

# SCOTTISH PROTESTANT VIEW

FREE

CELEBRATING THE 450th ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE REFORMATION IN SCOTLAND

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Editor: Mr Jack Bell



## NO HEAD OF THE CHURCH BUT CHRIST

NO SACRIFICE  
BUT  
CALVARY

NO AUTHORITY  
BUT THE  
WORD OF GOD

NO GOING  
BACK TO  
POPERY

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# The Wiles of Popery

“Do not believe everything you read in the newspapers” is an old adage worth bearing in mind today, particularly with regard to the Pope and the Vatican. The Vatican has a very sophisticated press corps, and it would be surprising if it did not engage in ‘spin’; it has the money and the resources to mount such operations. Roman Catholics are omnipresent in the media. A recent headline in the Daily Telegraph declared that “spiralling costs leave the Pope’s visit to Britain in disarray”; that doubts are increasing over the schedule, and that events might have to be scaled down. It is said that the original invitation extended by Gordon Brown was made with a view to shoring up the Labour vote in Scotland, which no doubt was part of the original plan, from the then Prime Ministers point of view. But the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church in this country are too canny to allow themselves to be used by anybody for their own ends. If the Vatican decides the Pope is to visit Britain it is for its own purpose and no one else’s. However, it may be encountering difficulties at the moment, particularly as a consequence of the paedophile scandal which has universal repercussions. The purpose, therefore, of the recent press exercise seems now to be to play down expectations in order that when the visit takes place it will be considered a greater success than expected.

However, what the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church have in mind should not be the concern of the monarchy or the British people at large. It can be shown from history that the wellbeing of the nation, and the aims and objects of the Roman Catholic Church are inimical. The British nation has prospered and been blessed ever since the Reformation. Her greatest achievements and the extension of her influence and power all flowed from that event. We ought never, as a people, to forget that fact, for if we do we have no future: “Them that honour me,” says the Lord, “I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed” 1 Samuel 2:30.

Our government and nation would do well to keep its distance from the papacy and the Roman Catholic Church, which are fatally flawed for many reasons, not least as a consequence of the imposition of celibacy upon its clergy. We have recently shown how such a system is contrary to Scripture and fraught with danger. Roman Catholicism is counterfeit Christianity. It may superficially seem to be the genuine thing, but it is flawed; just as a piece of counterfeit currency appears to be genuine but in fact is not. It speaks the language of Christianity, but it gives it a nuance and an import that are not true to the Biblical message. As our Lord warned: “Many shall

come in my name, saying, I am the Christ; and shall deceive many” Matthew 24:5.

It is time to remind ourselves that we are a Protestant nation with a Protestant throne. We have a glorious heritage. The Lord has been gracious to us as a people and has delivered us from our enemies when they sought to swallow us up. But if we continue as we are now - negligent, unthankful, unholy, unmindful of God’s blessings, then we shall suffer the consequences. We are already beginning to see the baneful influence of secularism in the breakup of families and the fragmentation of our society. Worse must follow if we continue in our present course, and forget the great blessings of God bestowed upon us by giving us a Protestant Church and a Protestant Throne. Let us recall at this time the words spoken to the Queen at the Coronation when the Bible was presented to her: “Your Majesty, we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing this world affords. Here is Wisdom, here is the Royal Law; these are the lively Oracles of God.” May we never, as a people, depart from that Constitutional position. There is still time to repent of our wickedness and neglect of God’s holy Word and Commandments. But formally to countenance and endorse popery would be to seal our own fate.

## SPURGEON ON ANTICHRIST

C. H. Spurgeon, who was often referred to as the “Prince of Preachers”, stated in a sermon these memorable words:-

“Moreover, I have noticed, dear friends, that when we ask for any deliverance as for Christ, we may pray very earnestly against an evil without any bitterness mingling with the prayer. It is the bounden duty of every Christian to pray against Anti-Christ, and as to what anti-Christ is no sane man ought to raise a question. If it be not the popery in the Church of Rome there is nothing in the world that can be called by that name. If there were to be issued a hue and cry for anti-Christ, we should certainly take up this church on suspicion, and it would certainly not be let loose again, for it so

exactly answers the description.

“Popery is contrary to Christ’s Gospel, and is the anti-Christ, and we ought to pray against it. It should be the daily prayer of every believer that anti-Christ might be hurled like a millstone into the flood and sink to rise no more. But if we can pray against error for Christ, because it wounds Christ, because it robs Christ of His glory, because it puts sacramental efficacy in the place of His atonement, and lifts a piece of bread into the place of the Saviour, and a few drops of water into the place of the Holy Ghost, and puts a mere fallible man like ourselves up as the vicar of Christ on earth; if we pray against it, because it is against Him, we shall love the persons though we hate their errors: we shall love their souls though we loathe and detest their dogmas, and so the breath of our prayers will be sweetened, because we turn our faces towards Christ when we pray. We are to pray for Him”.

### Latest news on the Pope’s four day itinerary

#### Thursday 16th September

When the Pope arrives in Britain he will go firstly to Scotland, where he will be received by Her Majesty The Queen.

#### Friday 17th September

On day two he’ll be in London, celebrating Roman Catholic education, meeting members of other religions, meeting the Archbishop of Canterbury, and giving an address in Westminster Hall.

#### Saturday 18th September

Day three will also be London-based, celebrating Mass in Westminster Cathedral, greeting the people of Wales, visiting a

home for older people, and taking part in an open-air prayer vigil.

