*Even* the one whose coming is according to *the* inner working of Satan, with <u>all power</u> and signs and lying wonders." You've heard me say in the past, but I don't think we grasp how great this is going to be. We need to think big, huge, and see what's going to happen.

Oh, yes, the thing on Mars is going to be spectacular and may play a great role in the end-time here. A satellite went into orbit around Mars to map all of Mars. They've got the Pathfinder vehicle up there searching out what is up there. There definitely was water there at one time. Where did all the water go? *We don't know!* But if Satan is going to come with all power and signs and lying wonders, what if they get some sort of base up there? How is Satan cast down from heaven? From what part is he cast down? I mean, we need to think huge! Gigantic!

Verse 10: "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in those who are perishing..." It is going to be so unbelievable. We're going to end up being the enemies by saying this is not of God. Remember, the pagans worship Mars.

Here's why it's going to happen: "...because they did not receive the love of the Truth, so that they might be saved. And for this cause, God will send upon them a powerful deception that will cause them to believe *the* lie" (vs 10-11).

It is coming, brethren! It is coming, and all of this is moving together, step-by-step, people are agreeing. You find that to have a concrete opinion about something is very unpopular today in any moral situation. That is all leading to this delusion that's coming!

Scriptures from *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order*, A Faithful Version by Fred R. Coulter

Scriptural reference:

- 1) Revelation 6:1-2
- 2) Revelation 19:11-13
- 3) Revelation 17:1, 15-18, 2-7
- 4) Matthew 24:3-5, 11-14, 24
- 5) Matthew 12:32-39

- 6) Matthew 16:1-12
- 7) 2 Corinthians 4:1-5
- 8) 1 John 4:6
- 9) Proverbs 27:5-6
- 10) Ephesians 4:14
- 11) James 1:5-6
- 12) Ephesians 4:14
- 13) Colossians 2:2-8
- 14) John 14:6
- 15) 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4, 9-11

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- John 1:1-3
- 1 John 4:1

Also referenced:

- Video: The Jesuit Agenda
- Book: All Roads Lead to Rome? by Michael De Sanlyen

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