

## Mother Teresa - a lost soul? - Part 2

Mother Teresa's life long experience

The book much quoted here, Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light, has been published. It consists primarily of the correspondence of Teresa over a period of sixty-six years.<sup>34</sup> It reveals her total lack of knowledge of the Gospel. The letters from her own hand make known that for nearly fifty years she felt no presence of God whatsoever in her life. The crisis seems to have started at the time she began tending "the poor and dying" in Calcutta. It never grew less except for a five-week period in 1959. Eleven years after the founding of her congregation, she wrote to Father Picachy of her horrendous despair,

"They say people in hell suffer eternal pain because of the loss of God—they would go through all that suffering if they had just a little hope of possessing God.—In my soul I feel just that terrible pain of loss—of God not wanting me—of God not being God—of God not really existing (Jesus, please forgive my blasphemies—I have been told to write everything). That darkness that surrounds me on all sides—I can't lift my soul to God—no light or inspiration enters my soul.—I speak of love for souls—of tender love for God—words pass through my words [sic, lips]—and I long with a deep longing to believe in them.—What do I labor for? If there be no God—there can be no soul.—If there is no soul then Jesus—You also are not true.—Heaven, what emptiness—not a single thought of Heaven enters my mind—for there is no hope.—I am afraid to write all those terrible things that pass in my soul.—They must hurt You."<sup>35</sup>

Poignantly we realize Teresa did not know that the Lord alone is the source of everlasting life. Jesus Christ is the incarnate reality in Whom alone we find the Father and everlasting life. This is the reason why the Scriptures continually emphasize the truth that, "there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."<sup>36</sup> The Lord God has appointed Him as the one and only Mediator and has ordained that all blessings shall come to souls through Him alone. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."<sup>37</sup> The Bible not only teaches Who the Lord Jesus Christ is, but it also excludes all others from His roles. To put forward other persons as ways to obtain God's blessings or to purport to assist Christ in salvation is in fact a denial of His person. Pathetically, this is exactly what Mother Teresa consistently taught and did in her life. Thus to Archbishop Périer she wrote not only of going in the name Mary and for her glory, but also she mentions Mary's desire for the conversion at Fatima,

"Your Grace [Archbishop Périer], please entrust the whole thing to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.—She is doing wonders in other lands.—She will do this for your Archdiocese.—She will take special care of your Missionaries of Charity, for in serving the poor, our aim is to bring them through Mary to Jesus, using the family Rosary as the main weapon. What desires she spoke of at Fatima about the conversion of sinners. We want to do Our Lady's part in the slums.—Let me go in her name and for her glory. With her for Our Mother, and for her greater glory, Our Lord will not allow the work of love and self-sacrifice to be a failure—from His point of view."<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> The process of canonization requires that everything known about the person be collected and reviewed by the proper canonization authorities. The letters and documents in this book are part of that process.

<sup>35</sup> Letter to Father Picachy, September 1959, Mother Teresa, pp. 192-193

<sup>36</sup> Acts 4:12

<sup>37</sup> I Corinthians 3:11

<sup>38</sup> Letter to Archbishop Périer Nov 7 1947, Mother Teresa p 94

The basic soul damning message of Fatima still lived out in Roman Catholicism is expressed in the words of the apparition, “Pray, pray very much. Make sacrifices for sinners. Many souls go to hell, because no one is willing to help them with sacrifice.”<sup>39</sup> The Lord Jesus Christ was the Perfect One, the only one who could make the one acceptable sacrifice for sinners. Such a work in His words “is finished.”<sup>40</sup> He the Christ is the Sole Lamb of God, “there is no more offering for sin.”<sup>41</sup> Mother Teresa’s upholding of Mary’s name and glory, and the blasphemous message of Fatima show just how deeply she held to Roman Catholic teaching. How appalling it is to read her words that she wanted to live and die for the ‘Immaculate Heart’. She wrote,

“Today—my God—what tortures of loneliness—I wonder how long will my heart suffer this....Let me not draw back from the sacrifice I have made of my free choice and conviction. Immaculate Heart of my Mother, have pity on thy poor child. For the love of thee I want to live and die an M.C. [Missionaries of Charity].”<sup>42</sup>

With her mind locked into such veneration and dedication to the “Immaculate Heart”, it is no wonder that she also wrote of the horrendous darkness and emotional pain that she suffered even while still asking Mary to be her Mother in the darkness,

“Please pray for me—the longing for God is terribly painful and yet the darkness is becoming greater. What contradiction there is in my soul.—The pain within is so great—that I really don’t feel anything for all the publicity and the talk of the people. Please ask Our Lady to be my Mother in this darkness.”<sup>43</sup>

In her letters, Teresa has given first hand testimony to the agony of living out the false gospel she had been taught. What is so grave is that in spite of all her prolonged agony in spiritual emptiness, she leaves no evidence so far that she ever questioned any of her authorities. Rather, all evidence now available is quite the opposite. Unlike Martin Luther who in his agony turned to the Bible, Teresa in her life turned to her superiors and confessors. Like Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits four hundred years prior, she also turned to Catholic mystics. Nor does she give any evidence, so far, of even having known anything about truth. Apparently, the pain of living a lie did not spur her to seek truth, for so far it has not appeared as an issue in her letters—rather, only the agony of desperate aloneness. Sadly all the evidence that has been documented points to the fact that Teresa had not received a love of the truth.<sup>44</sup>

