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—OPENING—
THE DOOR
**TO DESTROYING
CHRISTENDOM**

by

a Friend of Medjugorje

—OPENING— THE DOOR TO DESTROYING CHRISTENDOM

This short book has convicted and radically changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. It is made up of the first three chapters from the book Look What Happened While You Were Sleeping which was first published in 2007. This short book specifically discusses the reason the world is falling. It is the fault of Christians rejecting what God has called us to do. What started as the starting point, began decades ago as a little snowball rolling down a mountain, growing bigger and larger until it turned into a gigantic avalanche.

Liberty: the state of being free; freedom or release from bondage or slavery; freedom from arbitrary or despotic government, or, often, from other rule or law other than that of a self-governing community; freedom from external or foreign rule; freedom from control, interference, obligation, restriction, hampering conditions; ¹ Natural liberty consists in

the power of acting as one thinks fit without any restraints or controls except from the laws of nature. Natural liberty is only (lessened) and restrained as is necessary and expedient for the safety and interest of the society, government or nation. A restraint of natural liberty not necessary or expedient for the public is tyranny or oppression. ²

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No nation is great because it has grand buildings and cathedrals, or great cities, or mighty armies and navies. These are beautiful and impressive, and often necessary, but a nation with all these still may not be a great nation. A nation can be great only when the hearts of its people are good, and noble, and home-loving, and fair and just to others.

The *home* is the basis of a nation. A man who loves his home, no matter how humble it is, will

fight to protect it and his loved ones. The reason why the English-speaking people who came to America succeeded, and why the other colonizing nations failed, was because the Englishman, when he came to America in early colonial times, brought with him his wife and children. For them, he built a cabin home, and cultivated and learned to love, a patch of ground. The French and Spaniards did not do this, and so they failed. And that is why we speak the English language in America, because the English-speaking colonists made *homes* here.

'The homes of the people,' and not its grand cities and buildings and its armies and navies, are the safety of a nation. If the homes be right, the nation will be right; and if the homes be right, the great cities and the cathedrals, and the armies and the navies will be right; for with the homes right, the armies and the navies will never wrong other nations—they will protect not only

the homes of their owners but also homes in other lands.

The little, beloved *home* is the *real* basis of every nation that is great and good. ³

“I went to Washington the other day, and I stood on the Capital Hill; my heart beat quick as I looked at the towering marble of my country’s Capitol, and a mist gathered in my eyes as I thought of its tremendous significance; the armies and the treasury; the judges and the President; the Congress and the courts, and all that was gathered there. And I felt that the sun in all its course could not look down on a better sight than that majestic home of a republic, which had taught the world its **best lessons of liberty**. And I felt that if honor and wisdom and justice abided therein, the world would at last owe that great house in which the ark of the covenant of our country is lodged, its final uplifting and its regeneration.

“But a few days later, I visited a quiet country home. It was just a simple, modest house, sheltered by big trees and encircled by meadow and field, rich with the promise of harvest. The fragrance of the pink and of the hollyhock in the front yard was mingled with the aroma of the orchard and of the garden, and resonant with the cluck of poultry and the hum of bees.

“Inside the house were thrift, comfort, and that cleanliness which is next to godliness. There was the old clock that had held its steadfast pace amid the frolic of weddings, that had welcomed in steady measure every newcomer to the family, that had kept company with the watches at the bedside, and that had ticked the solemn “requiem” of the dead. There were the big, restful beds and the open fireplace, and the old family Bible, thumbed with the fingers of hands long since still, and blurred with the tears of eyes long since

closed, holding the simple annals of the family and the heart and the conscience of the home.

“Outside the house stood the master, a simple, upright man, with ‘**no mortgage**’ on his roof, and ‘**no lien**’ on his growing crops; master of his lands and master of himself. Near by stood his aged father, happy in the heart and home of his son. And as they started to the house, the old man’s hand rested on the young man’s shoulder, laying there the unspeakable blessing of the honored and grateful father and ennobling it with the knighthood of the Fourth Commandment.

“And as they reached the door, the old mother came with the sunset falling fair on her face, and lighting up her deep, patient eyes, while her lips, trembling with the rich music of her heart, bade her husband and her son welcome to their home. Beyond was the good wife, happy amid her household cares, clean of heart and conscience, the buckler and the helpmate of her husband.

Down the lane came the children, trooping home
after the cows, seeking as truant birds do, the
quiet of their home nest.

“And I saw the night descend on that home, fall-
ing gently as from the wings of the unseen dove.
And the old man, while a startled bird called
from the forest and the trees thrilled with the
cricket’s cry, and the stars were swarming in the
bending sky, called the family around him and
took the Bible from the table and read the old,
old story of love and faith. He then called them
to their knees in prayer, and the little baby hid in
the folds of its mother’s dress while he closed the
record of that simple day by calling down God’s
blessing on their simple home.

“And while I gazed, the vision of the great
marble Capital faded from my brain. Forgotten
were its treasure and its splendor. And I said,
‘Oh, surely here in the homes of the people are
lodged at last the strength and the responsibility

of this government, the hope and the promise of this Republic.”⁴

Henry Woodfin Grady

What you have just read is sweet to read and reflect upon, as much today as it was 120 years ago. Sadly, what was just described is no longer the norm for the majority of American homes. And because it is not, our society, **the way of life** that Americans have always been blessed with and enjoyed, is rapidly vanishing. It is time we “awake” to the fact that the “war on terror” is not only beyond America’s borders in places like Iraq or Afghanistan, but that there are active plans to destroy the very soul of America from the inside out. And these plans are succeeding, much to the dismay of the majority of Americans who see, or at least sense, it happening, but do not know how to stop it.

With our society so ingrained in error, it often takes years of prayer to receive a grace to even gain the knowledge that a particular action or way of do-

ing something is not correct or according to God's Commandments. Prayer leads to change, as well as coming to the recognition that God must give the grace to make the change. This writing is the result of following Our Lady for over two decades through Her messages of Medjugorje, and in this one writing, you benefit by advancing quickly, even immediately, in what took years of prayer to discern. Pray to the Holy Spirit, on your knees, before reading. Open your heart. Ask for wisdom of all things written and left unwritten, that the Holy Spirit may fill you with grace, enlightenment and action.

Beginning in 1992, for the past fifteen years,* literally millions of prayers have been prayed per year through "The Seven Novenas for the Reconciliation of Ourselves, Our Families and Our Nation Back to God," inspired by the apparitions that took

* This was originally written in 2007. A Friend of Medjugorje's writings often relate to the future, even prophetically, which becomes apparent in the present when one realizes the date it was originally written.

place at Caritas in the Bedroom and Field,* and spread through Caritas of Birmingham. This year, and the coming years, are more crucial than ever to be praying for our nation. For the thoughtful, for the prayerful, for discerning hearts, it is very obvious that not only our nation, but also many nations are at a crossroads. Decide for God, and He will decide for you. Decide against God, and He will decide against you. Our Lady said:

March 18, 1996

“...Do not reject from yourself the name of God, that you may not be rejected...”

It is clear that Heaven is placing the earth under a mandate, through the apparitions of Our

* At these two sites and on Caritas grounds, over the past 32 years as of 2020, there have been more than 204 apparitions of the Virgin Mary to Medjugorje visionary Marija Lunetti. The primary site of the apparitions has been in the Bedroom of a “beloved home” with over 149 apparitions in this room, which is the heart of a group called the Caritas Community, similar to the first Christian communities 2,000 years ago. The Field was consecrated to Our Lady for the conversion of our nation. The two sites are connected in that the Bedroom represents the family, “the home”, and the Field, our nation. We cannot hope to heal our nation without first healing the family home. Our Lady has come to convert and heal individuals. Individuals make up families. In turn, converted and healed families bring peace to nations, thereby bringing peace to the world.

Lady, Queen of Peace, in Medjugorje. It is a full confrontation and accounting to God before Whom we stand. Everyone must answer, no matter what religion, culture or nation they are from. We must make a choice for God or against Him, not with our words but with our very lives. How we live out the Christian life determines if we have truly decided for God or not. Living for God, we are accepted. Those nations following God's precepts preserve themselves. Those who do not, destroy themselves and God withdraws, giving them over to themselves. It is not God's desire, but rather man himself who repeatedly banishes God until God gives in, regretfully, and says, "*As you wish.*" Without recognition of God's sovereignty over homes, nations and all society, man then begins to destroy all future security for himself. In essence, he tears himself apart without realizing how it came to be.

This writing was begun during Holy Week of 2006. On Good Friday, just as the above para-

graph was finished, a fax came in of the words the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, spoke during the Good Friday Stations of the Cross at the Coliseum in Rome. The spiritual subject of this writing was already determined and begun. The Pope's words echoed what had just been written above. As the Good Friday Stations began with Pope Benedict, Archbishop Angelo Comastri, who accompanied him, said:

“‘Sin’ is self punishment; it carries its own retribution. A few texts of Jeremiah clearly make this point: ‘They went after worthlessness, and became worthless themselves... your wickedness will punish you, and your apostasies will convict you; know and see that it is evil and bitter for you to forsake the Lord, your God; the fear of me is not in you.’” Jeremiah 2-5, 19⁵

The Archbishop read on, clearly applying this Scripture to the present time in which we are living.