#### Sunday 19th September

The final day he’ll be in the West Midlands, to beatify Cardinal John Henry Newman, and meet with the Roman Catholic Bishops of England, Scotland and Wales before returning to Rome.

Pray that either the Lord will stop the visit, or help us to make it a gospel opportunity.

# PLANNED PROTESTS AGAINST THE PAPAL VISIT 2010

## Papal visit: Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland

*Statement regarding the Proposed Visit  
of the Pope to the United Kingdom*

We must express our dismay and sorrow at the proposed visit of Pope Benedict to the UK. We regard his claim to be the Vicar of Christ on earth as false and eternally ruinous to those who are deceived by it and who put their trust in it. We hold no ill will to the Roman Catholic community. On the contrary, we desire their highest and everlasting good in being brought to faith in the 'one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus' (1 Timothy 2 v5). Only in this way can any of us go to Heaven instead of Hell. We consider this proposed visit to be a further instance of the United Kingdom turning from the true Biblical Gospel of Jesus Christ. We believe the Lord will continue to be against the nation until there is a general turning from our current love of false religions, unbelief and wrong morals to seek God's forgiveness through Christ.

It is the prayer of our church that God would bring about this change by his Holy Spirit.

Rev David Sutherland (Convenor)

## Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster plans Papal protest

Following the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland's decision to protest at the planned visit of Pope Benedict to the UK in September, the Moderator of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster, the Rev John Johnstone, speaking on behalf of the Church's Presbytery, affirmed that their denomination would also be protesting at the papal visit.

In his statement he said, "We publicly disassociate ourselves from and condemn those church leaders who will welcome and meet him ... as reformed evangelical Protestants we totally reject the arrogant and, more importantly, unscriptural titles and claims of the Pope. Those claims, historically viewed as blasphemous by Protestant churches, mean that his visit cannot be viewed as simply pastoral." (*News Letter*)

## Deceitful

**The Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland**, which at its recent Synod planned an official protest, reacted by saying: "**The decision to bestow state visit status on this occasion is particularly offensive. It gives the Pope that recognition and pretended legitimacy which he claims in opposition to the principles of the Reformation. We deny he is the 'Head of the Christian Church'... the Papacy is deceitful and unrighteous and the Pope himself connived in covering up international child abuse by Roman Catholic clergy**".

Whitehall flippancy about the visit was highlighted when a mid-ranking civil servant charged with planning the visit wrote e-mails in April suggesting the launch of 'Benedict condoms' and other distasteful ideas. The head of the Foreign Office team responsible, Anjoum Noorani, has now been given a formal written final warning and been banned from any foreign postings.

*British Church Newspaper*

## No Head of the Church but Christ No sacrifice but Calvary No authority but the Word of God No going back to Popery

By Mr Jack Bell, Editor

This year marks the 450th anniversary of the Scottish Reformation. Sadly, the Scottish people have largely forsaken their Protestant heritage and there is likely to be a warm welcome for the Pope when he visits Scotland in September. Cardinal O'Brien confirmed the Pope would arrive on September 16, the feast of St. Ninian. On his arrival at Edinburgh airport he will be driven to Holyrood Palace where he will be welcomed by Her Majesty the Queen. On leaving the palace he will be taken in the Popemobile through the streets of Edinburgh, eventually having lunch at the cardinal's home before leaving for Bellahouston Park in Glasgow to celebrate a public mass on the same night that his predecessor did this in 1982.

One has only to read statements in the media to perceive that the Church of Rome believes the visit to be a blessing to all of Scotland. Even although the original invitation extended by Gordon Brown may have been for political reasons, the Vatican's decision to accept is for its own purpose and no one else's. No doubt the event will be welcomed by church leaders and politicians and great pomp and hype will surround the carefully stage managed event.

Not all evangelicals will be agreed on how to oppose this visit and some might even consider that it ought not to be opposed at all.

Thank God for the opposition mounted by Pastor Jack Glass and members of Zion Baptist Church all the way from Buckingham Palace to Bellahouston Park back in 1982, not forgetting other groups from across the U.K.

Unfortunately at this time there will be opposition from those who have nothing in common with us, but leaving that aside, this is not the time to opt out but to raise our voices, not only from our pulpits, but also to confront it publicly.

We regard the Pope's claim to be the Vicar of Christ on earth as ever so blasphemous. We totally reject the arrogant and more importantly unscriptural titles and claims of the Pope, and reject the Popish sacrifice of the mass, it being injurious to Christ's one and only sacrifice, the alone propitiation for the sins of God's elect.

May God be pleased to pour His Spirit upon His Church in a great revival.

Hebrews 10:14 "But this man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of the throne of God"

Proverbs 7:24-27 "Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children and attend to the words of my mouth. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she has cast down many wounded yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death"

It is looking to Christ that saves, and the gaze that sanctifies.

# “WHY WE DO NOT REGRET THE REFORMATION”

**THE SUBSTANCE OF A SPEECH BY PASTOR JACK GLASS  
TAKEN FROM A TAPE RECORDING OF THE DEBATE**

*Editor's note: As this article is taken straight from a tape recording, there has been no attempt at literary style. Preaching style lacks the refinement of literary style but nevertheless, is sometimes more effective.*

I want to thank you all for this opportunity to come along to St. Andrews' University to address the student body. Now, you know the motion this evening is that this house regrets the Protestant Reformation. I want to say right away that I consider the Protestant Reformation a glorious revival, and the most glorious revival in the history of the church since the day of Pentecost. For the Protestant Reformation delivered this land from the bondage of the Church of Rome, which I do not consider to be a Christian church at all, for I would say with John Knox that the Church of Rome is the synagogue of Satan.

