

John 7:10-13  
Rome Georgia  
April 26, 1987  
June 29, 2014

Opening illustration related to **Jn. 7:12**, quote from Donald E. Wilmond (National Federation for Decency) in his book, "**The Home Invaders**".

RE: the **PG** rating given to the Billy Graham's 1983 movie "**The Prodigal**" by the Hollywood crowd.

"When I use the term "anti-Christian" in this book, I don't mean that the elite in Hollywood and at the networks are merely apathetic toward the Christian faith; I mean that they are openly hostile toward it. I use it in the same context as a black would in speaking of the Ku Klux Klan as being racist, or as a Jew would in saying that Hitler was anti-Semitic.....An example of this hostility toward Christianity is found in the rating given the **Billy Graham movie "The Prodigal."**

When it came time to rate the film, Hollywood gave it a "**PG**," the same rating it gave "**Footloose**," "**Unfaithfully Yours**," and "**Terms of Endearment**."

**PG** means that **parental guidance** should be used in allowing children to view a particular film. **Parental guidance is usually applied to sex, violence, or profanity a film contains.** However, that was not the reason for the "PG" given Dr. Graham's film. **WHY, THEN, DID HOLLYWOOD GIVE THE "PRODIGAL" A PG RATING?** One person close to those who made the decision said that the PG rating was given because, **"PRE-TEENAGE CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE EXPOSED TO CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT THEIR PARENTS CONSENT."**

Christian values, according to Hollywood, are dangerous and no child should be exposed to them without their parents' consent....**NO FILM WHICH HOLLYWOOD HAS PRODUCED HAS BEEN GIVEN A PG RATING BECAUSE OF IT'S RELIGIOUS CONTENT. FILMS PROMOTING HUMANISM, HEDONISM AND MATERIALISM, NEED NO WARNING.** But films produced by Dr. Graham or other Christians are not treated in the same manner. "P. 22-3

The Home Invaders. (NOTE: 2014 Hollywood movie on **Noah** is PG-13 rated – but not because of its "religion".)

**Jn. 7:10-13** Re-read 12.

Indecision on the part of the **common people**. They all knew of Jesus, but they were undecided. However, they had to be careful because, **V. 13, "HOWEVER, NO MAN SPOKE OPENLY OF HIM FOR FEAR OF THE JEWS."** (the Jewish **leaders** of the day.) These were the ones who made the decisions for the masses, **these were the ones who determined what was right and wrong. These were the ones who "interpreted" the law of God in such an odious manner that Jesus referred to them as "whited Sepulchers."**

**Mat 23:27** **Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.**

Yet all of Israel was bound by the laws (**that these men had established**) to obey the decisions of these **powerful rulers**. **THESE MEN SHAPED PUBLIC OPINION, THEY DECIDED WHAT WAS AND WAS NOT SUITABLE FOR INGESTION BY THE MASSES, they revealed what they wanted to of the true law of God and concealed those aspects of it which tended to liberate rather than enslave.** These were they that were the "**Hired Help**" in **God's vineyard** and when the Vineyard owner sent His Son to claim the Vineyard that was His, the "**Hired Help**" sought to slay Him!

Matthew 21:33 ff. see 7:1 !

Mat 21:33 Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country:

.....

Mat 21:39 And they caught him, and cast *him* out of the vineyard, and slew *him*.

**READ 7:1** After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry (*Judea*), because the Jews sought to kill him.

Why? Because **He went against THEIR standards** (not against God's Law!)

**Those in a position to control the thoughts and lives of the masses tend to frown on anyone or any system which threatens their control.**

This is why Hollywood, the media, and certain so called educational associations **are so concerned about our children that they censor everything positive about Christianity from our children's ears.** After all, we certainly wouldn't want to confuse them with the facts!