“Isaiah,” he said, “is equally insistent.”
“(Your) iniquity shall become for you like a break in a high wall, bulging out, and about to collapse; its crash comes suddenly, in an instant; its breaking is like that of a potter’s vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly that among its fragments not a sherd is found...”* Isaiah 30:12–14 ⁶

The Archbishop continued:

“Let us listen again to Jeremiah...” ***“They acted shamelessly, they committed abominations, yet they were not ashamed, they did not know how to blush.”*** Jeremiah 6:15 ⁷

If you are tempted to think this doesn’t reflect the Pontiff’s view of society today, it was the Pope, himself, who took what the Archbishop read at the beginning of the Stations and applied it to

* Sherd is a variation of the word shard which is a fragment of a pottery vessel found on sites where pottery-making people have lived.

today, clearly stating that we are living in a satanic society. At the third station, Pope Benedict said:

*“We have lost our sense of sin! Today a slick campaign of propaganda is spreading an inane (empty; void) defense of evil, a senseless cult of satan, a mindless desire for transgression, a dishonest and frivolous freedom, exalting impulsiveness, immorality and selfishness as if they were new heights of sophistication.”*⁸

If you are in agreement with Pope Benedict and your thought is that many people are wicked, dishonest, impulsive, and selfish but, as Pope Benedict stated, “they” can’t see it because society is so sophisticated, then you must also accept what the Holy Father stated at the beginning. “**WE**’ have lost our sense of sin!” We, you, are a part of it. Is your thought, “Not me”? Are you honest in all things? In your work, you never lie? You never set unclean things before your eyes? You are never frivolous in your freedom? You never allow filth

in your homes? (The more your sensitivity of sin grows, the more you will recognize that newspapers in your homes are filled with filth.) Do you work on Sundays? Do you go to restaurants, service stations, grocery stores, paying your money to others to work for you on Sundays? Do you think it is no big deal when in the Book of James, God's Word says when you break one commandment, you transgress all of them?

You don't kill, but if you are angry with your brother or do not forgive someone, then you kill. Christians no longer are startled by filth because they rationalize away their own "little" sins. They have become desensitized to grave sin.

Remember, human nature tells us that when ancient Israel was first attacked by the Assyrians, they blamed and faulted the Assyrian's wickedness and schemes. In time, though, they realized it was their own transgressions against God's laws that led God to allow the Assyrians to attack. Parallel

this Biblical example to what happened on 9/11. Everyone blamed the terrorists, and on a human level, rightly so...but who is asking the question, why did it happen? Why did so many factors work to the favor of the enemies to our nation? Are our lives distinctly pleasing to God? We are blind if we believe that all the wickedness befalling our nation has nothing to do with us. Do we not believe we violate the Sabbath by going out to eat on Sundays, or filling stadiums for sports events on Sundays? Is it only a minor violation? If, at least, we admitted it, *“I’m doing wrong. I’ll confess this sin,”* then perhaps we could spare ourselves many of the woes we now suffer from. But instead virtually everyone, all Christian, Catholic, Baptist, Methodist, Assembly of God...all denominations, including pastors, priests and bishops, are in denial that what we are doing is wrong, carrying on as if to say, *“It’s nothing. So what!”* By Christians not acknowledging these violations, it is the very **denial** that is the major sin. It is why our society has grown insensitive to sin and

will continue more so until we admit sin for what it is. Be true before God. Our Lady said:

July 25, 1996

“...decide for conversion, that your life may be true before God, so that in the truth of your life you witness the beauty God gave you...”

Where is the beauty of today’s society? Of the beloved home? The greatest crimes taking place today are from Christians who deny sin! This Sunday, count how many people stay in their pews at Communion time.* How many are staying in their pews with a sensitivity of sin and will not bring damnation upon themselves by receiving the Eucharist unworthily? Then look around the Church and count how many go to receive the Eucharist, nearly 100%. Include yourself in that number. How can that be when on any given Saturday only

* Several denominations, such as Catholics, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Orthodox, and Eastern Rite Christians, and even a growing number of Protestant congregations abide by Scripture, *“Whoever eats My body and drinks My blood unworthily, eats and drinks damnation upon themselves.”* — meaning when one receives Holy Communion, one must be in a state of grace.

a handful of people show up for Confession? Or in regard to Protestants, those who have not repented of their sin? No one sins anymore? No, it's rather that few Christians actually recognize sin any more.

“Therefore, whosoever, shall eat this bread, or drink the chalice of the Lord unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and of the blood of the Lord...For he that eats and drinks unworthily, eats and drinks judgement to himself.”

1 Corinthians 11:27–29

We have become blind to our own transgressions against God and no longer recognize the *filth* in our midst. Blind hearts and blind intellect blinds all wisdom. There must be a sweeping revolution, in fact, *two revolutions*. This word, “revolution,” is not just something being stated flippantly as one may hear on a TV or radio talk show, but rather, if we and our posterity are to have a future, it cannot

be unless we undergo, *literally*, two revolutions in our near future.

* * * * *

Why were the Assyrians allowed to attack and destroy ancient Israel? Sin is the reason. Why have unbelievers, today, been allowed to get in positions to turn our laws upside down, destroying our nation? Sin is the reason. The unbelievers are in offensive positions. We, Christians, find ourselves in defensive positions. It is ludicrous that individual States have to pass amendments to defend marriage! We are fighting from a defensive position! The fact that we are having to pass amendments testifies against *us*, not the unbelievers. They, like the Assyrians, are being allowed in such positions. All authority is from God, and we have lost authority over wickedness. We do not have the power to do as an exorcist does, ordering the demon to leave the body. We try and instead, the demon recognizes

our powerlessness, and simply says, “*No*,” convulsively laughing at our weakness, weakness that has manifested because of our weak living of God’s Commandments. The godless proudly parade their unmentionable and illicit lifestyles that cannot even be described in these writings, their abortions, their decadence, all the while imposing them forcibly upon society as the norm, flaunting in our faces that “*You cannot stop us!*”

Many have answers as to what needs to be done to cure our nation but are at a loss as to why we cannot bring these changes about. It is as if an invisible wall is stopping us. Yes, prayer, as Our Lady tells us, is the way that leads to change, but that will not work while we continue in our own sin and its denial. The history of the Israelites proved that. Our Lady also said in regard to making prayer effective, that “**...you must change the direction of your life...**” March 25, 1990. Not acknowledging sin and denying sin leads us in the wrong direction.

Living the Commandments is not simply stating, “*I keep them.*” Living the Commandments is recognizing that often we don’t keep them, that we have broken them in our lives, and that we acknowledge that we have sinned against them. That is the road to waking up, which will lead to God rescuing our nation from its present course of suicide. The recognition of what sin is and being sensitive enough to repent and confess our weaknesses will lead us towards the right direction. That is what it means to keep the Commandments. Wisdom can then be obtained of how to gain authority over wickedness. The Book of John says:

“My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world. The way we

may be sure that we know Him is to keep His Commandments. Whoever says, 'I know Him,' but does not keep His Commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His Word, the love of God is truly perfected in him." 1 John 2:1-5

As the above Scripture shows, sin can be forgiven, but must be acknowledged. The first step to keeping the Commandments is to acknowledge the fact when we violate one. The obligation to keep the Ten Commandments did not end with the Old Testament, but in New Testament times it is still obligatory to obey the Laws of God. Our Lady said:

October 25, 1993

“...I love you and wish to protect you from every evil, but you do not desire it. Dear children, I cannot help you

if you do not live God's Commandments..."

There are not nine, but rather Ten Commandments. O Christian, acknowledge, repent, and start living the Commandment of the Sabbath: ***“Remember to keep holy the Sabbath Day,”*** or we, by our own accord, will doom ourselves. Our nation's future depends upon our recognition and acceptance of the following:

“Here, then,” said the Lord, “is the covenant I will make. Before the eyes of all your people I will work such marvels as have never been wrought in any nation anywhere on earth, so that this people among whom you live may see how awe-inspiring are the deeds which I, the Lord, will do at your side. But you, on your part, must keep the Commandments I am giving you today Ex 34:10–11...For six days you

may work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; on that day you must rest even during the seasons of plowing and harvesting Ex 34:21...*Take care to keep My sabbaths, for that is to be the token between you and Me throughout the generations to show that it is I, the Lord, who make you holy. Therefore, you must keep the sabbath as something sacred. Whoever desecrates it shall be put to death.”* Ex 34:12–14 (In New Testament times, violations calculate out in destruction of the family, divorce, the destruction of the home, the deterioration of society, oppression, the loss of peace, the taking of our private property, loss of other freedoms that are leading us to become more and more enslaved, and a state of overall restlessness amongst nations and peoples with non-ending prob-

lems. In essence—death. Read again the last line of the above Scripture: ***“Whoever desecrates it (the Sabbath) shall be put to death.”*** We must realize by the positive or negative actions of the laws of consequences, violations of God’s law results in adverse consequences, and continued violations result in destructive adverse consequences. The blatant denial of violating the Commandment of the Sabbath is the “root” reason for the desecration of our nation and others as well.) ***“If anyone does work on that day, he must be rooted out of his people. Six days there are for doing work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of complete rest, sacred to the Lord. Anyone who does work on the sabbath day shall be put to death. So shall (you) observe the sabbath, keeping it throughout***

their generations as a perpetual covenant. Between Me and (my people) it is to be an everlasting token; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, but on the seventh day He rested at His ease Ex 31:14–17...*Thus, then, shall it be: if you continue to heed the voice of the Lord, your God, and are careful to observe all His Commandments which I enjoin on you today, the Lord, your God, will raise you high above all the nations of the earth. When you hearken to the voice of the Lord, your God, all these blessings will come upon you and overwhelm you.”* Dt 28:1–2

America once lived and accepted this Commandment and the following was our lot.