## **(1) IGNORANCE OF POPERY**

First of all let me say that I thank God for the Reformation because the Reformation delivered this land from the ignorance of Popery. Do you know that up until the time of the Reformation there were Roman Catholic Priests who believed that Martin Luther wrote the New Testament? Then of course, among the Bishops, there was hardly one who could preach a sermon. Read “The Satire of the Three Estates” by Sir David Lyndsey, and you'll find the R.C. Church lampooned there by Lyndsay because of its immorality and ignorance. Among the names of martyrs in St. Andrews, I notice the name of Thomas Forret who was brought before the R.C. Bishop of Dunkeld, Bishop Crichton, and accused of preaching once a week. The Bishop went on to suggest that Forret should only preach when he found a good gospel or epistle. Forret replied that he didn't know there were any bad gospels or epistles to which the Bishop replied that he'd never read the Old or New Testament. This was

the state of the so called Christian church of Rome at the time of the Reformation — the Bishops hadn't read the Bible. Naturally Thomas Forret was condemned to be burned but as the executioner was preparing Forret and searching him, he put his hand up Forret's sleeve and pulled out a copy of the New Testament, saying, “Here is the Book that's causing all the confusion in the Church of Rome.” Now that was the Word of God, and thank God I can say, let the New Testament loose and you will bring confusion again into the Church of Rome. What the Reformation did for us was this — it put an open Bible into the hands of the man in the street, who could read it in his own language, and see for himself the errors of the Roman Catholic Church. That was one of the blessings of the Reformation. John Knox, the great Reformer, said if any man could show him out of God's Holy Book where he was wrong, he would endeavour to put himself or the complainer right. Martin Luther said, “My conscience is captive to the word of God.” Now I recall some people saying that it is good for all Christians to get together today in this Ecumenical Movement. Of course this is to seek unity at the expense of truth as Ecumenism has no time for truth. If you read John 17, that famous chapter quoted by the Ecumenical Movement, you'll find there the words of the Lord Jesus Christ. He said, “Sanctify them through Thy truth, Thy word is truth.” The Bible teaches unity based on truth. Read the Acts of the Apostles. “They continued steadfast in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship.” It was doctrine first and fellowship second. So let's get our facts right, theologically. I'll have unity with the Church of Rome when that church returns to its original purity as when Paul wrote his Epistle to the Romans. Only then will I have unity with the Church of Rome. But today Rome has added certain pagan doctrines even since the Reformation. What about the immaculate conception

of Mary? Even Thomas Aquinas didn't believe in that and yet his church has that as a dogma today. We've heard a lot of things said about Calvinism tonight. Do you know that one of the greatest saints of the Church of Rome was St. Augustine and that John Calvin got his teaching from him? You read the writings of St. Augustine. You'll find too that Augustine got his teaching from the epistles of Paul. We've heard the doctrine of Predestination lampooned tonight. Well, the Apostle Paul taught that doctrine and you'll find it in Romans 9. He said of Jacob and Esau, “The children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand. Jacob have I loved, Esau have I hated.” So that's not the doctrine of John Calvin, that's the doctrine of the Apostle Paul which you can nickname Calvinism if you like. What did the Lord Jesus Christ say? “You have not chosen me but I have chosen you.” That's good Election doctrine straight from the Lord Jesus Christ, and he lived long before John Calvin. So you see one of the things the Reformation delivered us from was the ignorance of Popery. One of the main aims of the Ecumenical Movement is that of a counter-reformation. Notice how the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland is seeking to get rid of The Westminster Confession of Faith which says that the Pope is the Antichrist. Also if you read the section on marriage, you'll find that marriage with a Romanist is not encouraged because he is an idolater and not a Christian at all. In that same Confession of Faith we are told that the mass is injurious to the finished work of Christ. Thus, the desire for its removal. Today then we still see the ignorance of popery in their superstitious beliefs and their Mariolatry and Mass.

## **(2) IDOLATRY OF POPERY**

Then the Reformation delivered us from the Idolatry of Popery. Is it not idolatry for Roman Catholics to prostrate themselves in worship before the wafer god of their church and to believe that the very piece of bread is turned into the actual bones and nerves and divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ? That's the teaching of the Church of Rome. They also teach, of course, that the wine is changed by the priest into the actual blood of Christ. This is still Rome's teaching today as it was at the Council of Trent centuries before. Truly the Reformation delivered us from the Idolatry of Popery.

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### (3) IMPOSTURE OF POPERY

Then, thirdly, the Reformation delivered us from the Imposture of Popery. Do you know that when the Commissioners of Henry the VIII made an investigation at the Abbey of Hales they found a vial which was supposed to contain the blood of Jesus Christ but it was actually the blood of a duck that was renewed every week, and at that particular time of the Reformation the Roman Catholic Church claimed to have the parings of St. Edmund's toenails, St. Thomas' shirt and St. Thomas à Becket's penknife and boots. These were worshipped by the Church of Rome and even today you see Cardinal Gray running about with the bones of St. Andrew, so their superstition has not changed. What was it but imposture to state that if I could bring, before the Reformation, a gift to the Roman Catholic Church and lay it at the shrine of a saint, that if I could offer a tract of land to the Church of Rome the church would acquire merit for me in heaven. It is no wonder we call the superstitious hold that the Church of Rome has upon people pick-pocket Purgatory. Thus at the time of the Reformation you had a rich Church and a impoverished people. You will find that today in this world. You will find it in Spain where the Roman Catholic Church rules and in South America and you'll also find that the fastest growing Communist Party in Europe is to be found in Italy the heart of the Papacy.

