

Where Are The True Christians?

In an interview with David A. Harris of the National Jewish Democratic Council, Marvin Olasky, long-time advisor and chairman of Bush's policy subcommittee on religion, stated the following: "For Christians, every subject should be viewed through Scripture. If you don't, you're promoting a worldview that is not biblical."

The word "Christian" connotes a follower of Jesus, the Christ

But the word "Christian" connotes identifying yourself with the teaching of Jesus, the Christ. Jesus was a pacifist who taught "Love your enemies, pray for those who persecute you" or "All who take up the sword will perish by the sword."

The Illusion of Peace

Apparently, many so-called Christians think Jesus must have been wrong, and have subscribed instead to the more popular view that with violence one can create the conditions for peace. At best, however, actions based on this view create the illusion of peace, but never true peace, because it already enters the programming for the next war into the hearts of people.

A True, Durable Peace

To have a true, durable peace, it is necessary that peace be written into our conscience, into the heart, the very core of being of a person. To have true, durable peace, it must be founded upon the principles of equality, freedom,

unity, brotherhood and justice, principles that contain tolerance, good will and respect toward individuals as well as toward whole nations and peoples. These principles are found not only in our Constitution, but in the teachings of the Nazarene.

True Pacifism Is A Moral Commitment

Some people have begun to equate pacifism with cowardice. They have even gone so far as to invoke concepts of "the right to humanitarian interference" and of "morally justifiable war" in order to justify a military option. But true pacifism is anything but cowardice, abandonment or renouncement. It implies a daily commitment in thoughts, words and actions based on the firm belief in the conditions of peace in order to bring peace into the world, first of all through example.

Such moral commitment is of more value and use than simplistic military actions, which, moreover, plant seeds of violence into the hearts of the people for the next war.

Can it be that most people have become conformists? An independent thinker, whose inner ethical-moral scales are still intact, his conscience, doesn't simply accept or absorb something without examining it. He questions statements as to their truthfulness because it is only the truth in its real meaning that makes one free.

Isn't this part of what it means to be a true Christian?

Excerpts:

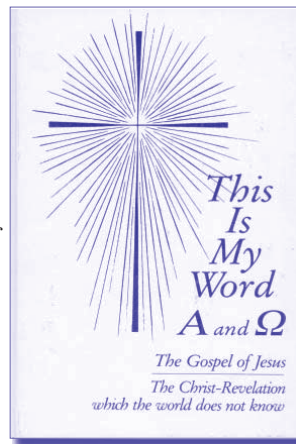
"So-called Christians who are blindly loyal to their authorities receive training in the use of weapons of war, in order to kill men when the call to war sounds out.

Blind to the eternal truth, they act

like slaves and do what they are commanded. Dazed and intoxicated by their base ego, many violate the great "earthman", the Earth, and interfere in its lawful course. Thus, they disturb and destroy the atmosphere and the magnetic fields of the Earth. All these things are satanic excesses — the base ego of men who consider themselves Christian." p. 658

The one who kills will experience similar things

"The one who kills his neighbor thereby destroys a temple of God. Then the soul of the one who was killed no longer has the possibility, in its earthly body, to expiate or accomplish what was assigned to it for its life. The one who kills or has his neighbor, the tem-



ple of God, killed, will experience the same or something similar. The fear, the grief, the terror and death will come over him, too. In his hour of death, he will have no peace, for he will be confronted by the soul of the one whose earthly

body he killed and which has not yet forgiven him. Then on his soul body he will experience what his neighbor, whom he killed or had killed, had to suffer." p.558

As long as there is no peace in himself ...

"Recognize that the one who no longer envies, no longer quarrels, no longer binds and no longer wants to dominate and to be the greatest is a man of true peace.

As long as there is no peace in man himself, there will be blood offerings — whether in wars or through catastrophes. When people have found their way to inner peace, there will be neither wars nor catastrophes and no more bloodshed either."

p.789

Mark Twain: "War Prayer"

Excerpt of a satire on religious support of war

"O Lord, our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds with our shells; help us to cover their smiling fields with the pale forms of their patriot dead; help us to drown the thunder of the guns with the shrieks of their wounded, writhing in pain; help us to lay waste their

humble homes with a hurricane of fire; ...help us to turn them out roofless with their little children to wander unfriended the wastes of their desolated land ... broken in spirit, worn with travail ... we ask it, in the spirit of love, of Him Who is the source of Love."

—For more information—

- Please send me the free excerpts to "This Is My Word"
- Please send me a copy of "This Is My Word, A and Ω" 1178p., Hardbd., \$23.99. I enclose payment.
- Please send me a catalog of all books and tapes.

Name _____

Street _____

City, Province/State, Zip, Country _____