True believers have the “Spirit of truth,”<sup>45</sup> and through that Spirit, a vital bond of union with Jesus Christ. If anyone has Christ as Savior, he or she has the Holy Spirit as Indweller. Anyone who claims to belong to Jesus Christ but gives no evidence of being indwelt by the Holy Spirit lacks the indisputable proof to establish his or her claim. No test could be more easily applied and none is more decisive, as Scripture explains; “now if any man have not the Spirit of

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.circleofprayer.com/fatima-messages.html> 11/3/2007

<sup>40</sup> John 19:30.

<sup>41</sup> Hebrews 10:18.

<sup>42</sup> Journal, February 28, 1949, Mother Teresa, p. 134

<sup>43</sup> Letter to Archbishop Périer, January 29, 1958, Mother Teresa, p. 174

<sup>44</sup> John 14:6; 8:31-32; II Thessalonians 2:7-10.

<sup>45</sup> John 14:17

Christ, he is none of his.”<sup>46</sup> The consolation of the Holy Spirit is so basic to Christian life that the Apostle Paul calls it “everlasting consolation;” “now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace....”<sup>47</sup> For those who are truly saved, “everlasting consolation” follows on the everlasting love, the eternal redemption, and the everlasting life that is found in the Gospel of grace.

### Embracing false ecumenism

Over and above her belief that the salvation of souls was achieved through religious vows and quenching the thirst of Jesus, she had strong convictions of the usefulness of all religions. She believed that every person is a child of God and all can find God through any religion. In her presentation at the United Nations in 1985, she said, “No color, no religion, no nationality should come between us, we are all children of God....When we destroy an unborn child, we destroy God.”<sup>48</sup> “The dying, the crippled, the mentally ill, the unwanted, the unloved—they are Jesus in disguise. ... [Through] poor people I have an opportunity to be 24 hours a day with Jesus.”<sup>49</sup> She also said, “Every AIDS victim is Jesus in a pitiful disguise; Jesus is in everyone....”<sup>50</sup> Naveen Chawla, Mother Teresa’s longtime friend and biographer, once asked her, “Do you convert?” She replied, “Of course I convert. I convert you to be a better Hindu or a better Muslim or a better Protestant. Once you’ve found God, it’s up to you to decide how to worship him.”<sup>51</sup> It mattered not to Teresa that God set the manner in which we are to worship Him. As the Lord decreed, “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”<sup>52</sup> Teresa accepted all religions and did not put her faith in the Lord of glory alone.

In 1986, Bob Bush, a former Jesuit priest, confronted her on this very issue at the headquarters of her congregation in Calcutta. He said to her, “You and the people in your houses for the dying must realize that a person is made right before God only by trusting in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for sinners. You must be born again by the Holy Spirit and trust on the Lord alone.”<sup>53</sup> She would not accept this message, but continued believing that all religions bring people to God.

### On the way to becoming “St Teresa of Calcutta”

Teresa spoke of herself becoming a Saint in the Roman Catholic sense. She wrote “If I ever become a Saint—I will surely be one of ‘darkness.’ I will continually be absent from Heaven—to light the light of those in darkness on earth.”<sup>54</sup> This inflated idea of her mission after death is an outright blasphemy against the sole assignment of Jesus Christ. His unique mission is to give “light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.”<sup>55</sup> The Lord directly announced that He is “the light of the world” to banish spiritual darkness. He came as the light-revealing

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<sup>46</sup> Romans 8:9

<sup>47</sup> II Thessalonians 2:16

<sup>48</sup> Christian News, Nov. 11, 1985, p. 17

<sup>49</sup> Time Magazine 12/4/89, pp. 11,13

<sup>50</sup> Time Magazine 1/13/86

<sup>51</sup> “Mother Teresa Touched Other Faiths”, Associated Press, Sept. 7, 1997

<sup>52</sup> John 4:24

<sup>53</sup> Recorded telephone conversation with Bob Bush 9/27/2007

<sup>54</sup> Letter to Father Joseph Neuner, March 6, 1962, Mother Teresa, p. 1

<sup>55</sup> Luke 1:79

God, exposing mankind, so that all who believe on Him should be delivered from the darkness and the ruin of sin. Mother Teresa's statement is not only offensively sacrilegious, but it shows her lack of any real understanding of the Lord Jesus Christ as the "Sole Fountain of Light" for the darkness of the world.