(By living the Commandments) “*May you be blessed in the city, and blessed*

in the country! Blessed be the fruit of your womb, the produce of your soil and the offspring of your livestock, the issue of your herds and the young of your flocks! Blessed be your grain bin and your kneading bowl! May you be blessed in your coming in, and blessed in your going out!”

“The Lord will beat down before you the enemies that rise up against you; though they come out against you from but one direction, they will flee before you in seven. The Lord will affirm His blessing upon you, on your barns and on all your undertakings, blessing you in the land that the Lord, your God, gives you. Provided that you keep the Commandments of the Lord, your God, and walk in His ways, He will establish you as a

people sacred to Himself, as He swore to you; so that, when all the nations of the earth see you bearing the name of the Lord, they will stand in awe of you. The Lord will increase in more than goodly measure the fruit of your womb, the offspring of your livestock, and the produce of your soil, in the land which He swore to your fathers He would give you. The Lord will open up for you his rich treasure house of the heavens, to give your land rain in due season, blessing all your undertakings, so that you will lend to many nations and borrow from none. The Lord will make you the head, not the tail, and you will always mount higher and not decline, as long as you obey the commandments of the Lord, your God, which I order you today to observe carefully; not turning aside

to the right or to the left from any of the commandments which I now give you, in order to follow other gods and serve them.” Dt 29:3–14

Our nation cannot recover if Christians do not acknowledge the Commandment of the Sabbath and live it. The following is offered as solid spiritual direction of how to “live Sunday” as a Christian, because those who call themselves by that name no longer even know how. How do you live and keep holy and sacred the Lord’s Day in a secular world that has deeply infected and changed the Church of Jesus Christ? We are in a serious crisis and are enduring great sufferings due to this infection, which Our Lady has been trying to reveal to us over these past 25 years.* What follows has never been published and is one of the rules of the life of the Community of Caritas. It is how we came to live Sunday as a sacred day and the rich blessings

* See footnote on page 17.

that came upon us once we did. It is not called a “rule,” rather it is called “a way,” reflecting the way of life Our Lady has given to us since She asked for the community to be established in 1988.* She is, therefore, viewed as the Foundress of the Community of Caritas. “A Way” came to be written down in compliance with a request from the Bishop of the Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama. As the rule was written directly to the Bishop, the manner of speaking, in what follows, is expressed in a more personal nature, from myself to the Bishop.

* After an apparition in the Bedroom in December 1988, visionary Marija felt that Our Lady desired to see a community created here in Alabama. Since then a community has developed based on the living of Scripture and its understanding for today’s man through Our Lady’s messages.

From “A Way in a New Time”
The “Way” of the Community of Caritas
(“A Way” Rule #22)

Date Written: September 19, 2001*

Step by step, Our Lady has led us to a new way of life. Our Lady said in a public message** through Marija on January 25, 1987:

**“...behold, also today I want to call you
to start living a new life as of today...”**

This message surprised me, for I had watched the Medjugorje villagers praying for three hours a day, going to daily Mass, fasting, going to the mountains, praying in the middle of the night, offering novenas, and special penances. What could Our Lady mean by telling the villagers, “*Now, today, begin living a new life as of today?*” Had they not already been doing that?

* A Friend of Medjugorje was directed by the Bishop of the Birmingham Diocese to write down the Rule of the Community of Caritas. He writes to the bishop in the first person about the Rule.

** “Public” message here refers to the messages of Our Lady, Queen of Peace, to the visionaries of Medjugorje who receive the message to be passed on to everyone in the world.

But in time, I began to understand that Our Lady had just gotten the village at a point where they were praying and sacrificing enough just to get them where they would now have the strength to realize what She wanted conveyed from God. Our Lady said in a public message on January 25, 1995:

“...pray to have strength to realize what I am telling you...”

This message shows Our Lady wanted something more than just an addition of prayers and sacrifices in their lives. Our Lady said in a public message on March 25, 1990:

“...you must change the direction of your life...”

For us in community, we realized that it wasn't sufficient just to pray and sacrifice, we must live differently, not swept into the patterns of present society, but to seek God's will whatever the cost. Today, to be truly Christian is difficult. We began to realize Our Lady was

saying something else to us—that our lives must be true before God. Our Lady said publicly on July 25, 1996:

“...be true before God...”

We must live His Commandments if our lives were going to be true before God. Our Lady said in a public message on September 25, 1992:

“...In a special way he [satan*] wishes to destroy your souls. He wishes to guide you as far away as possible from Christian life as well as from the Commandments, to which the Church is calling you so you may live them...”

I began to realize that our life was not true before God; that as Christians, as community, we did not respect all the Commandments of God. We

* satan does not deserve respect or honor when references are made to him. Most of you have probably noticed for years we have not capitalized his name because we refuse to give him this honor or recognition. Why should the application of grammar rules apply to him who has an insatiable desire to be exalted, even above God? We refrain in our references and writings from giving him the same stature afforded even a dog's name. We are not radical in that we don't tell others they must do the same. It is up to each individual to decide for themselves. For the harm he has done to man, whom he despises, we will not grant him that which is even reserved for a dog's name.

thought we were, but four hours of prayer a day began to show me we were not true in our Christian walk. We began to realize to wear the title “Christian” meant something, “a way” of life different from the wave sweeping through all society, even all of Christendom. Yes, it was easy, very easy to rationalize away what crept up in my conscience, but four hours of prayer kept it there. It nagged and gnawed at me. My conscience bit me. My life in community wasn’t true before God. Our Lady said in a public message in 1985:

“...it is necessary to respect the Commandments of God in following one’s conscience...”

Our Lady made it clear. Our conscience must be formed on God’s Commandments. Then the properly formed conscience should be followed as God whispers to it. I would go to Mass on Sundays, then go to the service station to fill up my car. Sometimes we would go out to eat at a restaurant. I wasn’t going to work on Sundays, but didn’t mind paying someone else to

work for me. When traveling, I began to notice that the airports were full on Sundays, as just any other day—but didn't people have to eat? Did they not have to fly? The three prophets in the book of Daniel—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—willingly walked into the fire rather than bow down to an idol. The mother and her seven sons in the book of Maccabees* gave their life rather than eat pork. My conscience was challenging me. Was I so weak in my walk that I couldn't rearrange my life, my schedules, my itineraries, fill up gas on Saturday, to honor and respect God's Commandment? I wasn't even being asked to offer my life. I was only being asked to inconvenience myself. I dared not reveal this to the community; surely they would choke as I was. We loved going to get ice cream on Sundays. We worked hard all week for God! He understands. But my conscience rose up, incited by prayer, as well as the words Our Lady was saying in Her messages, and I

* The book of Maccabees is found in Sacred Scripture and was part of all Bibles since the New Testament origins. During the Reformation, the momentum went on to reject these two sacred books of Maccabees, among others, from Scripture. Nevertheless, they still are to be held "sacred" and holy writings by all Christians and are an aide in the Christian walk.

could not loose myself from it. My conscience repeated... **“Live my Commandments. Let your life be true before Me.”** I couldn't hide the truth, but it seemed such a small violation, and yet, the mother and sons in Maccabees gave their lives over such a trifle as simply not eating pork. Our Lady's words rang:

“...behold, also today I want to call you to start living a new life as of today...”

Her message kept ringing in my heart:

“...pray to have the strength to realize what I am telling you...”

I wasn't, as a Christian, true before God. I wasn't, as a Christian, being true to myself. Our Lady said on August 25, 2001, in a public message:

“...Be real with yourselves...”

If this caused agony in my conscience, what did the mother of Maccabees go through? I revealed to the community my conscience, which Our Lady was prod-

ding through Her messages. We didn't even know how to accomplish it. I had no spiritual philosophy. I prayed. Neither the community nor I wanted to become like Pharisees, but we knew most members of the Church were nowhere near fulfilling this Commandment, not even close, and we were riding the same wave. Everybody is breaking it or offering tokens in respecting Holy Sundays.