**See: High school student is assigned gun control debate, look at what websites the school allows and bans" *article attached***

The public school system in the US is really the Government School. Controlling the masses means controlling what thoughts they are allowed to have. In Connecticut, the school is afraid of students learning anything that does not fit their "Template" (*can you say "Common Core"?*)

Such was the case of the Jewish leaders of the day. Many had been illegally put in office by the wicked king **Herod in order for his will to be done.**

**Some were truly Godly men but were intimidated by the thought that they might loose their social and religious standing in the community.**

**JOHN 12:42-43** "... Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *Him*, lest they should be put out of the synagogue;

**for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God. ."**

**JOHN 7:10**

This is why it was necessary for Jesus to enter the city **secretly**. There were those who sought His life, and though He came for the very purpose of giving His life, as He said in v. 8, "**My time is not yet fully come.**"

**JOHN 7:11**

Not everyone who seeks Jesus Christ seeks Him as their Redeemer. **Some seek Him for no other purpose than to heap ridicule and scorn upon Him and to destroy both Him and His memory from the minds of the people.**

**This was nothing new when The Only Begotten Son Of God chose to take upon Himself the mantel of flesh and to come and dwell among men as a man.**

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF HUMANITY THERE HAVE BEEN PLOTS DESIGNED TO THWART THE PLAN OF GOD FOR THE REDEMPTION OF MANKIND.

\*\*In **Gen. 3:14-15** God is speaking to Satan and pronouncing a curse against him.

**Here God tells of an enmity, a perpetual struggle, that will exist between Satan and the Woman and between their respective offspring, or "seeds."** The offspring of the woman was **Cain** and **then all of humanity** and then **Christ Himself** and **those who collectively form His body in this age**. The offspring of the Serpent includes the demon host who were corrupted by him and those whose "father" is the devil, ergo **John 8:44**. (Jewish leaders)

**Jn. 8:44** "Ye are of **YOUR FATHER the devil**, and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, for there is no truth in him..."

**Those mentioned in John 8 are the very ones of Jn. 7 who sought to murder the Lord Jesus Christ!** They had sold their birthright as God's chosen people and had chosen rather to follow the lying murderous ways of their adoptive father, the devil !

**IT WAS NO NEW THING WHEN IN Jn. 5:16 WE READ THAT THE JEWISH LEADERS SOUGHT TO SLAY HIM OR IN 7:1 WE READ THAT THEY SOUGHT TO KILL HIM.**

It was just one more attempt by the serpent and his host to thwart the plan of God. You need to understand that while Satan is very smart and has a good idea of what God's plans are, he does not have the whole picture.

**OPERATING ON WHAT HE DOES KNOW, HE HAS SOUGHT FOR THE PAST 6000 YEARS TO STOP THE ULTIMATE PLAN OF GOD FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE HUMAN RACE.**

Recognizing from what God had told him in **Gen. 3:15** THAT THE ONE WHO WOULD ULTIMATELY DESTROY HIM WOULD COME THROUGH THE SEED OF THE WOMAN, **SATAN SET OUT TO CORRUPT THE HUMAN RACE**, to see to it that there would be no true and pure line through which God might send the one who would "Bruise his head."

His first attempt had of course been the **corruption of Eve**.

**Then he went after the seed of the woman, Cain**, who slew his righteous brother, **Able**.

When this failed to stop God's plan, Satan then tried to pollute **the whole human race** by having his demonic host cohabit with women to produce a corrupted human race see

**Gen. 6:4**. There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown.

Here he almost succeeded because we read in **Gen. 6:5 - 6** READ

**Gen 6:5** And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.

**Gen 6:6** And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

It was **necessary for God to purge the earth of this monstrous race and to preserve the line through righteous Noah**. **Gen. 6:7-8** READ

**Gen 6:7** And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

**Gen 6:8** But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

- Satan tried again through the **tempting of Abraham**
- **and the corruption of Lot in Sodom and Gomorrah**
- and again in the **hatred that he engendered in the hearts of Joseph's brothers against him**
- and in the **persecution of the Jews at the hand of the Egyptians** and in his **attempt to slay the deliverer of the Jews, Moses**
- and in the **Egyptians pursuit of the Jew that led to the watery grave of his Egyptian seed!**

And as we **follow the seed of the woman through the seed of Abraham we see the constant assault against the people of God.** The **POGROMS of WWII** which were directed against the Jewish people were no quirk of history. **They were another deliberate attempt by Satan to destroy the seed of the woman!**

The **book of Esther** tells us of another **Hitler named Haman**, who, **2 millennium before the specter of the third Reich reared it's bloody head, hatched a conspiracy designed to rid the world of the Jewish race!**

WHY? Because his father knew that it was through this people that the Seed of the Woman would come and he has sought to stop the plan of God at every possible opportunity. After this, the **Assyrians** and the **Babylonians** and **empire upon empire of Satan's seed** have drawn themselves in dread array **against the people of God in order to thwart the plan or even upset the timetable of God and they have all perished and fallen by the wayside**