### (4) IMMORALITY OF POPERY

The Reformation also delivered us from the Immorality of Popery. If you look at the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland

1513-1546 you will find the records of the legitimization of eleven of the bastard sons and three daughters of Cardinal Beaton, Cardinal Gray's predecessor. That's the so called Christian Cardinal a Cardinal that produced eleven bastard sons. Thank God the Reformation delivered us from the Immorality of Popery.

### (5) INTOLERANCE OF POPERY

The Intolerance of Popery is another thing that the Reformation delivered us from. A friend said to me that when I went to St. Andrews, I was to make certain that I would return again, because when Patrick Hamilton made his stand for truth there he never came back again. There is the Intolerance of Popery and even in this very area you'll find the spots marked where Patrick Hamilton, George Wishart, and Walter Myln were burned. Now Walter Myln was about eight-two years of age and they couldn't find one magistrate in St Andrews to pronounce sentence until they found some sycophant of the Church of Rome to do so. Thank God for Myln's last words. He said, 'You may burn me but out of my ashes shall rise a hundred more to preach the glorious teachings of the Reformation.' God answered his prayer. The Reformation delivered us from the Intolerance of Popery.

Do you know that we owe religious liberty in this land and the right of private judgement to the Reformation? Where is your religious liberty in Spain tonight? But thank God, because of the Reformation we can meet this way tonight. We can discuss these things and a Roman Catholic can preach what he wants and I can preach what I want. The Reformation also brought

forth this great truth of the Priesthood of all believers. You don't have to go to some mass-mongering priest to get forgiveness of sins, for the priest who forgives sins has got nailprints in his hands. I can go direct into the presence of God and since Calvary every Romanist priest has been on the Unemployment Exchange. If anybody wants to come to Christ tonight they can go straight to God through Christ and not through a priest who is a sinner himself.

These are my reasons for supporting the motion that I do not regret the Reformation and I'd just like to say this. You may say that I'm living four centuries too late but the truth of God is unchanged and unchanging and thank God there is one man here tonight, although he is in the minority, to speak God's truth in a day of ecumenical apostasy. The Apostle Paul said, 'Though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel, let him be accursed.' You must define, tonight, what is the gospel and Paul's gospel was the gospel of God's free grace while the gospel of the Church of Rome is the gospel of man's salvation through works. I prefer Paul of the New Testament to Pope Paul of the Church of Rome.

*We reprint this article from 1971 because it has a timely message. In 1982 John Knox and the Reformation were betrayed by the Church of Scotland as the Moderator welcomed the papal Antichrist beneath the statue of John Knox. Knox who called the Church of Rome the synagogue of Satan. Let us remind ourselves of the debt we owe to the Reformation and thank God for our deliverance in the 16th Century from the Pope's church.*

## PROTESTS AGAINST THE POPE IN 1982

Pastor Jack Glass and supporters from his church pursued the Pope around as he toured Britain. They protested against him in London (outside Victoria Station and Buckingham Palace and in Trafalgar Square), Liverpool, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Their theme for their protest was 'Exalt Christ not the Pope.' Despite the authorities' attempt to suppress the protests, a protest of one kind or another was made in all these cities. The Pope was denounced as the Antichrist by these faithful believers holding aloft their bibles. The protestors sang Christian hymns, quoted scripture and exalted Christ as Romanists and failed Protestants exalted the Pope. Attendances for the papal visit were lower than expected despite the lovely weather, i.e. only one tenth of the expected crowd appeared in Canterbury, and only 200,000 out of an expected one million appeared in Manchester, and that during a holiday. Even the crowd outside Victoria Station, London, was very poor on the day of the Pope's arrival. As you saw from press and T.V. Britain and other parts of the world knew that there was a church and Pastor in Scotland who would not bow the knee to the papal Antichrist.

*Scottish Protestant View June 1982*



# PROTEST AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010



On Saturday 22nd May, 20 members of Zion Baptist Church picketed the Church of Scotland at its Assembly on the Mound, Edinburgh. We held up placards with the words "How long halt ye between two opinions?"

The message above was to highlight the amount of time the Kirk has spent discussing same sex relationships and the Christian ministry, the outcome to be brought to a conclusion in 2011. The National Church has lost its moral compass which has been matched by our politicians.

We also protested against the Kirk's strengthening of ties with the Catholic Church. As reported in the Scotsman newspaper on Friday 21st May. "The two faiths, historically divided along sectarian lines, have taken what the Kirk has described as a monumental step in inter-church links by creating a joint-liturgy for the re-affirmation of baptismal vows. As a result, Scotland has the first Protestant church in the world to form such a bond with the Catholic Church".

The National Church has brought shame and disgrace upon itself by turning its back on its Protestant heritage. What hypocrisy for it to hold with the Catholic Church a Reformation commemoration.

Old Bunyan spoke about Lord Turn-about, My Lord Time-server, My Lord Fair-speech, Mr. Smooth-man, Mr. Facing-both-ways and Mr. Anything. We have lived to see his characters become alive in our day.

