

Kingdom of the Cults: Communism or Christ

Pastor Basil Bell



You might have heard the funny story from Hungary when it was a communist state. There was a political seminar and the teacher asks one of the students by the name of Kovacs, which is a common Hungarian name, asks him a question. The teacher asked, "So what is the definition of luck and unluck?"

Kovacs said, "The definition of luck is that we can be citizens of our socialist homeland, the Republic, People's Republic of Hungary." The teacher responded, "Very good comrade, Kovacs. So then, what is the definition of unluck?" Kovacs said, "The definition of unluck, for us Hungarians, is that we have luck."



It is unluck that the 20th century was the bloodiest century of all times. More than 200 million people died in that century.

We're going to be talking about the Kingdom of the Cults: Communism, or Christ.

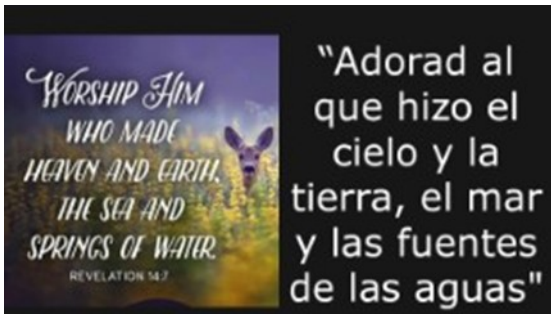
There are 1.5 billion people under communism today. Anyway, it's very important then that we understand this philosophy because there's so many people under it. And there are many people who think it is an important philosophy. Some people ask, "Was Jesus a communist?" The answer is no.



Communism involves force. And God is a gentleman – he doesn't force us, not even to accept him.

Now, God does believe in sharing, but he doesn't believe in forcing people to share. The use of force and violence have resulted in unimaginable problems and tragedy in the 20th century.

For an example, you know that the papacy during the Inquisition for 300 years from, let's say, the year 1500 to 1800, they killed about 1 million people. Now, you're going to find that that's a small number in comparison to what communism has done. Carl Marx and his philosopher buddy, Frederick Ingalls, are considered the fathers of communism. Marxism functions not only as a philosophy, but even as a religion.



We were meant to worship. We're going to worship. Either we're going to worship God as the creator, or we're going to worship something else, the creature. The Bible says, "Worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea, and the springs of water."

It would be a great mistake to regard Communism merely as a political system. Communism is a religion.

David H. Adeney, *China, the Church's Long March* (1985)

Now, a man by the name of David Adney wrote a book called *The Church's Long March*, and this is what he said.

It would be a great mistake to regard communism merely as a political system. Communism is a religion.

And, of course, it's a great thing to think about Communism as a political system. But Communism is also a religion. Marxism takes the function of religion and establishes itself in its place.

"Our heart, reason, intelligence, [and] history all summon us with loud and convincing voice to the knowledge that union with [Christ] is absolutely necessary, that without Him we would be unable to fulfill our purpose"

—Karl Marx

Now, Marx, when he was a young man, was a highly intelligent boy and very religious. He wrote these words when he was 17 years old.

He said, "Our heart, reason, intelligence, and history all summon us with loud and convincing voices to the knowledge that union with Christ

is absolutely necessary."

I think that he was a great person, a generation, intelligent, and without him we would be unable to fulfill our purpose. Now, that's beautiful.



So, what happened to Marx? He went to the university. He got in with the wrong crowd. And they introduced him to Satanism. These are two books, two amongst others, that I've read on Karl Marx. The first one is called *The Devil and Karl Marx*. The other one is called *Karl Marx and the Satanic Roots of Communism*.

These books document how Karl Marx gave himself over to darkness and the devil.

*Thus Heaven I've forfeited,
I know it full well.
My soul, once true to God,
Is chosen for Hell. -
The Pale Maiden, 1837*

This is a poem that Marx wrote two years after he said that devotion to Christ was so necessary. Two years later he wrote this poem. It says, "Thus heaven I've forfeited, I know it well. My soul, once true to God, is chosen for hell."