**BUT THE PLAN OF GOD AND THE TIMETABLE OF GOD MARCHES ONWARD AT IT'S APPOINTED PACE.**

**As Solomon wisely observed, "There is nothing new under the sun!"**

**Jesus is the worst thing to happen to Christianity in awhile. By Derek Penwell**

The NT accounts of Satan's attacks are mere echoes of his former efforts. The **attempt on the Christ child's life by Herod's murderous henchmen** was but a replay of a similar attempt by Pharaoh in Moses day. The **guilty verdict delivered against the innocent Christ** calls to mind similar incidents in the lives of Joseph & David when they too were persecuted though innocent.

The plots of the Jewish leaders to slay the Messiah were no different than those among Israel throughout its history who openly opposed the outworking of God.

**BUT ALL THE PLANS AND ASPIRATIONS OF MEN AND SATAN HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO NAUGHT!** When the Jew and the Gentile courts had convicted Jesus and sent Him to the death of Calvary,

When they were sure that their foe had been vanquished, **THEN THEIR TROUBLES WERE JUST BEGINNING!**

**Math. 27:62 ff.** "...ye have a watch; go your way, **MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN.**"

HOW MANY TIMES MUST SATAN HAVE UTTERED THAT OATH WHEN HE THOUGHT THAT THE CHRIST HAD BEEN DESTROYED!

- ❖ To his first servant among men in the person of Cain
- ❖ and to his demon host in **Gen. 6**
- ❖ and to the wicked men of Sodom and Gomorrah
- ❖ and to the tormentors of Israel throughout the recorded History of mankind.
- ❖ To Herod's soldiers as they slew the male babies
- ❖ **AND TO THOSE WHO DROVE THE NAILS IN HIS HANDS TO FASTEN HIM TO THE CROSS, MAKE IT AS SURE AS YOU CAN!!**

**MATT. 27:66** "So they went, and made the sepulcher sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch."

**Mighty soldiers of the greatest Empire in the history of man, setting a seal on the stone door that was meant to prevent the rising from the dead at the appointed time by the Creator of life itself.**

SATAN MADE IT AS SURE AS HE COULD, BUT THE PROBLEM WAS, HE COULD NOT MAKE IT SURE AT ALL!

**Don't let Satan gain a victory even for a moment in your life by intimating that this "Secret entry" by Christ into the holy city was because He feared death or the Jewish authorities. IT WAS BECAUSE JESUS FEARED GOD AND RESPECTED BUT ONE AUTHORITY, THAT OF HIS FATHER!**

SOME SOUGHT TO SLAY HIM. OTHERS SOUGHT TO SLANDER HIM. YET OTHERS WERE CONVINCED OF HIS GOODNESS - AND ULTIMATELY THEY WOULD BELIEVE ON HIM, **7:31** .

**Joh 7:31** And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this *man* hath done?

Where do you stand today? Who do you say He is. A good man or a deceiver. Oh, you say, I think He was a good man and not a deceiver. Do you? That is good. But if you think that, tell me what you think of this.

"I am the way the truth and the life, NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER BUT BY ME."

DO YOU THINK THAT HE MEANT THAT? HAVE YOU COME TO THE FATHER?

## Jesus is the worst thing to happen to Christianity in awhile.

**By Derek Penwell** (Derek Penwell is an author, editor, speaker, and activist. He is the senior minister of [Douglass Boulevard Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#) in Louisville, Kentucky and a lecturer at the University of Louisville in Religious Studies and Humanities.)

Want to know how I know?

I got another anonymous letter sent to me today. Actually, it wasn't a letter at all; it was a (Chick) tract. Turns out, they still make those. (Which makes sense, because who hasn't been confronted by a second rate black and white cartoon carrying the grim warning of impending damnation, then fallen down in a tangle of wayward limbs and humiliated repentance?)

The title of this magisterial work of theology? *Reverend Wonderful*.

In it our protagonist, the sardonically named, Rev. Wonderful (Haha!, Get it? 'Cause he's really not "wonderful?") enjoys the untempered adulation of the adoring masses. He's introduced as the "most loved man in America.