By the editor, **Jack Bell**



## Scots ecumenists celebrate 450th anniversary of Reformation

Scotland should look forward to the Church being united when it celebrates the 500th anniversary of the Scottish Reformation in 50 years time, the new moderator of the (Presbyterian) Church of Scotland, the Rev. John Christie has said.

"If you think this is dreaming an impossible dream then let me say this, the Scottish Reformation began with John Knox in Perth and it circled the globe," said Christie. He was speaking at a service in Edinburgh on 23 May attended by more than 1200 people to mark the 450th anniversary of the Scottish Reformation in 1560.

Christie referred to the "blinkered eye of tradition or the earplugs of sectarianism" which prevented Christians being one.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, the Rt Rev. Joseph Toal, read an extract from the Gospel of St John, said to be Knox's favourite piece of Scripture.

The presiding officer of the Scottish Parliament, Alex Ferguson, read out the account of the Scottish Parliament of August 1560 which approved the Scots Confession.

Local actor John Shedden, dressed as Knox, read extracts from the reformer's account of the martyrdom of George Wishart and the Scots Confession.

A week earlier, Scottish historian and Edinburgh University Professor Tom Devine and journalist Harry Reid asserted that there had been a "scandalous" neglect of the events of 1560 by the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland. (ENI)

# Edinburgh Ecumenical event marks “stations on our common journey”

*Ecumenists celebrate Edinburgh Conference 1910 and founding of Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity*

On Saturday 5 June, a conference entitled ‘Edinburgh 2010’, reflected on the hundred years since the World Missionary Conference at Edinburgh in June 1910, and the half-century since the formation of the Roman Catholic Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity.

Geoff Tunnicliffe, the World Evangelical Alliance’s international director, said that people look back to the Edinburgh conference of 1910 as the birth of the modern ecumenical movement.

Roman Catholic Bishop Farrell explained that the original Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity was formed fifty years previously by Pope John XXIII to allow representatives of the so-called “separated brethren” to join in the life of the second Vatican Council. He also emphasised the role of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity in helping bishops educated in what he called a dated “theology of exclusion” to move to genuinely ecumenical commitment.

Olav Fykse Tveit, general secretary of the World Council of

Churches, argued that the 1910 conference “brought a new dynamic into all of Christianity and raised the question of unity in evangelism”.

## DIFFERENCES REMAIN

Challenged by journalists regarding disparities in their different positions on the ministry of women and human sexuality, Roman Catholic Farrell told his audience, “that we are totally committed to finding the way forward together”. Tveit of the WCC emphasised shared concerns for common witness, the preservation of God’s creation, social justice and peace. Tunnicliffe recalled that a week previously many confessions were represented in Geneva as part of an ongoing, multi-lateral process to draft a Christian “code on conversion” detailing so-called ethical standards for evangelism. Edinburgh 2010 met 2-6 June 2010. Three hundred delegates from over 60 countries and over 50 denominations were invited.

*British Church Newspaper*

## PROTEST AGAINST ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE

On Wednesday 2nd June, 14 members of Zion Baptist Church picketed the above conference. We distributed our magazine, the Scottish Protestant View and held up placards and banners reminding the delegates that unity must be based on truth and not on ecumenical compromise. The Word of God tells us that there is “one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus”.

At the heart of mission and evangelism, reconciliation between God and sinful humanity can only be proclaimed on the basis of Christ’s mediation. Involve the Catholic Church and all kinds of mediators are then added undermining the true Gospel.

We picketed the final meeting on Sunday 7th June with placards and Gospel texts.



# Are You A Protestant?

I can imagine that many people who pick up this leaflet may find its title objectionable. If you are a Roman Catholic, then your first reaction will probably be to throw this tract away or tear it up. Others, too, will consider that the word “Protestant” carries overtones of something rather negative, inviting or involving divisions and stirring up antagonism. Of course, the term has been misused, and sometimes political concepts have dominated instead of the spiritual and moral elements of biblical Protestantism.

## 1. The basic meaning of the word PROTESTANT

The original sense of the word, however, emphasises a positive attitude, and derives from the Latin in which it denotes “Standing for a witness”, making a firm attestation of deep convictions. This is clearly revealed in the first recorded use of this word at the time of the 16th Century Reformation. At the “Diet (Council) of Spires” in 1529 a response was made by a group of German Christian princes to threats to their religions and territorial liberties. They declared, “We are resolved by the Grace of God to maintain the pure and exclusive teaching of (God’s) Holy Word... We protest that we, for us and our people, neither consent or adhere in any manner to the proposed decree in anything that is contrary to God, to His Holy Word, to our right conscience, to the salvation of our souls.” These men were the first designated “Protestants” and the title was subsequently given to those in any other European countries who benefited from and adhered to the great Reformation. Like Dr. Martin Luther such affirmed, “My conscience is subject to the Word of God, here I stand, I can do no other.” Historically then, a true protestant is one who believes the Holy Scriptures to be the true Word of God, and exclusively authoritative for Christian belief and behaviour.

## 2. The relevance of the term PROTESTANT

There have been so many changes in the last four centuries that it may be considered that this term should be buried in history, and its significance forgotten. But it has still a place in Britain today as Her Majesty the Queen declared herself to be a Protestant when she opened her first Parliament in November 1952.