*"Look now, my blood-dark sword shall stab
Unerringly within thy soul...
See the sword—the Prince of Darkness sold it to
me.
For he beats the time and gives the signs.
Ever more boldly I play the dance of death."
Karl Marx—The Player, 1841*

Then four years after that he wrote another poem called The Player and this is what it says.

"Look now my blood dark sword shall stab unerringly within my soul. See the sword, the prince of darkness sold it to me. "For he beats the time and gives the signs ever more boldly, I play the dance of death."

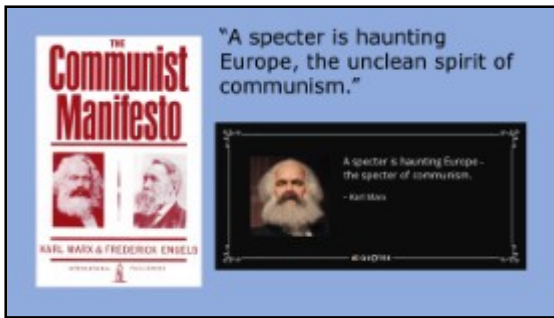
So he says he left Christianity and the devil has sold him the dark sword that has to do with darkness. Marx was born in 1818 in Prussia, now today that is West Germany. His parents had gone back from generations. They were rabbis but they accepted Christianity. And Marx was a Christian, until he went to the university. He was going to be a lawyer.

But instead he studied philosophy. And there, at the university, he met one of his professors by the name of Ludwig Fuhrbach. Fuhrbach was a professor at the University of Ludwig. Fuhrbach was an atheist right down to the bone. He said that he was a man who created God in their own image. And that religion is a myth that alienates us - cuts us off - from the rest of humanity. And so Marx accepted these teachings. Rejected Christ, rejected the creator, and became an atheist.

Then the philosophy of Charles Darwin came into the fore in 1859. This created a framework from which Marx could create his own philosophy. And he derived a framework from the philosophy of philosophy. So think of it, here was a young boy that loved God and now absolutely hates God.

had a job that was a job that was a job that was a job that was a job that was a job that was a job that was a job. You know it's very important where we send our children to school. You know they start indoctrinating our children, not in high school, but in kindergarten these days.

then the university professors, many of them, are very atheistic. they are happy to mold their children - our children - in their own image.



Marx wrote, with his philosopher friend Fredrick Engels, a small little book called The Communist Manifesto.



I want you to notice the way the book begins. It begins like this. "A spectre is haunting Europe, the unclean spirit of communism".

That's the first line of his book. A spectre, a haunting, a ghost is going to go all over Europe. What is that ghost? Communism: that is what he is introducing.

¹³ Then I saw three unclean spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. Revelation 16 *

And it reminds me of this verse that comes from Revelation 16. It says, "Then I saw three unclean spirits that looked like frogs. They came out of the mouth of the dragon." That's the devil, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. These unclean spirits definitely had gotten into Marx. Marx said that religion is the opium of the

people.

1. Humans are creators.

And he taught three important things.

He said humans are creators.

Because of the process of evolution, we create ourselves in whatever image we want ourselves to be.

1. Humans are creators.
2. Humanity's core problem is its socioeconomic structure.

Then he said, humanity's core problem is its social economic structure. So in order to be free, this is what we need. We need to get rid of private companies, The business, private property – and first, and foremost, religion.

3. Humanity's hope is not in revolution; it is in the revelation of Jesus Christ.



He also taught that humanity's hope is found in violent revolution. And in this revolution, you need to get rid of the family, The church, and even the state if it gets in your way. Every person would find their sense of meaning in a collective community.

1. Humans are not self-created they are creatures

God created us in His image. So, because of this, every person has worth and value.

Genesis 1:27 "God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

Now here are the biblical answers to Marx.

Humans are not self-created. They are creatures. God created us in his own image.

Therefore we have worth and value whoever we might be.



2. Humanity's core problem is not socioeconomic woes, but sin.

Secondly humanity's core problem isn't social economic, it is sin.

