

One Mind

By

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In his Memorial Day address, May 30, 1925, Calvin Coolidge predicted the possible early rise of some great one to who would be sacrificed the precious heritage of liberty. He said, "The individual citizen, instead of working out his own salvation, and securing his own freedom, by establishing his own economic and moral independence, by his own industry and his own self-mastery, tends to throw himself on some vague influence which he denominates 'society' and to hold that in some way responsible for the sufficiency of his support and the morality of his actions."

Bishop Sheen, in a telecast of the recent historic visit of Pope Paul VI, made the statement, which no one dared deny, that the world is now seeking someone to whom men can look with adoration and to whom men can commit their lives.

In the Revelation of John there is a Prophecy concerning the organizations of nations who receive their authority from a central power, which John denotes as "the beast". "These have one mind, and they give their power and authority unto the beast. These shall war against the lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings; and they also shall overcome that are with him, called and chosen and faithful" (Rev. 17:13-14).

Both religiously and politically the world is rapidly shaping up towards a society that is under the power and control of one great corporate mind. Politically there is very little place left on the globe for a nation which loves freedom in the old sense of self-government by the people. The so-called democracies of the world are managed by an inner core of international diplomats and politicians so that the course of the national politics is governed not by the people of the nation but by the mass mind of world politics. Statesmen are bringing greater pressure than ever to bear in the direction of a world government with sovereignty over each individual nation. The so-called "peace moves" made by great personages and groups are designed to outlaw nationalism and bring our own nation under the heel of internationalism, under one all-powerful organization with total military and financial control.

This move to an international state is not something in the planning stages. It has been developing for decades and is now so near to the final completion that those who have studied it thoroughly consider it inevitable, a foregone conclusion.

The religious world is rapidly discarding the ancient beliefs and taking on a new form which will enable all religions to unite under one head with the support of the political power. Churches representing millions of people are in the process of merging, uniting and consolidating into single units, which can then be brought into the one religious organization. The news media, radio, TV and press, all rush to the support of this

‘ecumenical’ idea, to the exclusion of any voice which might question or oppose it. The result is a voluntary acceptance of political and religious conformity, until the masses “have one mind, and give their power and authority unto the beast.”

The Apostle Paul wrote that “The time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lust; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside unto fables” (2 Timothy 4:3-4). Such a time as Paul described was hardly possible until our own generation. It would have to be a time when there was some general agreement or consensus of opinion as to what is most likely to please men’s ears. It could not happen in a time of individual judgment, for then what soothed the itch in one’s ear might irritate the ears of his neighbor. It could not have been, during the Renaissance, for example, for there was developing a variety of ideas.

It would be a time when the value of an idea is not measured by truth, but by its acceptance by the masses, a time when an idea does not stand upon facts which it embraces, but upon the prestige of the committee, or the agency or commission or the institution sponsoring it. It would be a time when a man who takes a stand upon truth because it is truth is considered a fool, a time when to exercise private judgment brands a man with the stigma of bigotry and intolerance. Such a man is not only out of step and out of the mainstream, but more recently he is openly accused of an evil intent and held as an enemy to society.

Such a time has arrived when sound doctrine and truth are determined by the mass mind. Only in this way can men’s ears itch to hear the false ideas of those who are heralded – by the committee and the social group – as authorities. One becomes an authority only if a party or a committee or an institution grants him a title or degree: a sort of crown that signals him as the proper spokesman for the things the group is willing to hear. His authority is sought by all whose ears itch to hear his approval of what they already want.

Thus is created the mass mind, the “one mind” which gives power and authority to the beast. When the power and authority becomes total, over all nations of the world, then there will be ruthless regimentation of every individual. One cannot consider the direction of politics and religion without recognizing that such control is evident for the near future.

In view of these developments and the prospect of their culmination, each Christian needs to consider these three things:

1. The purpose of Satan is to counterfeit the work of God. As it is God’s purpose to bring man to **HIS IMAGE**, by voluntary faith in and obedience to His will, it is also Satan’s purpose to fashion man into his image, by a voluntary commitment to him. “And he deceives them that dwell on the earth by reason of the signs which it was given him to do in the sight of the beast, saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast...” (Rev. 13:14). We hear much about the “collective image” today.

The purpose of Satan is to create a mass image and have all people conform to it, religiously and politically.

Significant to this purpose was a surprising statement made by the representative of the Jewish group known as B'nai B'rith on a telecast October 4, 1965 on the occasion of the Pope's visit. This representative of the opposition to the person of Jesus Christ stated that he felt that the ecumenical movement (Catholic and Protestant) was "headed in the right direction." The direction is obviously one which allows all, believers and non-believers, Christians and pagan, to unite in one "religious" body. "And they worshipped the dragon" (Rev. 13:4). The Christian must resist conformity to the world, and seek the image of God (Romans 12:1-2).

2. This one mind in religion cannot be pigeon-holed as Roman Catholic, liberal, the ecumenical group, nor placed in any other box. It is found in almost all churches, large and small. It is found in many conservative groups who claim to be opposed to it, because individuals, while giving lip-service to their respective church doctrine, are generally ignorant of the basic purpose of God and the truths which He has revealed as the means of saving them. Having "membership" in a "New Testament" church does not prevent one from giving consent and support to the activity of the world which is forged by the mass mind. Consider the business man who attends an independent conservative church on Sunday, and on Monday attends the civic club which is governed by the mass mind, and which supports agencies which contribute to the "one mind." Consider the preacher who preaches against communism, but who continues to be a "hail fellow well met" by all men of the community who are bowing to the mass mind.

Even churches which exist for the restoration of the Gospel have become so sensitive to the mass mind that their theological beliefs are often developed along lines if the majorities view, in spite of scriptural evidence to the contrary. Tests are made to ones faithfulness to "restoration tradition" instead of to one's faithfulness to Scriptures.

3. But this threat of the anti-Christian mind should not frighten the Christian. The same scripture which predicts the reign of the beast also predicts his doom. His power and control is short lived, indicated as "one hour" in Revelation 17:12. His end will be marked with world convulsion, war ruin and the fiery destruction of all the ungodly. "The Lamb shall overcome them." And just as Satan's disciples share in his doom, the Disciples of Christ will share in His victory. "And they also shall overcome that are with him, called and chosen and faithful" (Rev. 17:14).

Christians are told to be of the "same mind", the "mind of Christ". The unity of Christians is not based upon the mass mind being preached to us through all the news media of our day, but upon the truth which God has revealed in His word – which the general masses reject. The only insurance the Christian has against satanic deception is his love of the truth and faith in Christ. Therefore we must be like the Bereans whom Luke commended because they "examined the scriptures daily" (Acts 17:11).

As the development of the one mind accelerates and the Christian finds himself more consistently alien to this world, he can rejoice that the climax is near, when the Lord shall return to deliver His people and gather them into the New Creation. There will be the true oneness of mind, a unity from which shall flow peace and righteousness for the redeemed, forever.

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