‘I do solemnly, and in the presence of God profess, testify, and declare, that I am a faithful Protestant, and that I will, according to the true intent of the enactments which ensue the Protestant succession to the Throne of my Realm, uphold and maintain the said enactments to the best of my power according to law.’

On June 2nd, 1953, at our Queen’s Coronation Service in Westminster Abbey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, asked her the following questions:

‘Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel? Will you to the utmost of your power maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law?’

Her Majesty answered these and other questions by laying her hand upon the open Bible and saying: ‘All this I promise to do.’

A word which is given such prominence on important state occasions must have some meaning for today. You will see that its use is closely related to the Bible. In fact, at the Coronation the Queen was presented with a copy of God’s Word, and at the presentation the following words were used:

‘Our Gracious Queen, we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing that this world affords. Here is wisdom, this is the royal Law, these are the lively Oracles of God.’

## 3. The importance of being a PROTESTANT

While it is improper to contend for divisive terminology nothing can be more important than a right understanding of what apostolic biblical Christianity really is, and this was historically represented in early Protestantism. At the Reformation it was the discovery of the Way of Salvation taught in the Bible that gave men their love for God’s Word and which prompted their efforts to promote this teaching. William Tyndale suffered exile from Britain to provide us with an English Translation, which efforts resulted in his martyrdom. Many who distributed and purchased his New Testament treasured its truths so highly that they also were put to death as “Protestants”, because of their confession of faith in pure Bible teaching.

We would encourage you to read the Bible for yourself to find what God says about you and your relationship with Him. In summary its message runs, “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God”, there is no one who is righteous and good in His sight. But God is Love, and to show His Love He sent His Son, Jesus Christ to be the Saviour of guilty sinners. He lived a perfect life and died on the cross an atoning death to deal with sin, then He rose from the dead and now is exalted in heaven as the only Saviour. In the light of these truths you are encouraged to turn from your sins and to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.

This faith rests upon the reliability of the Bible, and so consistent Christians trust and receive the Bible as God’s Word, and such are true PROTESTANTS.

# Why no marking of the Reformation

LEADING Scottish historian and Catholic Tom Devine has said that the Reformation is crucial to Scotland's history and described as 'scandalous' the low-key way its 450th anniversary is being marked. Speaking in an interview the Edinburgh University professor said that 'two of the greatest legislative events in Scottish history are the Reformation of 1560 and the Act of Union in 1707.'

"The (300th anniversary of the) latter was almost ignored in Scotland," Mr Devine said.

"Now, there appears to be reluctance on the part of both the Scottish Government and the Church of Scotland to mark the 450th anniversary of the Reformation, which was an event which changed the face of this country and paved the way for a Scottish enlightenment and a new relationship with England. I think this is scandalous."

Rev John Christie, the new moderator of the Church of Scotland, said, however, that the Reformation 'is a very important event in our country's history and its importance will be recorded during a special session of the general assembly' which closed on Wednesday.

Archbishop of Glasgow, Mario Conti, who attended the recent general

assembly, also spoke of the importance of marking the anniversary of the Reformation.

"I believe that the Reformation anniversary should be marked and remembered because it was such an important event in the history of Scotland, and one which is not well understood," Archbishop Conti said. "As a Catholic archbishop, I can hardly say that the event should be 'celebrated' but I do believe that it needs to be better understood to recognise its impact over the centuries on the life of our country."

Mr Devine believes, however, that politicians in Scotland are concerned that a high-profile marking of the 450th anniversary could relate to Scotland's sectarian problems.

"Bigotry in Scotland is on the wane," Mr Devine said. "The Reformation in 1560 is part of our history and our culture. After the Reformation, the Church of Scotland came to control all aspects of life here—welfare, moral discipline, education. Why is the Church of Scotland not prepared to push the boat out and do something on a large scale to mark this great event in Scotland's history?"

*Scottish Catholic Observer 28.05.10*

# Dr Paisley hits raw nerve with church leaders

*Statement issued by the Evangelical Protestant Society of Belfast on 7 July:*

"By simply re-asserting his long-standing commitment to the mainstream historical Protestant position on the papacy, Dr Ian Paisley, now Lord Bannside, has hit a raw nerve with the newly installed Presbyterian Moderator, Rev Norman Hamilton, and Canon Ian Ellis, editor of the Church of Ireland Gazette.

Dr Hamilton's arguments, in particular, are weak. He says he will accept Her Majesty's judgment rather than Lord Bannside's. But would he not be better to reach his own judgment rather than rely on that of Her Majesty, who, although held in high esteem by us all, is far from infallible? A good starting point might be the Westminster Confession of Faith which reads, "There is no other head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ: nor can the Pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof; but is that Antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the Church against Christ, and all that is called God". (Chapter 25 para 6). Dr Hamilton would do well to ponder those words written by godly men in an age when truth was held in higher esteem than it is today.

Dr Hamilton is also wrong to compare the pope's visit with that of the Dalai Lama. Unlike the Pope, the Dalai Lama does not claim to be the Vicar of Christ or the spiritual and temporal leader of the world. It is the arrogance of such claims that renders any papal visit highly contentious."

*British Church Newspaper, July 2010*

# What a celebration!

'The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.' Proverbs 26:7.

This verse sprang to our minds as we read of the Church of Scotland's ham fisted attempts to celebrate the 450th anniversary of the Reformation in Scotland.

We must not call the eminent persons involved fools but the whole exercise strikes us as foolish, trying to compare two different things, the Reformation and the Ecumenical Movement, and pretend they are equal.