When Adam and Eve sinned, they separated themselves from God. They alienated themselves from God. And they alienated us from each other.

3. Humanity's hope is found in revolution.



And three, humanity's hope is not in revolution, it is in the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Jesus came to reveal who the Father was. And he came to give his life for us.



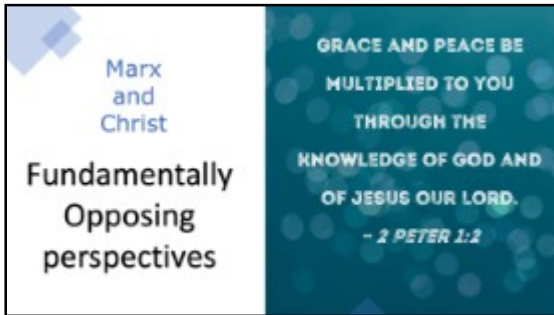
El
Príncipe
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Jesus was not the prince of war, he was the prince of peace.



Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, but my kingdom is not of this world."

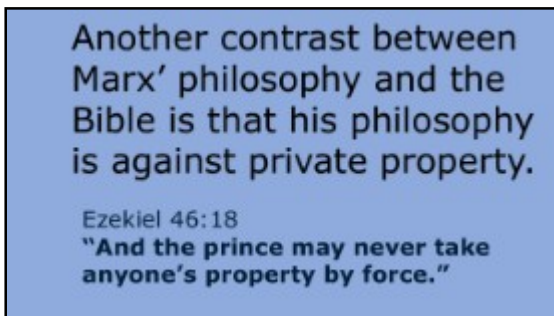
Communism under Marxism is fundamentally atheistic. It believes that religion is a tool of the upper class.



On the other hand, the Bible teaches that God came to give us grace.

Grace is a word in the Greek that means beauty and gift. God came to give us the gift of Jesus Christ – The gift of salvation for each and every one of us. And he came to give us peace. And peace isn't euphoria, it's a word that means

all the barriers have been broken down between us and God. What a beautiful thing to have Jesus Christ. To have the gift of salvation to know that God is for us and not against us.



Another contrast between Mark's philosophy and the Bible is that against private property.

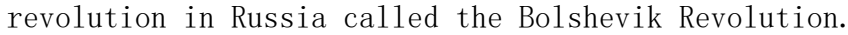
Ezekiel 46:18 says this, "And the prince may never take away anyone's property by force."

But the first step in the communist manifesto is to take away people's private property. In both

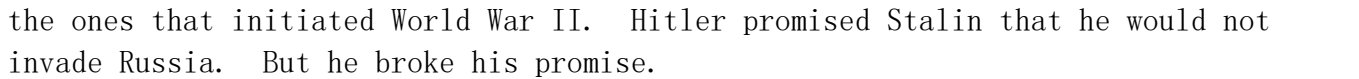
Russia and China, they made the landowners the enemies. They took the property from the rich and they gave it to the poor. Then they took the property from the poor and they gave it to the state. And then they brought everyone into collective farms.

And they sent most of the people to the city to industrialize the war machine. The result was that there wasn't enough food for the people. Five million people died of famine in the Soviet Union. And the same thing happened in China and North Korea and wherever communism is tried.

Private property is important because with private property people have stability and you can raise a family better.

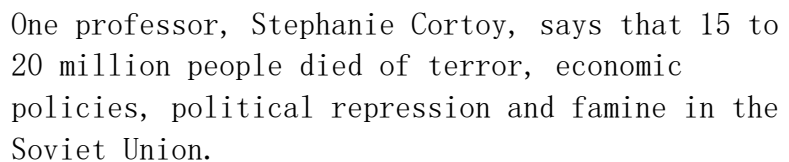


During World War I he was in prison most of the time. But when he got out he started a

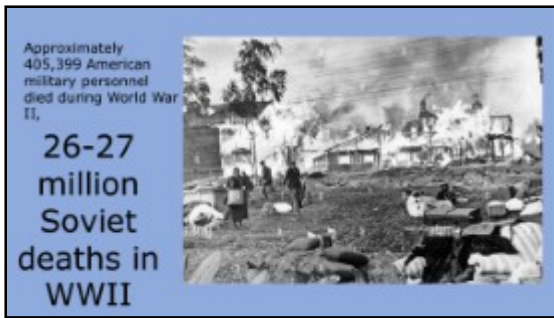


Now Lenin killed millions of Russians and Stalin killed multi-millions of Russians. Just as an example, when both Stalin and Hitler - they were

There was no food for the German soldiers. The soldiers would die. But also the village people would die because there was no food for them. And the army people would die because there was no food for them either.