So what makes the "Reverend" so "Wonderful," so nationally beloved and respected? He's theologically liberal, of course. (Because, you know, all the famous preachers are liberals. They all have megachurches and television empires and political machines.)

Unfortunately, though, it's precisely his theological liberalism that leads God to run Rev.'s sorry butt back through the pearly gates and cast him "into the lake of fire forever."

So, you might be wondering just what is this liberal poltroon's great sin against God and the Christianity on behalf of which this tract offers its voice? What has consigned the Reverend to eternal perdition? Why, it's his preaching, of course. Just listen to the evil spewing from his mouth:

"Yes, God cares about souls, but He [sic] also cares about **SOCIAL JUSTICE** ... the **poor and needy!** We must **UNITE** to fight ignorance and bigotry" [emphasis in the original].

**That's right. R.W. gets crosswise with God because he can't, as Stephen Covey suggested, "keep the main thing the main thing." Instead of spending his time out hawking Christian bumper stickers and waylaying the unsuspecting with the middle school aesthetic of evangelistic tracts in an effort to "get people saved," he foolishly pays too much attention to "the poor and needy!" No wonder God has to ice the guy! I mean, come on. All that soft-hearted liberal Jesus-y stuff be damned.**

The tract I received in the mail today represents, admittedly, a somewhat caricatured version of Christianity. But let's be honest, it *is* a popular version of Christianity--one in which following Jesus' commandments about doing "unto the least of these" is seen as a distraction from the true thrust of Christianity, which has to do with making certain that people believe the right things and that they allow Jesus into their hearts. The inescapable irony in this dismissal of tending to the needs of those on the margins is that when Jesus talks about judging those who will "go away into eternal punishment," he

never mentions as a reason for their condemnation any failure to “ask Jesus into your heart.” Instead, when Jesus speaks most powerfully about sitting in judgment on the nations, he reserves his ire for precisely those who fail to care “about **SOCIAL JUSTICE ... the poor and needy**” (see Matt. 25:41–46).

**So, back to my original assertion: Jesus is the worst thing to happen to Christianity in awhile. He has a way of completely screwing with a popular view of Christianity in which what’s thought to be important is the finely calibrated modulation of the individual soul, rather than the “works righteousness” involved in actually living like Jesus said to live.**

**Jesus can’t help but be a disappointment to Christians who would rather not be bothered with the world God created -- the one with traffic jams and dirty socks, with ballet and waterfalls, with love and generosity, with the poor and needy -- than with the one to which they’ve been promised platinum membership passes at some future eschatological reckoning.**

No, if you’re committed to a Christianity in which God is opposed--decidedly, angrily, cast-you-into-the-eternal-lake-of-fire-forever opposed--to any ecclesiastical effort to “**UNITE** to fight ignorance and bigotry,” the Jesus you find caring for the poor and needy in the Gospels is going to pose an insuperable obstacle to your Christianity.

The Reverend Wonderful would never say it (because apparently, he’s too inoffensively nice), so **I** will:

**Jesus is the worst thing to happen to Christianity in awhile. But I suspect the poor and needy are just fine with that.**

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From a **Newspaper article** the week of 6/18/14 - y [Joshua Riddle](#) on June 18, 2014 in [Education](#)

A high school student in Connecticut is accusing administrators of political censorship after the school restricted access to conservative news outlets and websites while allowing students to visit liberal sites.

Andrew Lampart, a student at Nonnewaug High School in Woodbury, Connecticut, was assigned an in-class debate on gun-control during his “Law & You” course. While preparing for the debate during study hall Lampart logged onto the school provided Internet and found out that students were forbidden from visiting **The National Association for Gun Rights** website or the news outlet **TheBlaze.com**.

“I used my study hall to research gun control facts and statistics. That is when I noticed that most of the pro-second amendment websites were blocked, while the sites that were in favor of gun control generally were not,” Lampart told *Campus Reform*.

The school’s **SonicWALL** internet filters also block the **Connecticut GOP** homepage, news organizations like **Townhall**, **RedState**, and political action committees like **SarahPAC.com**, categorizing them under the Political/Advocacy Groups restricted web pages.

However, the school's firewall allows students to access the homepage for the gun control group **Moms Demand Action**, the **Connecticut Democrat Party**, **Center for American Progress**, **Planned Parenthood**, **NARAL**, and the homepage for **Hillary Clinton**.