



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

ON TARGET



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The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: *"Money in its widest sense is the lifeblood of society. In so far as men are independent of money they live, as it were, directly. They see around them the whole furniture of nature: the seasons, the ups and downs of weather, the forces of water, light and air, the soil and its properties and so on. It is through an appreciation of his place in nature and by his response to the stimulus of the natural order that man develops and expands in contact with 'reality'; and he does so because the pressure of events forces him into an understanding of and co-operation with (natural) law. He is in a Baconian world where the forces at work become inductively utilised to his own human needs.*

"But when he is obliged to work, not for subsistence, but for the money to obtain subsistence, he is no longer in a real world with its inescapable and accepted (natural) law. He is in an artificial world, a 'myth' world, created according to certain abstract ideas; and with this he has no part, no kinship."

– "Human Ecology: The Science of Social Adjustment" by Thomas Robertson, 1948

TEXTBOOK CHANGED AFTER B'NAI B'RITH COMPLAINTS by Betty Luks:

Christians will be interested to know the Melbourne textbook publisher, Pearson Education Australia, has agreed to bow to a complaint by the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission and amend a Social Studies: Year 7 textbook. The textbook, according to the *Australian Jewish News (AJN)*, July 13th, 2001, "claims that 'Jewish leaders' convinced the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate that Jesus was a danger and were thus permitted by Pilate to crucify Jesus."

The B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission director of research, Mr. Benseon Apple protested to the publishing company because, "for almost two millennia the anti-semitic canard that the Jews crucified Christ" was promulgated by the church and used as an excuse to denigrate, deride and discriminate against Jews." The publishing company has been suitably chastened and "has already made a correction to the electronic version sold on CD and will amend the textbook when it is reprinted shortly."

Mr. Apple went on to complain, "It is most unfortunate that high school students using your textbook should be confronted with one of the most unhistorical and offensive claims ever advanced." The new version has been prepared for the "Council of Christians and Jews" by Dr. James McLaren of the

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School of Theology at the Australian Catholic University and will describe "Jesus of Nazareth as a Jew who engaged in public ministry of teaching and healing and who was crucified by the Roman governor of Judea, Pontius Pilate."

Does Dr. James McLaren mean that Jesus was of the Jewish faith or does he mean Jesus was a native of Judah? It is not clear what he means. Nazareth was in Galilee. Galilee was politically entirely separate from Judea, under its own Roman tetrarch, and, according to Jewish authorities, stood to Judea in the relationship of 'a foreign country' – Douglas Reed, *Controversy of Zion*. Christians might like to put pen to paper and ask Dr. McLaren just what does he mean?

There will be quite a number of passages of New Testament scripture with which the gentlemen from the B'nai B'rith will have problems, so, can we expect further complaints from them?

PSYCHOPOLITICAL SMEAR WORD: There are claims the gentlemen from the B'nai B'rith have made with which politically and historically aware Christians would also have problems. The first is the psychopolitical smear-word 'anti-semitic'.

What about the fact that modern Jewry has very little 'semitic' blood flowing through its veins?

Author Douglas Reed writes, "**No authority, Judaist or other, would support the claim to blood descent from Judah for the Jews of today.**"

Palestinians more claim to 'semitic': In fact, the Palestinians would have more claim to the racial description, 'Semite', than most within modern Jewry who are of Eastern-European stock and trace their lineage back to the ancient Asiatic kingdom of the Chazars. Reproducing a map from the *Jewish Encyclopedia* and quoting from it, Bernard Freedman, *Facts are Facts*, informs his readers what the Jewish authorities have to say about the Chazars (Khazars):

"A people of Turkish origin whose life and history are interwoven with the very beginnings of the history of the Jews of Russia... The kingdom of the Chazars was firmly established in most of South Russia long before the foundation of the Russian monarchy by the Varangians (855)... The chagan (king) of the Chazars and his grandees, together with a large number of his heathen people embraced the Jewish religion... (around 600-700AD). It was one of the successors of Bulan named Obadiah who regenerated the kingdom and strengthened the Jewish religion... The people were instructed in the Bible, Mishnah, and the Talmud..."

So much for the 'anti-semitic' smear-word, now for the other word that causes a lot of problems for the politically and historically aware Christian when referring to Jesus' background – the word 'Jew'.

THE WORD 'JEW' COINED IN 17TH CENTURY: There was no such religion known as 'Judaism' in the time of Christ's ministry and no such earthly being known as a 'Jew'.

In fact, neither was there such a religion as 'Christianity' during Christ's life on earth. That term was used for the first time after His death.

In 1954, Bernard Freedman of New York City, took to task, converted-to-Catholicism Dr. David Goldstein, LL.D., for loosely using the term 'Jew' when he should have known better. Portions of that letter are reprinted below. The wordy and lengthy letter was published in book form under the title *Facts Are Facts*:

"Incontestable historic facts and an abundance of other proofs establish beyond the possibility of any doubt the incredibility of the assertion so often heard today that 'Jesus was a Jew'. Without any fear of contradiction based upon the most competent and best qualified authorities all agree that Jesus Christ was not a so-called or self-styled 'Jew'. They now confirm that during His lifetime Jesus was known as a 'Judean' by His contemporaries and not as a 'Jew' and that Jesus referred to Himself as a 'Judean' and not as a 'Jew'.

"Inscribed upon the Cross when Jesus was crucified were the Latin words 'Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudeorum'. Pontius Pilate was the author of that infamous inscription. Latin was Pontius Pilate's mother-tongue. No one will question the fact that Pontius Pilate was well able to accurately express his own ideas in his own mother-tongue. The authorities competent to pass upon the correct translation into English of the Latin 'Iesus' Nazarenus Rex Iudeorum' agree that it is 'Jesus the Nazarene Ruler of the Judeans'. There is no disagreement upon that by them.