My first attempt of rationalization was “everyone's doing it.” I found myself in the state of New Hampshire at 6:30 a.m. on a Sunday morning at an airline counter. I had given a talk the night before. The woman behind the counter was wearing a wedding ring. I could tell by her actions, having come into work so early, that she was still in the rush mode. I asked her if she had any kids. She said yes. I asked her how many, and she told me two young ones. I said nothing more and walked away. Strolling through the airport, everything was open. I said to myself that if I stopped doing this on Sundays, the woman would still be behind

the counter, the shops and restaurants would still be open, the planes would still fly. So what is the difference whether I travel on Sundays or not? The voice of my conscious said, ***“You will have to stand in judgment before Me by contributing to it.”*** I was shaken, not so much by this voice in my heart, but by the realization that I had no more excuses to rationalize my actions, and it was at this point I committed to living this precept of God despite the cost.

I began to earnestly pray, slowly realizing that although some things we couldn't change immediately, there were other things we could. Some outside the community made sport of us in justifying themselves in continuing their way. We stopped visiting stores on Sundays. If we needed something, we would wait until Monday. It trained us to get what we needed on Saturday. No cappuccinos from Texaco and no filling up the gas tank after Sunday Mass. Buy ice cream on Saturday and have it at home. What to do about traveling? We immediately rearranged all flights. Our next

year's pilgrimage dates were re-adjusted. No flying on Sundays was to become "a way." Traveling by auto on a Sunday would be as far as we could go on a tank of gas that we filled up before midnight Saturday night. I was stumped about hotels on Sundays and really prayed what to do when we had to be somewhere over the weekend. After earnestly seeking, the answer came in prayer. *Mary and Joseph traveled. They stayed in inns. Do not place anyone in a position of having to work for us on Sunday. The room exists. It is there. There were certainly rooms at the inn on the Sabbath.* We learned to tell employees of hotels on Saturday not to clean our room on Sunday. We arranged not to check in or out on Sundays. If we had to leave on a Sunday night to drive to our next destination or home, we pre-checked out on Saturday night. On Saturday, we got extra towels. We fast on Fridays; it was, therefore, no big deal to fast on Sunday. Or we could buy what was needed beforehand and at most we ate a simple meal.

As soon as we began to “live Sunday,” some extraordinary things began to happen. My wife and I were in Jerusalem. On Saturday we went to Tiberius. On Sunday we were scheduled to take a bus to the dock to board boats on the Sea of Galilee, which would take us to Capernaum. How difficult it was and how badly we wanted to see Jesus’ hometown, but how could we violate what God had made so clear? We couldn’t. We decided to buy bread, olives, water, and cheese on Saturday. At Sunday dawn, we decided to walk. We saw the bus pass coming to pick up our group. We later walked by the dock as our group boarded the boat. We didn’t view them with any fault, for they had not been shown what God had shown us, so they could not understand any more than we ourselves did before our prayer life and Our Lady’s messages led us to this understanding. We could not pretend away what had been revealed to us, that God expected us to live this Commandment, as well as all the other Commandments.

While walking, we cut down to the shore of the sea. We walked and walked. We hopped rocks, passed streams flowing into the Sea of Galilee, got cut by grass weeds, passed grapefruit orchards, ate some off the ground. We remembered Jesus and His apostles doing the same, through reading Scripture and stories of the saints—the flowers, the smells, everything just as in Jesus' days. We trailed hour after hour. We saw the town of Magdala off in the distance. Tiberius became hazier in the background. Our Lady was gracing us. We felt a strange peace. We saw and were seeing the real Israel. We were off the beaten path, on the shore. We passed Magdala and had walked $\frac{1}{4}$ or more of the way around the Sea of Galilee. We wanted to make Capernaum, but began to realize that we would not be able to cover that distance in a day. We were tired and hungry, so we backtracked a little and climbed a mountainside above Magdala. There were flowers everywhere. We climbed into a cave to rest. We ate our humble meal. My wife fell asleep. The view to our right in the distance was

Tiberius, off to our left was Capernaum. At our height, the view and experience was worth more than words.

I opened the Bible to read. The page fell randomly to the book of John when Jesus was feeding the people near Tiberius. Afterwards, He retired to the mountain and told His apostles to wait for Him by the shore. They evidently became impatient, and took off and left. As they neared Capernaum, Jesus came walking on the water toward them. They thought He was a ghost. I looked up and could see Tiberius to our right then Capernaum to our left and the straight line Peter's boat must have traveled. I imagined Jesus coming back down the mountain to meet His apostles only to realize these characters actually left Him! Seeing the actual visual geography was a great grace. Jesus must have thought, "*What am I going to do with these guys?*" He must have been so tired that he used a little supernatural liberty and decided to walk in a straight line on the water rather than go around the sea to Capernaum. I didn't blame Him. We had just walked it in the daytime,

and if we could have walked on water, we surely would have done the same. It all seemed so humorous. It was an insight that we would never have understood from the Bible had we not walked, not lived our Sunday; an insight we would never have received from a boat or a bus. We left the leper's cave and made it back just after dark, having walked around 24 miles, receiving a memory of grace that we will never forget. Somehow, we knew if we had been on the bus and boat, we would have remembered little and we would have missed an experience of a lifetime.

I know not everyone could walk as we did, but that is what we chose to do. We could have just as easily stayed around the hotel, as anyone could have, to avoid placing others in a position of working for them on a Sunday. One might also think that walking 24 miles distance was work. It was not. It was prayer and grace-filled. My conscience was in peace.

A few have been agitated by our living this Commandment and often try to rationalize it away. We do

not sit in judgment of anyone else. After all, it took years of prayer for God to open our hearts to this. But it was in our heart to be held bound to that which God showed us in order for our lives to be true before God. Our eyes are not on anyone else, but on ourselves. We have to live it. It is our conviction that grace is increasing in the hearts of Christians, and that we must recognize that we are remiss in regards to living this Commandment. We, therefore, as a community, are to witness on behalf of this Commandment to all Christendom. The membership of Christianity must reconcile back to this Commandment.

Meanwhile, something extraordinary began to happen in the community once “living Sundays” began to root itself into our lives. The more we desired to fulfill the command of God by love, the more our experiences were touched by grace. Being raised Catholic, I can say I had never before in my life experienced the grace associated with living this Commandment. Why should I? I had never lived it. I didn’t even know a grace was

available. In doing it as “a way” of life, it was within six months that Sunday became an extraordinary day, filled with graces. One Sunday, when I first experienced this grace, I felt as though Sunday lasted for two days. Monday morning, as the community met, we all shared the same experience, “a day that seemed not to end.” One could easily believe this to be exaggerated, at least stretching it. But it is easy to unveil this truth by simply living this Commandment—not to test God to see if He gives the grace, but with a real commitment to live the Commandment. We certainly, on some Sundays, find that we have an “ox in our ditch” that must be rescued, but this reason is often used by Christians as a basis to unnecessarily “break” and “violate” this Commandment of God. There are life-sustaining necessities that still must be performed on Sundays, but buying food at the store or attending sporting events, along with 99.9% of all other activities where it is necessary to spend money or to work, are not life-sustaining necessities.

My son once went to apply for a job, and I told him to put on the application that he would not work on Sunday. He knew it might cost him the job, but he wrote it anyway. He was hired, even though Sunday was their biggest day. He was eventually made manager, and I was told by the owners that they had never had an employee to match him. He worked there six years and never worked a Sunday. We strongly believe that, again, if a family is martyred for eating pork, we must then be willing to lose our jobs and be thankful that we still have our lives. The dollar, food, or pleasures cannot be put in front of God.

Our Lady has taught us that infractions of this Commandment by Christians have allowed much of the great sins of our society. Can God answer our prayers to end abortion, ***“Thou shall not kill,”*** when we ourselves are breaking a Commandment? Is it not a wonder, after 35 years* of praying for an end to abortion that we haven’t been granted an answer to our prayers? It is

* See footnote on page 17.

because of our sins. The Israelites, after being defeated by the Philistines, decided to take the Ark of the Covenant out with them for the next battle, and they were defeated worse than the first time. A prophet among them revealed that they made the Ark weak by their sins. If one holy man, Elijah, closed the Heavens for three years and then opened them again by his prayers, why cannot hundreds of millions of people worldwide close off the womb to abortion and open it only to birth? Is not a baby worth more than rain? Are not hundreds of millions of people praying worldwide worth more than one man's prayer? God does not say he "might" answer prayer. God says, "***Knock and it shall be opened unto you.***" Thirty-five years of prayer and no answer? "***I say verily he who shall ask in my name, it shall be given unto him.***" As the Israelites were in sin and were no longer holy and were defeated, we also have been defeated repeatedly in rolling back abortions. But Christians respond, "*At least I am not committing abortion.*" The fact is Christians are praying to end something that they are contributing to. We learned by Our Lady that

we have been praying to end something that in front of God is contradictory. We stand before God saying, “O God, O God, please bring an end to abortion,” when all the time, we are in violation and guilty of breaking the law ourselves. James 2:10 states:

“Whoever falls into sin on one point of the law, even though he keeps the entire remainder, has become guilty on all counts.”