You see if God doesn't exist, everything is permitted.



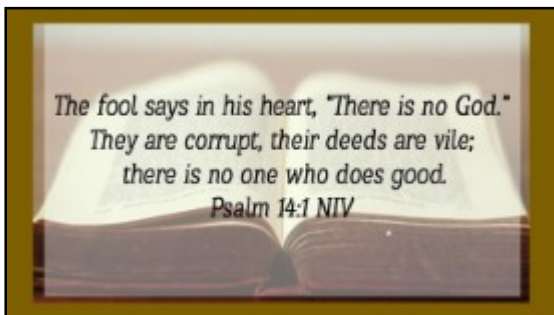
Now besides that, 26 to 27 million people died in the Soviet Union because of World War II. Now in order to get an understanding of this, approximately 405,000 Americans died during World War II. Russians 26 million and more.

communism. People don't matter. The communist state.

But did Stalin think? Collateral damage? It didn't matter. This is the philosophy of the only thing that matters is the state, the



Now the same thing was tried in China with Mao Zedong. Mao Zedong was a peasant there in China. But he loved the philosophy of Marxism. He and 12 other friends started the Chinese Communist Party, the CCP. There would be two aspects to this philosophy. No capitalism. No God.



The Bible says the fool has said in his heart, there is no God. They are corrupt, their deeds are vile, there's no one who does good.

When the communists came about, they destroyed Confucius temples. They killed the Confucius priests. They killed Muslims. But the number one target were Christians.



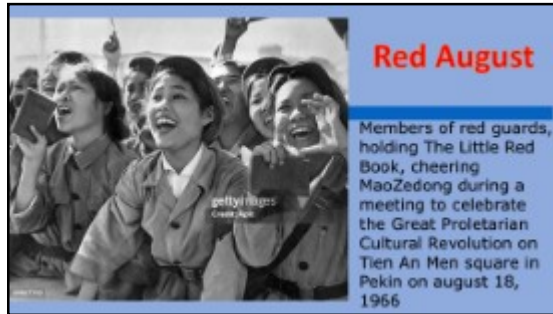
Now there was one during the communist revolution that happened in the 60s, we're going to talk a little bit more about that. And here were some Christian pastors who thought communism is good for China. And believe it or not, they said it will bring a new era of religious liberty. China had been religious for centuries. And they're going to find out what

happened under communism.



Mao killed religion in China. He hated Christianity. And he did everything he could to get rid of it.

There was slaughter everywhere.



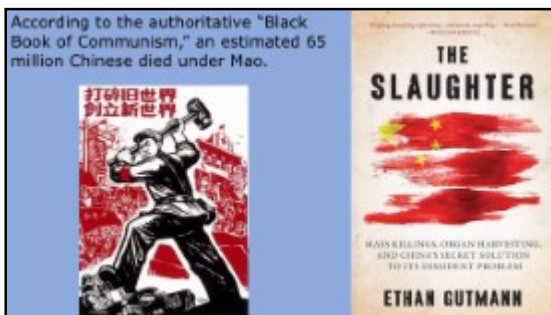
He got the young people together. Some were started at age 12. but mostly 14 to 17 year olders.

And he started to indoctrinate them with the communist manifesto. They called it Red August.

Notice these girls, they have a little book in their hand. That's the communist manifesto, the little red book of Mao Zedong. He told them "if your parents do not uphold this revolution, turn them in and they'll go to prison". He said to rebel is justified. And the children would actually slay their own family members, people in the village - anybody that got in their way.