The Reformation was about separation from Rome, the ecumenical movement looks to reunion with Rome. Surely we cannot invoke the same Holy Spirit in

both processes. Rome is if anything more in error now than at the Reformation. The Holy Spirit that led Knox and Scotland to Scripture is surely not the same spirit that is leading the Kirk and Scotland away from it. This is taking the Lord's name in vain.

Scotland spent a shorter time under Rome's yoke than any other European country, according to Wylie. And now our beloved Scotland refuses to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made it free, and seeks to be entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Galatians 5:1. The Lord have mercy upon us.

*British Church Newspaper*

## THE PURITAN MIND

When God calls a man, He does not repent of it. God does not, as many friends do, love one day, and hate another; or as princes, who make their subjects favourites, and afterwards throw them into prison. This is the blessedness of a saint; his condition admits of no alteration. God's call is founded on His decree, and His decree is immutable. Acts of grace cannot be reversed. God blots out his people's sins, but not their names.

THOMAS WATSON

**ALL ARTICLES IN  
THIS MAGAZINE  
REPRODUCED  
AS EVIDENCE**

# Government has no plans to allow Roman Catholic monarch

The coalition Government has shelved controversial plans to overhaul the monarchy which would have allowed Roman Catholics to ascend to the throne.

Last year former Prime Minister Gordon Brown declared his intention to abolish the 309-year-old law that bans heirs to the throne from marrying Roman Catholics.

But now the new Government has declared that they have no plans to introduce any changes.

Mr Brown's declaration caused alarm among critics who feared that the move was part of a secularist campaign to abolish the Church of England's established status. Under the current law the monarch is

the Supreme Governor of the Church of England and the "Defender of the faith". This would have been jeopardised by any change to the rules on succession.

But Mark Harper MP, the Parliamentary Secretary for Political and Constitutional Reform, said in an answer to a parliamentary question: "There are no current plans to amend the laws on succession."

The 1701 Act of Settlement currently bans members of the Royal Family from either converting to Roman Catholicism or marrying a Roman Catholic, unless they agree to be removed from the order of succession.

Mr Brown's plans to overhaul the

monarchy were greeted with alarm last November. A group of senior MPs including former MP Ann Widdecombe, a Roman Catholic, warned that Britain's very identity as a Christian nation could be endangered by amending the Act. Many Roman Catholics said the Act of Settlement was not a particular concern to them.

The plan to reform the monarchy was proposed in a Private Members Bill by former MP Evan Harris. It also proposed to end 'primogeniture', where sons of the monarch automatically precede their older sisters in the line of succession. (Christian Institute)

*British Church Newspaper 16.07.10*

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# US Benedictine Monk confesses how he covered up abuse by priests

*"I did it because I thought the Papacy was ordained by God"*

A former Benedictine monk, now living in California, spoke on BBC Radio 4's Tiona Glover show on 5 June, and explained how for years he was a 'fixer' for the Roman Catholic Church in the US, where he helped cover up numerous cases of child sexual abuse by priests.

Wall was ordained as a priest, but after seeing at first hand how the Roman Catholic Church systematically covered up child abuse by priests, he left, now working as a lawyer for US firm, Manly and Stewart, specialising in canon law and bringing child sexual abuse claims on behalf of victims in the US courts.

He has been viciously attacked for his revelations by the Papal hierarchy, but another Benedictine monk who left the RC Church, Richard Sipe, said of Wall: "Patrick knows the system from inside - not just church law and the hierarchy, but the reality". The latest article on Wall's website is titled: "The Real Horrendous and Nefarious Crime? Not calling the Police", while in his latest book, 'The New Book of Gomorrah', Wall notes how in 1051 Peter Damian gave Pope Leo IX a detailed report

of child sexual abuse within the church titled, 'The Book of Gomorrah'.

After he was ordained, he became a 'fixer', his Benedictine superiors sending him to St. John's Abbey and College, Minnesota, where he had to sort out and 'smooth over' affairs between priests and nuns and various priestly embezzlements, some over \$100,000, besides child sexual abuse cases.

## SOLEMN

In 2007, he received an LL.M in Canon Law from the Cardiff University School of Law in Wales and is the author of 'Sex, Priests and Secret Codes', describing what he claims is 'the 2000-year history of sexual abuse in the Catholic Church'.

In his radio interview, he explained how he was assigned to the 'Seminary Sexual Abuse Response Team' a short time after making his solemn vows. "It was only after I took iny solemn vows that they began to tell me the sorts of things that were going on", he told Glover. He said: "I did as I was told because I was a company man. I believed the Papacy was ordained by God. I believed that what I was doing was in harmony with the work of the Holy Spirit. We had training in civil law and canon

law at the seminary but we were always taught that in the interests of the church, everything must stay inside and the police must never be involved, no matter how serious the crime".

## MONSTER

Wall added how child abuse victims were regarded merely as 'financial liabilities'. His role involved sending abuse perpetrators to other dioceses, always with a false cover story such as 'A has had a drink problem' or 'B has had some psychological problems'. Wall recalled: "The worst thing of all, which will haunt me for ever, is the anguished cries of parents who suffered enormous guilt when they were first told that the priests in the church, who they trusted, had been systematically abusing their children. Their screams of distress remain a burning image in my mind".

He added: "The Roman Catholic Church has been adopting exactly the same procedures for centuries. Child abuse has always been kept 'in house' and abusing priests are simply moved on to another parish where usually the abuse continues. Eventually I came out of the monster".