The process to sainthood for Teresa begun by Pope John Paul continues speedily. The very procedure towards canonization as a Roman Catholic saint makes her life and message all the more appealing to Catholics and to people across the world. While calling her up in prayer (which according to Catholic teaching, should take place after only she is recognized as a Saint), it is obvious that Catholics are already attempting to contact her through prayer as has been reported in Time magazine, October 5, 2007. Catholic priest V. M. Thomas was scheduled for surgery on September 6, 2007.<sup>56</sup> At his celebration of Mass, he asked those present to pray to Mother Teresa on his behalf. When he returned to the hospital for surgery, x-rays indicated his kidney stone had disappeared. This purported miracle is now being submitted to the Vatican to help validate what has been called Teresa's fast track to sainthood.<sup>57</sup>

The Vatican not only publicly declares who are Saints, but it encourages mankind to contact these dead persons. The Vatican officially teaches, "Communion with the dead...Our prayer for them is capable not only of helping them, but also of making their intercession for us effective." "We can and should ask them to intercede for us and for the whole world."<sup>58</sup> Supposed communion with the dead and deification of the dead has held a prominent place in nearly every system of paganism. The dead are consulted to give help to the living, which is an alluring charm of the occult. The practice of communicating with the spirits of the departed is sinful, since the Scripture forbids it, "there shall not be found among you any one...that useth divination...or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer [one who calls up the dead]."<sup>59</sup>

#### The Consequences of Following Mother Teresa

Mankind loves darkness more than light as the Lord Himself declared, "this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light...."<sup>60</sup> Darkness is the emblem of ignorance, iniquity, error, superstition—whatever is opposite to truth and godliness. The darkness, superstition, gloom, and emptiness of Mother Teresa's teachings, and of the Vatican upholding her, are unspeakably serious—so serious that if she died still believing the Catholic dogma she had consistently taught, then the consequence of believing and teaching a false gospel is her lot after death.

How dreadful it is to have religious feelings and yet have no saving relationship with the Lord. True believers adhere to the all-holy God and His written Word alone as their ultimate authority. Before Him, according to His written Word, persons are saved by grace alone through faith alone. Those who follow Mother Teresa's standards deny these basic biblical truths. They are similar to the devout Pharisees in the Lord's own time, who followed their religious tradi-

<sup>56</sup> The 10th anniversary of Teresa's death

<sup>57</sup> "Mother Teresa and the Kidney Stone", [www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1668857,00.html?xid=10/8/2007](http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1668857,00.html?xid=10/8/2007)

<sup>58</sup> Catechism, Para 958 and Para 2683 respectively

<sup>59</sup> Deuteronomy 18:10-11

<sup>60</sup> John 3:19

tions yet would not accept Jesus as the Messiah, the Christ of God. The painful, yet essential, message for these people is the same as the Lord gave to those Pharisees, “I said therefore unto you that you shall die in your sins: for if you believe not that I am He, ye shall die in your sins.”<sup>61</sup> If one denies that Jesus is who He claims to be, then one must deny His message. His message is simple but binding. As the Lord Himself declared, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”<sup>62</sup> Knowledge of Jesus Christ is the knowledge of God.

Since many are determined to hold to “a faith” like Mother Teresa’s, they are substituting a lie for genuine, saving faith in the Lord of Glory. How terrible is the conclusion of this unbelief, “ye shall die in your sins.” The one who persists in his or her rejection of the Christ of God will die in his or her sins, unpardoned and totally hopeless before the Lord God. Yet, how unimpressed are many by these fearful words, “shall die in your sins.”

Sadly misguided, there are those who say that it is harsh and unkind to speak of the future destiny of Catholics and those such as Mother Teresa. The example of Jesus Christ, however, teaches us better. The Lord did not hesitate to press this dreadful truth, nor should we. In the light of God’s Word, for us to remain silent would be dishonest and unloving. This truth needs to be proclaimed today. Men and women will not turn to Christ until they recognize their imminent danger of the wrath to come.

If a person passes out of this world “dead in sins,” then of necessity, he or she will yet be cast into the lake of fire, “This is the second death.”<sup>63</sup> The Apostle Paul clearly outlined this pending peril, “the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.”<sup>64</sup> How completely shattered is the impoverished hope that believes that every one is a child of God and all can find God through any religion. How devastating it is to expect that our good works can earn salvation. We entreat the Lord God that this ignorance be removed from many minds and hearts and that the Holy Spirit bring to them life, conviction, and true faith.

Both Old and New Testaments tell us that we are spiritually dead to God. Adam’s sin brought death.<sup>65</sup> The Prophet Ezekiel states, “The soul that sinneth, it shall die.”<sup>66</sup> The Apostle Paul says, “the wages of sin is death.”<sup>67</sup> The great Gospel message is that which the Apostle Peter proclaimed: “Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from our fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”<sup>68</sup>

Christ Jesus has purchased everlasting life for true believers. He alone has authority and power to give life. His words of assurance are, “I say unto you, ask, and it shall be given you;

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<sup>61</sup> John 8:24

<sup>62</sup> John 14:6

<sup>63</sup> Revelation 20:14

<sup>64</sup> II Thessalonians 1:7-8

<sup>65</sup> Genesis 2:17

<sup>66</sup> Ezekiel 18:20

<sup>67</sup> Romans 6:23

<sup>68</sup> I Peter 1:18-19

seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" ♦

Richard Bennett of "Berean Beacon" Webpage: <http://www.bereanbeacon.org>

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