Verse 11 clearly shows James is speaking of the Ten Commandments—not eight of them or nine of them, but ten of them.

“For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not kill.” If, therefore, you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.”

It took Our Lady leading us to four hours of prayer a day to understand this. T. Manton was quoted saying, “It is satan’s custom by small sins to draw us to greater,

as the little stick sets the great ones on fire, and a wisp of straw enkindles a block of wood.” For abortion to end, there must first be a purification of God’s people, a return to honoring all the Commandments of God, before there can be a purification of abortion and other major sins. This is the reason, among other reasons, why Our Lady says, “**...pray to have the strength to realize what I am telling you...**”

We, who live Christianity today, are no longer a holy people. Our Lady wants you to be holy, to live holy, to change the direction of your life, to change and convict society. We are to be salt. Salt preserves that which is prone to decay. The meat (society) decays because the salt (Christians) has gone flat. We no longer have the convicting power of light. We do not live light, and darkness prevails. We must become children of light for the children in darkness. You must kill small sin in your life to kill big sin in the lives of others.

Two New York criminologists were studying how to reduce crime in New York. Down the street from their

precinct, two warehouses closed down. One was kept up, maintained, grass mowed, fence maintained. If a window was broken, it was immediately fixed. The second warehouse got a broken window and was not fixed. Soon five windows were broken, then ten. Soon the whole place was trashed, and a graffiti fence was torn down. The first warehouse needed only a broken window fixed every now and then, and then little work by comparison. The two policemen questioned and reasoned through what would happen if the police force became very strict on misdemeanors, fixing the small broken windows, placing severe fines on jaywalking and other minor violations? They convinced New York City to try, and when they put their theory into action, strongly penalizing misdemeanors, murder and other major crimes plummeted down 30%! If you cannot get away with jaywalking, you will never get away with murder.

Paralleling this to our situation today, the second warehouse represents Christians who are not walking the Christian walk. If we, as Christians, did the same in

living out our Christianity, just as the first warehouse was maintained, then many of the problems of society would go away. Regular maintenance of an empty warehouse kept serious destruction from occurring. The same can be applied to living Christianity. We, the believers in Christianity, need to fix our broken windows. We will never do away with the murder of abortion until we ourselves do away with the widespread violations of keeping the Lord's Day sacred and holy. We have learned in community from Our Lady that our broken window not being fixed, in regard to Sundays, has allowed all the other windows of God's Commandments to be broken. When we fix it, we can expect all the windows to be fixed, including abortion and other plagues of society. In our community, in living "a way" with Sundays, it has become by far the most favorable day of the week. We can say that all of us have experienced abundant graces that we did not even know were available to us. ("A Way" #22)

* * * * *

What you fix on Sunday, breaks on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We cannot renew our nation *until there is a revolution in Christendom to go back to living the Commandment of the Sabbath*, one of the founding principles of our faith. Only when this is achieved, will God reverse the woes sinking our nation. Society must be restructured by a Christian worldview to regain the favors of God. To help achieve the above in your own lives, we give some simple steps, added to those already mentioned. The following may sound simplistic because it is. Our Lady said:

March 25, 1997

“...you, too, can become true apostles of faith; when, in simplicity and prayer, you live faith ...”

Violating the Sabbath Commandment has complicated your life. Living it will result in simplifying your life. You may be only one person and

may think, “What difference will it make?” First, you won’t have to stand in judgement for contributing to the Lord’s Day being profaned. Secondly, you, as an individual, will make a difference as the numbers of Christians increase in honoring the Commandment of the Sabbath. Airports, stores, restaurants, etc., will decrease working on Sundays, as they need numbers to stay open to do business. As numbers dwindle, of those wanting service on Sundays, it will become less and less profitable for businesses to stay open.

Forming the Biblical Worldview to Restructure
Society in Order To Live the
Sabbath Commandment and Restore Society

1. Hospitals, doctors, nurses and other medical personnel can greatly reduce having to work on Sundays:

First, schedule serious surgeries with the longest recovery time on Mondays. The next most serious surgeries should be scheduled on Tuesdays, progressing through the week to the least serious and least recovery time needed scheduled on Thursdays and Fridays. Today, even some patients with brain operations are released from the hospital in two, three, or four days. This would greatly reduce the number of Sunday medical staff and begin a cycle of grace that we, in our Christian village here at Caritas, have already experienced by our living Sunday. It is, without a doubt, that we say God will collaborate with your efforts. He will restore people's health more quickly through grace. He will decrease the amount of emergencies on Sundays, which will happen simply because there will be less injuries caused by less traveling, sports activities, etc. There, of course, will continue to be emergency medical surgeries,

but these situations are the “ox in the ditch,” the exception, not the rule to follow. But, in general, a grace will prevail, that if you become serious in aligning your thoughts to live the Sabbath Commandment with action in structuring your life as best as you can, God will return a blessing upon you and your efforts, and keep many oxen out of the ditch for you.

2. As already stated, the more Christians live Sundays, the more traveling will diminish, which will diminish the need for emergency personnel, the service of the police, the need for service stations to be open, etc.
3. In service work, such as hotels, restaurants, construction, travel, wholesale/retail stores, manufacturers and other similar non-life necessity types of work, flatly, adamantly, unequivocally refuse to work on Sunday in your heart, but nicely inform your employer that

you can no longer, as a matter of conscience, work on Sundays. As a matter of conscience, they will have a hard time firing you. But, if you lose your job for keeping God's commands, by the positive action of the laws of consequences, something better will happen or be given to you. Sir William Blackstone, a professor of law in England within the same time period as America's Revolutionary War, called this "interposition." You do not give up something to stay loyal to God without something higher and greater replacing what you sacrificed. We've termed it "**the positive or negative action of the laws of consequences,**" which means because you lose your job for God's law, something of a higher plan will play out to your good, always! At the same time, there are also negative actions of the "laws of consequences." For example, if you willingly keep your job, now with full knowledge that you are in violation of God's law, a

negative consequence will result from your decision, no doubt, worse than when you did not realize the violation and addressed the situation in the first place. To whom much is known, much more is expected. Whether knowing or not knowing — the first results in negative consequences; the latter in more grave negative consequences. Presently, all of Christendom is suffering negative results from the violation of the Lord’s Day.

4. When you fill out an application for employment, write in extra remarks (if there is no space, add a sheet for writing) that you, as a matter of conscience, cannot work on Sundays. Remember, parallel this action in the other areas of your life. You must align your “matter of conscience” with actual corresponding “actions.” That means you do not shop on Sundays, or eat in restaurants or commit any other violation on Sundays,

no matter how inconvenient it may be.

What kind of witness would you be if your employer caught you out shopping on Sunday, while on your application you said you would not work?

5. What about farming? The Community of Caritas has an extensive agrarian operation that includes beef and dairy cattle, chickens, hogs, horses and sheep. Some of these are divided into other segments, such as steers being fed-out, bulls being raised for breeding, and cows raised for calving. To avoid work on Sundays, we feed double on Saturdays and arrange to do everything we can on Saturday to do the least on Sunday. Some of the animals, like horses, do not get fed grain on Sunday, but with extra hay or when on pasture they are not in want. With pure intentions almost all work can be cut out, even in agriculture.

If we've had several days of rain and then Sunday is the first dry day, dry enough to plow or harvest and rain is coming on Monday, we still do not work. As a result, we have experienced repeatedly positive actions of the laws of consequences with blessings in abundance.

Remember Exodus 34:21

“...but on the seventh day you shall rest: on that day you must rest even during the seasons of plowing and harvesting.”

Once we had hay in several fields. It was our lush, late spring cut; the best cut of the year. Saturday, the hay was not quite ready to bale. Sunday would be the perfect day to bale, but we knew we were not to work on Sunday, so we had to plan to bale Monday. By Saturday evening a strong chance of rain was forecasted beginning Monday morning. We

thought we couldn't afford to lose this much hay. Surely, God would not be offended if we went ahead and baled Sunday. Would God not see our ox was in the ditch? We needed every bale we could harvest to put us through the next winter. If we did not bale it Sunday, we might lose the crop. We had enough sound rationalization to say our ox was in the ditch, so that we could bale the hay, but in our hearts we said, "No, we must trust God." If we honor Him on Sunday, keeping the day holy, He will honor our Monday and preserve the hay. We placed our trust in Our Lady's intercession and did not even pray that it wouldn't rain, but only that God would take care of us because we honored His command.

