

# The DEFENDER - March 2017

“... defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

A monthly publication of the  
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: **Watching and Waiting**

When I heard that Norma McCorvey died recently it made me pause to think of all the babies who were murdered in their mother's wombs over the last 44 years. You may not remember Norma, but you certainly would remember her by her pseudonym—Jane Roe. Yes, that Jane Roe, as in *Roe vs. Wade*. Norma was an unmarried, pregnant 22-year old in 1969 when she sought to have an abortion in Texas. She was turned down and subsequently sued Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade. It was 1973 before the case ultimately ended up before the Supreme Court. And you know the outcome. Thankfully, Ms. McCorvey gave birth to the child that she wanted aborted. And as with two previous pregnancies, she gave the child up for adoption. It's a shame more women haven't followed suit.

The reason I mention this is because in the four and a half decades since the high court rendered this abominable decision, nearly 60 million helpless, innocent babies have been slaughtered by the hands of greedy, uncaring, abortionists throughout the land. And although strides have been made toward getting this diabolical law overturned one day, there are still consequences that must be paid for this national sin. I'm pleased to say that Norma McCorvey repented and accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior some 25 years ago. And as a result, she is now in heaven with a multitude of those that her misguided decision affected. But God's anger over this matter still must be assuaged.

Judgement is coming to America. How can it not? Sixty million babies murdered in cold blood. The question is not *if* God will judge this sin, but *when*? And *how*? Ponder this for a moment. America certainly has enough foreign enemies more than willing to take a shot at us. But once the first volley is thrown, our adversaries know that we'll return the serve. And at this point in time, they may not be willing to pay that price. But what if God allows us to destroy ourselves from within? After all, we've been butchering our own citizens for 44 years without much resistance.

So consider this. There are reports of a shadow government being controlled and manipulated by former president and current community organizer Barack Hussein Obama. According to Paul Sperry of the *New York Post*—among others—Mr. Obama has amassed an army of agitators numbering in excess of 30,000, ready to oppose President Trump at every turn. He's organized a network of over 250 offices nationwide. It's all right out of Saul Alinsky's handbook, "Rules for Radicals." And the result of all of this is a country split right down the middle. It's not hard to imagine our nation being thrust into some sort of civil disturbance, if not an actual war. Could this be God's way of bringing judgment? Americans fighting Americans? Jesus said that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand (**Mark 3:24**). I've been wrong about things before and I pray I'm wrong on this. But it certainly bears watching.

*Rev. David Lewis*

# **The Temple Mount Powder Keg**

## **Part II – Islam Claims the Temple Mount**

**By Robert Luthardt, Sr.**

Ezekiel's depiction of a war as devastating as the war of Gog and Magog could easily be the impetus for a powerful world alliance that finally establishes the Babel-like "New World Order" and the "One World Religion" (now forming). Both will allegedly strive for global peace and political stability (Ez. 37-39; Rev. 17). In the wake of this war and the resultant political crisis caused by Gog's defeat on the mountains of Israel, there would be a political power-vacuum. Add in the Rapture of Christ's Church and world turmoil would surpass past adversities.

Daniel's visions from God that predicted a coming powerful world government in the "latter time" or the "last end" (Dan. 8:19) will be ruled by that "man of sin" (2 Thes. 2:3). Since the Lord will have won a stunning victory for Israel (Ez. 39:1-5), there would follow a greater normalization of dealings between Israel and other nations but also with the coming autocratic ruler of the New World Order – the Antichrist. Note that he is not the Antibuddha, or the Antibrahma, or the Antiallah or Antimhammad, but the counterfeit Christ. Satan's enemy is God's only begotten Son Jesus Christ – the only true and living God (Matt. 26:63; 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14). This autocratic ruler's global policy after Gog's defeat would necessarily include concessions to a victorious and powerful Israel that honors Israel's God. What greater tribute could there be than to give approval to Israel's ancient desire to erect the third Temple on the Temple Mount (TM).

In the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of Daniel, a destroying "Prince" shall come (vs. 26) who initially will conclude a 7-year treaty of "peace" with Israel, but in the "midst of the week" he will commit the "abomination of desolation" (vs. 27; Matt. 24:15) and turn against Israel in fury. This necessarily requires a temple on the TM if sacrifices and oblation are to be forcibly suspended. Now, finally the Antichrist will have been positioned by Satan for world domination.

Radical Islamists teach that they alone possess the final divine revelations that supersedes those of Judaism, Christianity, and all other religions. Even though Islam inherited its monotheism from both, it rejects them declaring their holy book (the Bible) to be corrupted and completely lost. Jews and Christians are now considered enemies subject to violent deadly jihad: "Fight against ... those ... given the scriptures yet believe not in Allah nor the last day" (SURA. 9:29).