*British Church Newspaper*

## Two Iranian Christian Women Acquitted of all Charges

Nearly five months after releasing them from prison, an Iranian court has acquitted two women of all charges related to being Christians and engaging in Christian activities.

Iranians Maryam Rostampour and Marzieh Amirizad-eh Esmailabad were arrested on March 5, 2009 and detained on charges of “acting against state security,” “taking part in illegal gatherings” and “apostasy” (leaving Islam) under Iran’s Revolutionary Court system.

After nearly eight months, on Nov. 18, 2009 the authorities released them conditionally. Elam Ministries said the two women had fled Iran on Saturday (May 22) to an undisclosed location and were recovering. Another Iranian convert who was forced to flee his country said the court probably made a political decision.

“The government would not want them to stay in the country as heroes,” said the source, who requested anonymity. “It would be better for the government if they left Iran and didn’t become a positive example for the rest of the Christian community in Iran. Otherwise they would create a precedent of [Christians] who have not denied their faith, who have been acquitted and still live as Christians inside the country.” (*Compass Direct*)



Maryam Rostampour and Marzieh Amirizad-eh Esmailabad  
© Compass Direct

## URGENT APPEAL SUFFERING IN SUDAN

### War. Persecution. Hunger. Disease.

Two million dead. Five million refugees. The mainly Christian population of South Sudan suffered grievously during the brutal civil war (1983 - 2005), which completely destroyed the infrastructure of the South. Five years later, they are still in desperate need.

South Sudan is three times the size of Britain, and one of the poorest regions in the world. Attempts by the Islamic government of North Sudan to impose sharia law on the south led to two decades of civil war. Yet during the conflict, churches in the South experienced massive growth. In the North many congregations of believers were planted amongst unreached people.

Despite the signing of a peace agreement, Christians in the

South continue to endure insecurity and poverty. Those in the North, living under sharia, endure suspicion, discrimination and severe restrictions. Converts from Islam face intense pressure from family and community and are liable to various judicial punishments, including the death penalty, though this is seldom imposed.

And the future brings still more challenges for South Sudan. The year 2010 is expected to see a higher level than normal of the fatal parasitic disease kala-azar (transmitted by sand flies). In 2011, the South is due to vote on whether to become an independent country. Such a momentous choice is all too likely to bring instability or renewed conflict.

Contact: Barnabas Fund 0800 587 4006

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Hello Boys and Girls, I recently was in hospital for an operation on my hip and since then I have been living with my family while I recuperate.

So that I wouldn't need to climb stairs, a bed was brought into the sitting room for me and placed beside a window.

One night I noticed a spider had emerged from a small crack under the window sill. Needless to say I leapt out of bed, for all that I couldn't really leap, and my Grandchildren came to investigate. But, of course, Mr. Spider had got as big a fright as me and had retreated into the crack, and that night I couldn't settle until my bed was moved about six inches from the window so that the spider couldn't take a flying leap on to my bed!

Next morning he was back but because I was now a little distance from him I just lay back in bed and started to watch his movements over the next week or so.

He would disappear into the crack during the day but would appear at night, often sitting motionless but an odd

time coming down the wall a little. I thought to myself what a pointless existence, then I remembered that this little spider was part of God's creation and God makes no mistakes.

I then did a little research and found that spiders keep the insect numbers down and so help to keep God's balance, so maybe if my little spider hadn't been there in the home of my family, there would have been a lot more insects there.

Lots of Love from Mrs. Glass

P.S. My little spider hasn't been around for well over a week now so perhaps it has got rid of all the insects in that part of the room!

Also the bible tells us that spiders are even found in palaces so there must be insects there too!



# WOMEN'S VIEW

I am writing this article while recuperating from surgery to replace an arthritic hip and living in the home of my daughter and son-in-law.

It has been a slow and painful recovery and I have had a few "bleak" days. Just because we are Christians doesn't mean that we have pain free operations and recovery times, but because we ARE Christians we don't need to fall into the depths of despair of the unconverted. And during my most pain filled hours, although unable to pray, the thought was there in my heart that the Lord knows all about my circumstances and I could just leave it all with Him, and eventually the pain did pass. Then, of course, there is the comfort of knowing that the family of God are praying for you.

What helped me during that time was that I had been reading a book by Helen Roseveare who was a Missionary Doctor in the Congo and during the Congo Uprising, she and others, were attacked

and raped. She briefly mentions this in her book and of how the Lord brought her to the point of acceptance of what had happened to her, even although she may never understand why. I would never in a 100 years try to equate the pain after my operation with

**But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Isaiah 40:31**

what she suffered in the Congo, yet her words did help me to leave everything with the Lord.

And even in recent weeks when reading of the terrible plight of Christians in Eritrea I am quite ashamed at the few

times when I felt a bit sorry for myself. I know I have little to complain about.

One of things I have given thanks for is for a family who have been willing to take me in and look after me. In my parents' generation this was an accepted practice; the young looked after the elderly, and many a home had a granny sitting in the corner of the living room.

But nowadays families move away from each other, many even going sbroad, and even sadder is that some families don't even care about what happens to their parents. And at times its parents who don't care about their families. We live in a very selfish world. Yet the Lord put us into family units that we might love and care for each other. We have some wonderful examples of this in the Old Testament.

We cannot expect the unconverted to follow God's teaching, but we can set an example before them.

God Bless. From M. Glass

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