We went through a beautiful Sunday and Monday came with a beautiful morning. Our hope in trusting God was invigorated, but within two hours after sunrise the storm

moved in and it poured and poured and poured. Thinking that God was testing our faith, we thought, “OK, we will just bale a lower quality hay Tuesday or Wednesday.” Tuesday it poured and poured and poured. Wednesday the same. We lost the whole crop. So much for positive action of the laws of consequences. But we kept good attitudes and said, “God giveth and God taketh away.” And did He ever taketh! Our best crop! Yet, we did not regret keeping the Commandment because Scripture stated clearly do not work on the Sabbath, *‘not even to plow or harvest.’*

With the rest of the cutting that summer something amazing began to happen. We normally get three cuttings. That summer we got five! Every crop was more than normal. We filled our hay barn with a harvest so full that we’ve never had so much hay since that year! We were faithful to God, and through

the positive action of the laws of consequences, God was faithful to us! We were so happy. We are convinced had we baled that crop that Sunday, we would have had far less hay in our barn from the rest of the cuttings, maybe even losing more to rain. We could have never imagined losing so much hay, only to end up with so much more than our need, ending up with a large surplus.

6. If you own a store, a shop, a restaurant, etc., you cannot be blessed when you require your employees to work for you on Sunday, and you entice your customers to sin against the Sabbath Commandment by patronizing your business. Chick-Fil-A is a fast food restaurant. They generally charge more than any other fast food restaurant. They have from the beginning closed on Sunday for the purpose of honoring the Lord's Day. At lunchtime, on the other six days of the week,

the majority of their restaurants are always packed. Some stores even cause traffic congestion at lunchtime because they are so packed. Without question, they are blessed.

What if you were the owner of a company that takes in \$100 million a year on Sundays alone. Imagine also that you owe several bankers a lot of money. Then imagine that you began realizing that as long as your stores were open on Sundays, you were not honoring God, and you were preventing your employees from being able to worship on the Lord's Day. How would you feel? Afraid? That's how David Green, a devout Christian, felt when placed in that exact situation, as the founder and CEO of the retail chain, Hobby Lobby, Inc.⁹ Hobby Lobby is the largest privately owned arts-and-crafts retailer in the world. It operates more than 300 stores in 27 American states. It opens a new store about

every two weeks. There were many challenges God placed before Green to measure his business practices according to the ways of God instead of the ways of the world. However, closing his stores on Sundays would take more faith than he had ever had to muster up before. He states:

*“I didn’t have the courage—or faith—to shut down on Sunday all at once, so I took a baby step instead. ‘Let’s try this out in one state—say, Nebraska,’ I told our team. Of course, we had only three stores in Nebraska!”*¹⁰

He contacted the three managers and had them place a sign in their store windows:

***“Closed Sundays to Allow Employees
Time for Family & Worship”***¹¹

Sales immediately began to drop, and the decision attracted the attention of the local

newspaper. A reporter called their corporate headquarters and was told by the advertising director of Hobby Lobby that “...*if everything works out, we’re going to close all the stores, not just Nebraska.*”¹² When David Green read that article about his decision he was ashamed of his actions.

*“...something nudged me on the inside. It was as if God was saying to my spirit, Oh...so if you’re blessed, you’re going to be obedient? But if the numbers don’t work out for you, then maybe not?”*¹³

Green knew he had been testing God and he knew that wasn’t right. From that moment, the decision was made to close all Hobby Lobby stores on Sundays. In horror, Green watched sales drop but he made a decision, even if it went against him. But, by the laws of consequences, soon after, the volume of sales began to climb and then surpass their

previous levels! Once the switch was entirely made nationwide, the following year they:

*“...showed the highest percentage of profit in our history. Once we did what we knew we were supposed to do, profits took off.”*¹⁴

A positive action of the laws of consequences. If God can grow extra hay for honoring His Commandments, why would God not bless more abundantly a business which honors His Commandments? Before Green had made the decision to close on Sundays, he had taken a step in this direction with another decision he had made contrary to normal business practices. He decided to begin closing earlier for their employees so that they could be home with family.¹⁵ The same thing had happened concerning profits. They had a fearful drop in profit. Gradually the profits climbed back to their previous level and then

surpassed it! A positive action of the laws of consequences. On the other hand, how many stores are now open on Sundays and while Satan insures Sunday is their busiest and most profitable day of the week, it is a deception. Their overall profits are lower than if they closed on Sunday. A negative action of the laws of consequences. Hobby Lobby's CEO stated:

“...in response to our window sign, (Closed on Sundays to Allow Employees Time for Family and Worship), our main competitor in the home-and-craft industry put up a sign for a while that said, ‘Open on Sundays for the Convenience of Our Customers.’ That’s all right; they certainly have a right to run their business as they choose. I just continue to believe that if God is able to make 90 percent of a tithing person’s

*salary go further than 100 percent, he is able to make six days better than seven.”*¹⁶

Hobby Lobby’s hometown newspaper, *The Daily Oklahoman*, wrote in an editorial:

*“In an age of elastic morals and ‘no controlling legal authority,’ holding to one’s beliefs stands out. Retailers voluntarily closing on the Sabbath will probably remain as rare as ham on a Passover plate, but we commend those who make the sacrifice.”*¹⁷

Whether it be that you are an employer, an employee, a factory owner, etc., it is God’s intention that, as Christians, it must no longer be the rarity but must become the norm to close on Sundays. You must revolt against society’s course of dishonoring the Lord’s Day, but instead, as business owners shut down your businesses on Sunday, as employ-

ees refuse to work on Sunday, and as customers refuse to patronize businesses open on Sunday. All these things must happen if you want the blessing of Almighty God.

Michael Medved* is an author, film critic, and has his own nationally syndicated talk radio show. He is also an Orthodox Jew. Though a Jew his whole life, it wasn't until his adulthood that he came to a full realization of what his faith meant to him. At a time when Medved was building his career, having several successful books that he had authored, he was given an invitation to appear on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show.¹⁸ The date they gave him fell on the second night of Passover. Medved was extremely disappointed when he realized he would have to turn the invitation down, as he couldn't

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break his Jewish commitment to Passover, though he hoped they would give him another date. The producer was a little surprised at Medved's commitment, but agreed to find another date. The second one he offered landed at the end of Passover, which was also considered a full religious holiday in which practicing Jews could not work. Medved couldn't believe his bad luck, but he still said "no." The producer couldn't imagine anyone passing up the Tonight Show for such "religious scruples." Medved's hope had died that he would get another offer. He said, "*Considering the horrific martyrdom (death, dismemberment, dispossession) my ancestors experienced for the sake of their faith, this small sacrifice seemed utterly insignificant, but it still left me feeling sour.*"¹⁹ To his surprise and delight, two days later, a third time the producer called back with yet another date, one that he was free to accept. By "coincidence,"

it just so happened, for the first time in a year, a certain TV producer, while watching at home, tuned into the Carson show that one night. He was the producer for the TV show, “Sneak Previews.” He was so impressed with Medved’s performance, he called to invite him for an interview that resulted in Medved becoming a co-host for the show, “Sneak Previews.” This would be one of the turning points in Michael Medved’s career. What, at first, seemed a coincidence, turned out to be a “Divine Coincidence” by God’s hand. Reflecting on this turn of events, Medved wrote:

“While I thought that my inconvenient religious commitment might cause me to sacrifice an important opportunity, by following that traditional path, I ended up as a guest on the show on the night—the only possible night—when my appearance led me to an even great-

*er opportunity that opened a whole new direction in my career.”*²⁰

This is just another example of seeing God’s positive actions replacing whatever it was that you sacrificed, for something greater, through the laws of consequences. No one gave up more than Our Lady when She gave up Her Son to the Cross and no one has received more than She for doing so.

7. What about catastrophes hitting and people having to call for help? Again, there is the provision in God’s command that if your ox is in the ditch to pull it out. However, Scripture says pray that tribulation does not come in the winter.

Matthew 24:20

“Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation...”

Do you not think if you are living the Sabbath Commandment that God, being mindful enough not to let a sparrow fall from the sky without His knowledge, will not let anything but His Will happen to you? Be mindful of God and He will remember you in loving care.

8. It is important not to put anyone in a position of having to work on Sunday for you unless for serious life necessity. For instance, we wrestled with what happens if our power goes out on a Sunday.* We wrestled with it until we realized we were trying to rationalize what God had put into our hearts about honoring Sundays. We knew that if we kept holy the Lord's day, He would bless us and look out for us. In making the decision for God, we also remembered that some of the

* Wouldn't you just know it that right after these words were penned that our power, here in the whole community, went out the following Sunday morning. Anyone's first thought would be to call the power company but for us there was no question that we would not do so until Monday. When the power company came out, they reported that though it was unusual, it was only Caritas' power that was out. It was the only time in Caritas history that only *our* power went off (other than in a major storm). The main feed fuse to Caritas had worn out and blew.

best times our children have had was when the power was off. The answer to the dilemma was to wait to call the power company until Monday morning.