Regarding the Old Testament, Islamists teach that: "... the Jews repeatedly lost their revealed books ... and they distorted and perverted Allah's word and changed its meaning." Of the New Testament they teach: "By the time of Muhammad ... the books ... had either been lost or ... the true message ... perverted." One wonders how Islamists or anyone can know what was in "lost books" at least 600 years before their own movement even began.

What they did know was how to recast the Bible with numerous revisions that forced it to conform to Muhammad's visions and voices he claimed to hear. Supposedly Muhammad received his revelations mainly from the angel Gabriel.

The true Biblical account of the origin of the TM is the detailed record of Abraham's being sent to Mount Moriah by God's command to sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22:1-3). The Qur'an claims it was Ishmael and not Isaac. The Qur'an itself does not give the name of either son of Abraham but Islamic tradition and revisionism teaches it was Ishmael. The Bible declares that God made Isaac the exclusive inheritor of His covenantal promises to Abraham (Gen. 17:19-21).

The most radical revision of all, Islam changed the place of Abraham's sacrifice to 3 miles outside of Mecca (the hill "MINA" – Saudi Arabia). Jerusalem is not even mentioned once in the Qur'an which belies its supposed importance to Islam. Equally inexplicable, while Moses is one of scriptures most important personages, Islam has so elevated Muhammad that Moses is reduced to insignificance. Even David (Du'ad in Islam) and Solomon (Sulayman) are said to be Muslims which fits nicely with their modern teaching that neither of these Kings nor anyone else ever erected a temple on the TM – unrestrained revisionism at its most incredible.

Muslims are taught that even Jesus was a Muslim – a prophet in Islam – but inferior to Muhammad who is claimed to be Allah's final prophet. So, how did Jerusalem even gain any importance at all in Islam? Legend has it that Muhammad made a "night journey" to Jerusalem, and at some point, ascended bodily to heaven from the now domed "Rock" on the TM. This teaching eclipses God's Word as when Michael the Archangel contended with Satan for Moses' body (Jude 9), but more so with Christ's bodily ascension to heaven (Acts 1:9-11). When Muslims observe some Christians adding to scripture (the bodily assumption of Mary) why shouldn't they?

The Western wailing wall – important to Jews but disregarded in Islam – call the wall AL BU-RAQ because Muhammad "tied his horse there after the night journey." This historical revisionism is of 20 Century vintage especially after WWII when the U.N. Mandate granted land to Jews returning back to their God-given ancient homeland in the Middle East. This and other creative political concepts blossomed after the 1967 Six Day War that gave Israel political control of the TM. Islamic law makes it intolerable for Islam to be anything but the superior religion in previously conquered lands. Muslims are taught that Islam is to conquer the world and dying for this is their duty. After the 1967 Six Day War, the Jordanian custodians of the "Dome of the Rock" and the "AL AQSA Mosque" fled before the advancing Israeli Army. At the conclusion of hostilities, Israel was in full control of all of Jerusalem and the TM for the first time in 1,897 years.

After the Roman destruction in 70 A.D., the TM was governed by Roman authorities and when the Romans adopted Christianity (4<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.) the TM was placed under the control of professing Christian clerics. In 638 A.D., this was ended by a Muslim invasion of Jerusalem and remained so for 461 years.

The Crusaders reconquered Jerusalem (1099) for 88 years. Saladin's Muslim army took it back (1229). Another Crusade nearly retook Jerusalem causing the Egyptian ruler Malik-al-Kamil, who feared more crusades, to enter into a diplomatic agreement with Frederick II, the Emperor of the "Holy" Roman Empire. This agreement divided Jerusalem between Christians and Muslims but the Muslims were given control of the TM.

When the British defeated the Muslim Ottoman Empire in 1917 (WWI) control of Jerusalem fell under a British mandate which respected, in principle, the religious claims of all groups in the city but Muslim authorities were left in control of the TM.

Under British control, conditions improved in Israel and the Muslim population doubled to 1,200,000 yet, unjustifiably, Jewish immigration was restricted. The British Mandate ended in 1947, and in 1948 war erupted when Arab forces determined to destroy the tiny new State of Israel. Israel was victorious and Jordan's King Hussein signed an armistice that was to allow Jews access to the Western wall, but this was denied in practice and Hussein annexed Jerusalem in 1950. When the Israeli forces captured the TM in the 1967 Six Day War, General Moshe Dayan surprisingly allowed Jordan's continued custodial status over the Muslim TM "holy sites." Just as unexpected, Jewish police arrested any Jews who attempted to worship or pray on the TM.

While Jordan occupied Jerusalem, they did not ever consider the city or the TM in any way to belong to the Palestinians. They maintained exclusive rights to the holy sites on the TM. They did allow and even encouraged Palestinian terrorism against the Jewish population. When, however, Palestinian guns were aimed at the Jordanians by Yasser Arafat's intifada (civil war), Hussein retaliated with ferocity and massacres. That time is remembered by Palestinians as "Black September."