"During His lifetime here on earth Jesus was not regarded by Pontius Pilate nor by the Judeans among whom He dwelt as 'King of the Jews'. The inscription on the Cross upon which Jesus was crucified has been incorrectly translated into the English language only since the 18th century.

"Except for his few followers at that time in Judea all other Judeans abhorred Jesus and detested His teachings and the things for which he stood..." wrote Freedman to Dr. Goldstein.

"In Latin in the lifetime of Jesus the name of the political subdivision in the Middle East known in modern history as Palestine was 'Iudaea'. It was then administered by Pontius Pilate as administrator for the Roman Empire of which it was then a part. The English for the Latin 'Iudaea' is 'Judea'. In Latin 'Iudaeus' is the adjective for the noun 'Iudaea'. In English 'Judean' is the adjective for the noun 'Judea'. The ancient native population of the sub-division in the Middle East known in modern history as Palestine was then called 'Iudaeus' in Latin and 'Judean' in English... Who can deny that Jesus was a member of the indigenous population of Judea in His lifetime?" (Jewish authorities don't believe that Jesus was a native of Judea. Read Douglas Reed's comments further on.)

New Testament into Latin by St. Jerome: Mr. Freedman continued, "... The Latin quotations and words mentioned in this letter are verbatim quotations and the exact words which appear in the 4th century translation of the New Testament into Latin by St. Jerome. This translation is referred to as the Vulgate Edition of the New Testament... There is no factual foundation in history or theology today for the implications, inferences and innu-endoes that the Greek 'Ioudaios', the Latin 'Iudaeus', or the English 'Judean' ever possessed a valid religious connotation... During the lifetime of Jesus there was not a form of religious worship practiced in Judea or elsewhere in the known world which bore a name even remotely resembling the name of the political subdivision of the Roman Empire, i.e., 'Judaism' from 'Judea'. No cult or sect existed by such a name..."

"The eminent Rabbi Louis Finkelstein, the head of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America... in his Foreword to his first edition of his world-famous classic *The Pharisees, The Sociological Background of Their Faith* on page XXI states: 'Judaism: Pharisaism became Talmudism, Talmudism became Medieval Rabbinism and Medieval Rabbinism became Modern Rabbinism. But throughout these changes in name ... the spirit of the ancient Pharisees survives, unaltered...' The word 'Jew' did not come into existence until the year 1775. Prior to 1775 the word 'Jew' did not exist in any language. The word was introduced into English for the first time in the 18th century by the playwright Sheridan when he used it in his play "The Rivals" II, I... Shakespeare never used the word 'Jew' in any of his works, the common general belief to the contrary notwithstanding..."

Political or 'inter-faith' audiences: Douglas Reed, *The Controversy of Zion*, reinforces Freedman's claims: "Another paradox in the story of Zion is that in our generation Christian divines and theologians often insist that 'Jesus was a Jew', whereas the Judaist elders refuse to allow this (those Zionist rabbis who occasionally tell political or 'interfaith' audiences that Jesus was a Jew are not true exceptions to this rule; they would not make the statement among Jews and seek to produce an effect among their non-Jewish listeners, for political reasons)."

"The English abbreviation, 'Jew', is recent and does not correspond to anything denoted by the Aramaic, Greek or Roman terms for 'Judahite' or 'Judean', which were in use during the lifetime of Jesus. In fact, the English noun 'Jew' cannot be defined (so that dictionaries, which are scrupulously careful about all other words, are reduced to such obvious absurdities as, "A person of *Hebrew race*"; and the Zionist state has no legal definition of the term (which is natural) because the Torah, which is *the Law*, exacts pure Judahite descent, and a person of this lineage is hardly to be found in the entire world..."

Further reading: *The Controversy of Zion* by Douglas Reed; *The Thirteenth Tribe* by Arthur Koestler; *Facts are Facts* by Benjamin Freedman.

ISRAEL SHAHAK: ACADEMIC & GENUINE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGNER: We have received news of the death of Israel Shahak at the age of 68 years. A professor of organic chemistry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Mr. Shahak became known to League supporters through his book, *"Jewish History: Jewish Religion, the Weight of Three Thousand Years"*. His actions in defence of the persecuted Palestinians demonstrated he really did believe in "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". We acknowledge his passing with sadness.

ONE NATION AND GRAEME CAMPBELL by Antonia Feitz:

It's good to see One Nation has patched things up with Graeme Campbell because as the old saying goes, my enemy's enemy is my friend. It would have been a victory for the forces of political repression had the Party succumbed to the media demonisation of Campbell over his association with the Australian League of Rights. As his record shows, Campbell is and always has been his own man.

The media's hysterical over-the-top reactions to the League would be laughable but for the danger to free speech they pose. Had One Nation caved in, logically they would have to similarly distance themselves from anybody else who has had the temerity to address a League of Rights function. And that would be a lot of people by now.

Why should the Murdoch and Packer media hounds dictate with whom Australian citizens may or may not associate? Australia is supposed to enjoy freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. The test of such freedoms is to use them. The fact that people quail at the thought of addressing a perfectly legitimate organisation surely proves our freedoms are not all that sound.

The demonisation of the League has been so effective that not many Australians now know that many eminent people have addressed the League of Rights over the years. For example, a former Prime Minister Artie McFadden and the famous Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne Daniel Mannix both thanked the League of Rights for their work in educating people about the true nature of money. Other people who have refused to be intimidated include Lady Flo Bjelke Petersen, Sir Raphael and Lady Cilento, and former Senator Dr. Glen Shiel.

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