9. Many ministries have TV and radio shows where people are working cameras, employees working equipment every Sunday, but because it's for religion it's OK. This is baloney! The world will not end if these religious broadcasts do not require work of their employees. Pre-produced programs and automation can factor in on broadcasting. If it goes down...it simply goes down. If it can't be done, it can't be done. Prayer will help navigate a way to comply with God's laws. There may often be difficulties you encounter before the way is made clear, but the process will be grace-filled if you seek to comply with all your heart, rather than trying to navigate a way around it through rationaliza-

tion. It may seem an insurmountable problem to convert to no Sunday workdays for company employees who work a 24/7 schedule, but with computers and automation, more efforts by companies should be made in letting employees be on call, rather than having them automatically go in on Sundays. Even if it means installing more sophisticated and specialized equipment for automation, such as power plants do, the responsibility of corporate heads who call themselves Christians is to explore every avenue to let plants and various work places run without human involvement on Sundays or just shut down. God will bless these efforts because in Exodus it says, ***“I will work such marvels as have never been wrought in any nations anywhere on earth, so that this people among whom you live may see how awe-inspiring are the deeds which I, the Lord, will do at***

your side. But you, on your part, must keep the Commandments I am giving you today.”

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when most of the men at Caritas, with a great deal of heavy equipment, went to Mississippi to help in the emergency work, we worked nearly around the clock. But on Sundays, even in the midst of the disaster, we stopped. And yet, we were repeatedly told that we accomplished more than any other group up and down the Gulf Coast and were among the fastest cleanup, though others worked on Sundays.

10. Because Sunday is to be a day set apart from the six days of work, household duties should be kept to a minimum, and the week should be organized so that as little work as possible is done on Sunday. In the Caritas Community, it has always been important to allow the mothers of the household to enjoy Sunday

along with everyone else. For that reason, the Sunday meal is always pasta because it is a simple and easy meal to prepare and not time consuming. It creates tradition which strengthens the bonds of family. Dinner is served around 1:00 p.m., so mom can get out of the kitchen early in the day and have a day of rest as well. There is no evening meal, but rather the family may eat leftovers or have some other snack.

It is an easy habit to use Sunday to “catch-up” on household duties that you didn’t accomplish in the week, but in order to live Sunday as a day for God, family and rest, a strong decision and discipline must be applied not to do so. One man wrote that when he first began to live Sundays, his wife always found the need to continue to do the laundry until one Sunday, she found a note on the laundry room door.

*We are tired.
We wash and dry all week.
We no longer will work on Sundays!*

Sincerely,

The Washer and Dryer

Again, rearrangement of what can be done during the week, will leave only minimal basic duties of life's necessities to be performed on Sundays.

All the above and more was arrived at with serious prayer pleading with God to show us, as a community, how to live the Sabbath Commandment in a religion whose membership, from top to bottom, no longer lives it. What is not written here for you who may find yourselves in unique situations, God will reveal to you how to achieve compliance through prayer. If you think it cannot be because your situation cannot be changed, will the One who created the universe in six days and rested on the

seventh not reveal to you a way out? We must ask ourselves is God so limited that He is not able to help us comply with His commands if we have the will? The only caution to you is do not justify your error or rationalize away your violations of this very important Commandment because it seems you cannot do anything about it. It is up to you to act. Through grace, the laws of consequences will find you with their negative or positive actions.

The Sabbath is the one Commandment Christians do not take seriously, thinking it is such a minor violation, if even a violation at all. Yet, you will find in Scripture this one Commandment is the most written about in why it is so vital to keep. Christians have lived so long with the fruit of so many negative problems, resulting from breaking the Sabbath Commandment, that negative consequences have become the norm and not identified as tangible evidence to the violation of the Sabbath. The loss of sensitivity to this sin keeps us from identifying our problems in our family and nation.

*Christians are being conditioned by the “...slick campaign of propaganda that is spreading an empty defense of evil,”²¹ conditioned to falsehood and to reject truth. This conditioning affects every class of people. Everyone has been touched in some way with a lost sense of sin, violating especially the Sabbath Commandment, which has resulted in **a lost sense of correct judgement.** Just as what happened to God’s people in Scripture who became confused because of their sins, Christians have become confused because they have formed much of their opinions from the media, the world’s propaganda, from those supposedly “in the know.” As a result, Christians have become dull-minded, without correct*

judgment, and have become useless in convicting the world.

Christians are not reading the Bible. They are reading the newspapers and listening to the news, which is not only devoid of wisdom, but glories in vice, lewdness and scandal, the opposite of Godly virtue.

Our Lady is coming to the earth daily to give the world an impulse to live fully the religion Her Son founded as the Christ. Any other religion vs truly lived Christianity decreases when matched up to Christianity. All religions have some aspect of truth, but Christianity is the fullness of truth among all religions of the earth. Christianity is the most pluralistic and tolerant of all religions. Most religions focus on stopping the act of murder. Christianity focuses on stopping the anger and hate which causes the murder. Likewise, most religions focus on stopping adultery, whereas Christianity focuses on attacking the internal lust, which manifests in

the act. Christianity grows, flourishes and has the power to convert when its members live the Christian tenets in fullness, with passion and determination, instead of living mediocre Christianity.

With that said, a very important clarification must be made. It is not with force that Christianity is to spread, but rather through living the witness of Jesus Christ. Our Lady in Medjugorje has never come with a forceful or heavy hand, but always invites us towards living our Christianity with greater fidelity, commitment, boldness and love. Christians are to be salt. Christians are to be light. And by this witness, they attract and draw men to them.

My hope is that you wake from your sleep and radically transform the Church by committing to living the Sabbath, admonishing and holding each other accountable. That spark will ignite, blowing up the strongholds that are intent on de-

stroying our nations, as the walls of Jericho fell by
God's hand.

Be in God's Grace by Living
Fully the Sabbath Commandment
a Friend of Medjugorje

Endnotes

- 1 *The New Century Dictionary*, Standard Reference Works Publishing Company, Inc., New York (1957), s.v. liberty
- 2 *An American Dictionary of the English Language*, 1828 facsimile edition, by Noah Webster. Published since 1967 by the Foundation for American Christian Education, P.O. Box 9588, Chesapeake, VA, 23321
- 3 William Iler Crane & William Henry Wheeler, *Wheeler's Literary Readers*, Wheeler Publishing Company, Chicago, 1924, p. 191–193
- 4 *Ibid.*, p. 193–195
- 5 Archbishop Angelo Comastri, “*Way of the Cross of Pope Benedict XVI*,” for Good Friday, 2006, from Introduction, Office for the Liturgical Celebrations of the Supreme Pontiff
- 6 *Ibid.*, Intro.
- 7 *Ibid.*, Intro.
- 8 *Ibid.*, 3rd Station
- 9 David Green, *More Than A Hobby*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN 2005, p. 133–138
- 10 *Ibid.*, p. 134
- 11 *Ibid.*, p. 135
- 12 *Ibid.*, p. 135
- 13 *Ibid.*, p. 135
- 14 *Ibid.*, p. 136
- 15 *Ibid.*, p. 132
- 16 *Ibid.*, p. 137
- 17 *Daily Oklahoman* Editorial Page, 2000
- 18 Michael Medved, *Right Turns: Unconventional Lessons from a Controversial Life*, Crown Forum, A Division of Random House, 2004, p. 300–302
- 19 *Ibid.*, p. 301
- 20 *Ibid.*, p. 314
- 21 Archbishop Angelo Comastri, “*Way of the Cross of Pope Benedict XVI*,” for Good Friday, 2006, 3rd Station, Office for the Liturgical Celebrations of the Supreme Pontiff

SPECIAL STATEMENT

Caritas of Birmingham is not acting on behalf of the Catholic Church or placing its mission under the Church. Its mission is to reach all people of the earth. Its activities are outside of the Church done privately. It is further stated:

So as not to take for granted the credibility of the Medjugorje Apparitions, it is stated that the Medjugorje apparitions are not formally approved by the Catholic Church.

Medjugorje Status

March 18, 2022 A.D.

No attempt is intended to pressure the Church on the validity of the Medjugorje Apparitions. They are private revelations waiting the Church's final judgment. In the interim, these private revelations are allowed by, and for, the faithful to have devotion to and to be spread legally by the Church. Devotion and the propagation of private revelations can be forbidden only if the private revelation is condemned because of anything it contains which contradicts faith and morals according to AAS 28 (1988) 1195 Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Medjugorje has not been condemned nor found to have anything against faith or morals, therefore it is in the grace of the Church to be followed by the faithful. By the rite of Baptism one is recommended and given the authority to evangelize. "By Baptism they share in the primacy of Christ in His prophetic and royal mission." One does not need approval to promote or to have devotion to private revelations or to spread them, unless in conformity to AAS 28 (1988) 1196, in the case of evangelization is given when baptized. These apparitions have not been approved formally by the Church. Caritas of Birmingham, the Community of Caritas and all associated with it, realize and accept that the final authority regarding the Queen of Peace, Medjugorje and messages related to the apparitions, rests with the Holy See in Rome. We at Caritas, willingly submit to that judgment. While having an intimate relationship with the Diocese of Birmingham and a friendly relationship with its bishop, Caritas of Birmingham as a lay minister is not officially connected to the Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama, just as is the Knights of Columbus.² The Diocese of Birmingham's official position on Caritas is neutral and holds us in Caritas in good standing.