With millions of Christians, Jews and Muslims considering Jerusalem and Israel a land very important to their faith, it is no mystery why God moved Zechariah to record: "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people ..." (12:2-3).

The control of the TM has for ages been a tinderbox and who but God can say exactly when it will again explode into war. One thing seems most certain, the raising of the Third Temple by Israel on the TM is not likely under present circumstances.

Keep looking up.

<b><u>Chief Source:</u></b>	The Battle for the Last Days Temple
<b><u>Author:</u></b>	Randall Price
<b><u>Publisher:</u></b>	Harvest House – Eugene, Oregon

# Teach Me Your Way

By Nancy Long

Psalm 25:4-5 – *“Show me Thy ways, O Lord; teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day.”*

Psalm 27:11a – *“Teach me Thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path.”*

Psalm 105:4 – *“Seek the Lord, and His strength: seek His face evermore.”*

John 14:6 – *“Jesus saith unto them, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”*

## Teach Me Thy Way

Teach me Thy way, O Lord, Teach me Thy way!  
Thy guiding grace afford – Teach me Thy way!  
Help me to walk aright, More by faith, less by sight;  
Lead me with heav’nly light, Teach me Thy way!

When I am sad at heart, Teach me Thy way!  
When earthly joys depart, Teach me Thy way!  
In hours of loneliness, In times of dire distress,  
In failure or distress, Teach me Thy way!

When doubts and fears arise, Teach me Thy way!  
When storms o’erspread the skies, Teach me Thy way!  
Shine thro’ the cloud and rain, Thro’ sorrow, toil and pain;  
Make Thou my pathway plain, Teach me Thy way!

Long as my life shall last, Teach me Thy way!  
Where e’er my lot be cast, Teach me Thy way!  
Until the race is won, Until the journey’s done,  
Until the crown is won, Teach me Thy way!

Text and Music – Benjamin Mansell Ramsey

Those of us who call ourselves Christians, who have been born again, who are children of God, and followers of Christ ..... are on an exciting journey, a path that's been uniquely and perfectly designed for each one of us!! Scripture teaches, ***"I am the way, the truth, and the life!!"*** This is a fact! This is indeed truth!! If God ..... the Creator of all things, not only knows ***"the way,"*** but has also prepared ***"the way"*** ..... no questions need to be asked; we have our marching orders. Seek His leading. Follow, surrender, submit to the One who is complete in wisdom and knowledge ..... the Master Designer of everything!!

Benjamin Mansell Ramsey was born in 1849, in England. He was a well known local church musician and hymn writer, having introduced the aforementioned hymn, ***"Teach Me Thy Way,"*** in 1920, just three years prior to his death.

Evidently Mr. Ramsey understood that ***"teaching"*** is a process, and is learned gradually, over time, by way of desire, study, effort, and discipline, all throughout the pilgrimage of life. Some mistakes will inevitably be made in this lifetime pursuit. There will be wrong turns, bad roads that prayerfully we'll learn to avoid, continuing though, to pray for that willingness to be taught, constantly craving a teachable spirit. So states author Francine Rivers, ***"The choices we make each day set the course of our life. Whatever absorbs our thinking will ultimately control our actions."*** As a Christian then, it's imperative for us to walk in the light of the Lord, reading our Bibles, memorizing Scripture, allowing **His** ways to be the controlling force in each moment He gives. ***"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path"*** (Psalm 119:105).

***"Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps"*** (Psalm 88:6). No life is without its storms. Clouds come, rains fall, oftentimes by way of a soft, gentle mist, while at other times, so hard that it hurts ..... a challenging job, the ups and down of a marriage, a cancer diagnosis, an unexpected death of a loved one. Lord, teach me Thy way!! Please cause my walk to be cloudless, and clear of any impediments in each day You give. Your mercies are new every morning! Your grace is sufficient!!

Yes, praise the Lord, we are saved by grace, through faith; it is the gift of God (Eph. 2:8)!! We are now children of the Almighty! However, after this miraculous transformation, each of us needs to be taught **God's ways**, forgetting our own. Please, Lord, grant me eyes to see! ***"Until the race is won, until the journey's done, until the crown is won ..... teach me Thy way."***





## **Battle Hymn of the Republic**

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord,  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword—  
His truth is marching on.

*Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah!*  
*His truth is marching on.*

I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps,  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps—  
His day is marching on.

*Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah!*  
*His truth is marching on.*

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never sound retreat,  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;  
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on.

*Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah!*  
*His truth is marching on.*

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;  
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,  
While God is marching on.

*Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah! Glory! glory, hallelujah!*  
*His truth is marching on.*

*Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.*

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**WRITE TO US!**

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**Upcoming Events!**

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM
Friday Night Youth Group	7:00 PM