1. The Church does not have to approve the apparitions. The Church can do as She did with the apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima and the Infatigable Miracle. The Church never approved these apparitions. She gave way to the people's widespread acceptance of the Infatigable Miracle and thereby the Apparitions to St. Catherine. Always Fatima (Latin, meaning "The House of the Field"), regarding Medjugorje, is that the "voice" of the people says that "Mary is here (Medjugorje)."
2. Catholics of the Catholic Church Second Edition.
3. The Knights of Columbus also are not officially under the Church, yet they are very Catholic. The Knights of Columbus was founded as a lay organization in 1872, with the basic Catholic belief. Each local council appeals to the local Ordinary to be the Chaplain. The Knights of Columbus is still a lay organization, and operates with its own autonomy.

For additional copies write: **Caritas of Birmingham**
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About the Witness

Many who will read these books have been following the writings of a Friend of Medjugorje for years. His original and unique insights into the important events of our day have won credence in hundreds of thousands of hearts around the world, with those affecting others, thereby, touching into the millions. His moral courage in the face of so many leaders caving in to the pressures of a politically correct world is not only refreshing, but, according to tens of thousands of written testimonies over 32 years, has helped to strengthen deeply those who desire to live the fullness of their Christian faith. His insights have repeatedly proven prophetic, having their source in the apparitions of the Virgin Mary in Medjugorje. Deeply and personally influenced by the events surrounding Medjugorje, he gave himself to the prayerful application of the words of the Virgin Mary into his life. He has spoken all over the world on Our Lady's messages and how to put them into everyday life. He came to understand that Our Lady was sent by God to speak to

mankind in this time because the dangers man is facing are on a scale unlike any the world has ever known since Noah and the flood. He is not an author. He is a witness of what Our Lady has shown him to testify to—first, by his life—secondly, through the written word. He is not one looking in from the outside regarding Medjugorje, but one who is close to the events—many times, right in the middle of the events about which he has written.

Originally writing to only a few individuals in 1987, readership has grown well into the millions in the United States and in over 130 foreign countries, who follow the spiritual insights and direction given through these writings.

When asked why he signs only as “a Friend of Medjugorje,” he stated:

“I have never had an ambition or desire to write. I do so only because God has shown me, through prayer, that He desires this of me. So from the beginning, when I was writing to only a few people, I prayed to God and promised I would not sign anything; that the writings would have to carry themselves and not

be built on a personality. I prayed that if it was God's desire for these writings to be inspired and known, then He could do it by His Will and grace and that my will be abandoned to it.

*“The Father has made these writings known and continues to spread them to the ends of the earth. These were Our Lord's last words before ascending: **‘Be a witness to the ends of the earth.’** These writings give testimony to that desire of Our Lord, to be a witness with one's life. It is not important to be known. It is important to do God's Will.”*

For those who require “ownership” of these writings by the ‘witness’ in seeing his name printed on this work in order to give it more credibility, we, Caritas of Birmingham and the Community of Caritas, state that we cannot reconcile the fact that these writings are producing hundreds of thousands of conversions, and will easily be into the millions, through God's grace. His writings are requested worldwide from every corner of the earth. His witness and testimony, therefore, will not take credit for a work that, by proof of the impact these writings have to lead hearts to conversion, has been Spirit-in-

spired, with numbers increasing yearly, sweeping as a wave across the ocean. Indeed, in this case, crossing every ocean of the earth. Our Lady gave this Witness a direct message, through the Medjugorje visionary, Marija, and part of what Our Lady said to him was to **“...witness not with words but through humility...”** (Oct. 6, 1986) It is for this reason that he wishes to remain simply, “A Friend of Medjugorje.”

In order to silence the voice of this witness, darkness has continually spewed out slanders to prevent souls from reading his convicting and life-changing writings. For if these writings were not so, darkness would ignore them or even lead people to them. But Jesus promised persecution to all those who follow Him, and the same will be to those who follow His Mother. ***“If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.”*** John 15:20

As a witness in real-time of Our Lady’s time on earth, his witness and writings will continue to speak—voicing Our Lady’s Way to hundreds of millions not yet born—in the centuries to come.

— Caritas of Birmingham

Shine Light from Heaven on Some Major Deceptions of Our Time

"Our country needs
your message. So
does my family."

M.O., Newport Beach,
California



"What a powerful
book...that is so
needed in these
stressful times.
Thoroughly a book
of hope, faith, and
trust."

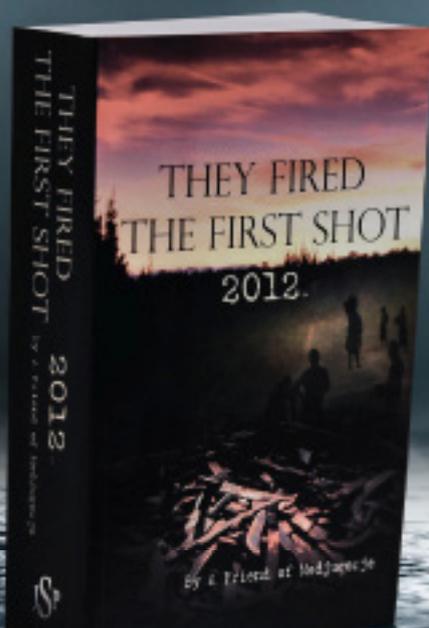
S.M., Pinehurst,
North Carolina

A ground-breaking book that shines a Biblical worldview on everything from global warming to globalism, the education system and much, much more. A Friend of Medjugorje gives you ammunition to help discern through and hold your ground against the deceptions that have invaded our culture and church.

“If you know yourself
and you know your enemy,
you can win a hundred battles
without a single loss.”

—Sun-tzu

A Friend of Medjugorje exposes the methods and tactics of Obama and his administration to gain and wield power to subvert the United States of America from it's highest office: the Presidency. What was written in 2012 is coming to light more each day and is becoming more and more of a threat against this country's very existance.



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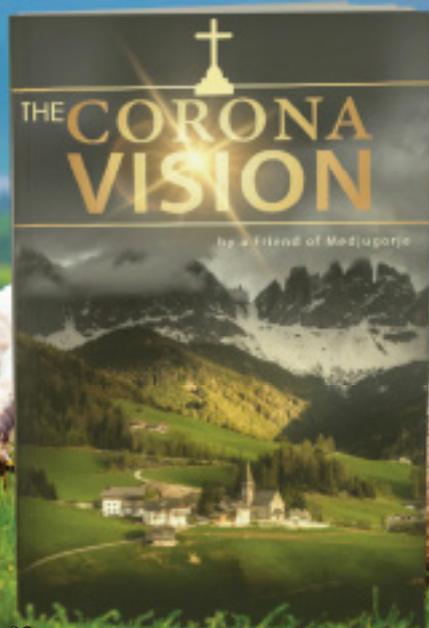
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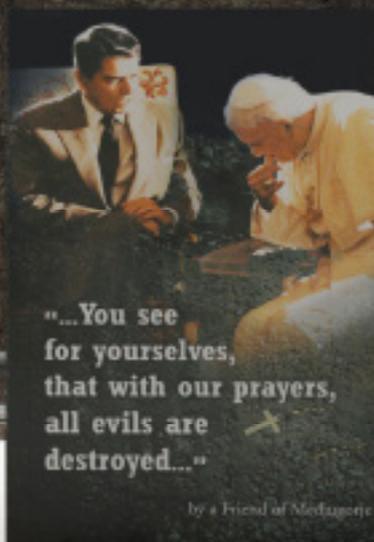
A Pope... A President... and the Mother of God...

How Medjugorje Has Already Saved the World

Our Lady brought President Ronald Reagan and Pope Saint John Paul II together, forming a Holy alliance between them that shook the earth. Walls crumbled and totalitarian, oppressive governments were changed forever. Watch this dramatic story unfold and inspire us in our time as Our Lady continues to use America to change the world.

—Friend of Medjugorje

*See order form in the back
of the book to order.*



The Caritas Mission House Reaches the World

Just like the tide of the ocean, pilgrims are constantly coming in and going out of Medjugorje, like tiny rivulets, going back out into the world to bring the light of Our Lady into the small part of the world they inhabit. Many of these pilgrims are going back with the writings of a Friend of Medjugorje, received in the Caritas Mission House, finding them powerful and essential in spreading Our Lady's messages. That's what they are for. Out of this tiny house, the whole world is being fed Our Lady's manna from Heaven—not just Her words, but a living example of putting Her words into life.

Visit the Caritas Mission House in Medjugorje, see the map and directions located on the inside back cover of the book.

"I don't know where we would be without a Friend of Medjugorje's writings... The Mission House is one of the first places we bring our pilgrim groups each year."

— Pilgrim from Canada
June 2015

"At the end of my pilgrimage, I realized that I had gotten more out of going to the Mission House each day than I did my whole pilgrimage. I found hope again."

— Pilgrim from Scotland
September 2004



Caritas Mission House
Medjugorje