"There was so much blood shed during the Cultural Revolution that the banks of the Pearl River, which is half a mile wide in many places, the entire river in some places turned red from the blood and entrails of people killed by the Communist Red Guards, who chopped bodies to pieces before the remains were flung into the river."

Notice what it says here. There was so much bloodshed during the Cultural Revolution that the banks of the Pearl River, which is a half mile wide in many places, the entire river in some places turned red from the blood. They would chop the bodies of people and then they would throw them into the Pearl River.



It was a massacre, a slaughter. And here's the interesting and ironic thing. When Mao saw that he didn't need the young people anymore, what did he do? He slaughtered them. He sent them to work in the fields. They did not become the head of the state. He was too afraid of that.

According to the authoritative Black Book of Communism, an estimated 65 million Chinese died under Mao. Nobody was safe.

Jiang Qing, (Mao's fourth wife), was asked by foreign diplomats if there were any Christians left in China after the purge of Christians.

She arrogantly replied: **"Christianity in China has been confined to the history section of the museum."**

completely gone from China.

Mao's fourth wife, her name is Jing Qing, was asked by a foreign diplomat if there were any Christians left in China after the purge of Christians during the Communist Revolution.

She arrogantly replied, "Christianity in China has been confined to the history section of the museum." She believed that Christians were



Now here's the result of the Communist movement.

You can't see it very well, but in 1981, those people living in the country, had an average wage less than \$2.15 a day.

If you lived in the city, only 70% of the people had that wage. Even in 1999, 62% of the people in the countryside had a wage of under \$2.15 a day. If you go to China today, it looks very shiny and bright with very big buildings. But many people suffer in China.

The president of China is Xi Jinping. And he hates Christians just as much as Mao did. And he has persecuted them.



He looks like a gigantic panda bear so nice and cuddly, but behind that is a real Marxist.

The problem with communism is that nobody is safe. Not the rich, not the poor, not even the president is safe. Xi Jinping is trying to get rid of him too. With political maneuvers, he's been able to survive.



China watches over every citizen. There are millions of cameras everywhere. They have advanced facial recognition.

Every citizen is given a thousand points. If you do nice things, they add points to you. If you throw trash on the ground, maybe you're nice to the elders, you say bad things against the

Communist Party, maybe you put something on the internet you're not supposed to - You lose points.

For example, there's this one guy who's down to 212 points. What happens? You don't get good jobs. You don't get good housing. You don't get support from the government. And they watch over everything, especially the church.



Because they fear religion.



This woman wrote a book called "Mao's America."

I read this book. It was written by a lady by the name of Xi Van Fleet.

When she was a young girl, she wanted to be a red guard like her sister. But they didn't make her that. Instead, at 16, they sent her to the country to pick potatoes. Now if you're picking potatoes and you decide to eat a potato – you eat a potato – and they catch you: Death sentence. You're cultivating food but you can't eat any of it.

Xi Van Fleet, saw all of this. She escaped from China. And she wrote this book, "Mao's America, a survivor's warning." She said, "Communism and socialism is coming to America." And people don't realize it.

Now, as the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we know a lot about the papacy. But I can tell you this, my friends. More dangerous than the papacy is communism and Islam. And that's why we've had these sermons to inform you so that you can do your own study. I've spent 20 years studying Islam. And I've spent time and time, read many books on communism. And I'm shocked that so few Seventh-day Adventists understand the danger that's before us.



this Adventist pastor by the name of David Lin who was jailed either 17 or 18 years in China. Pastor Bob, you know David Lin, right? He's quite famous.

He was preaching the gospel and they said this was subversive propaganda against the state, And they jailed him.



His wife had to raise the five children on her own. Her name is Clara Lin.

Once he was in prison, the neighborhood where they lived told her, "You must sweep the streets on Sabbath." She said, "I'm happy to sweep the streets on any other day, but on Sabbath they cannot do it."

They took her out. They beat her black and blue. They made her stand for hours. When she collapsed, they just threw cold water on her. And then the next time she was better – back. They did this for three months. As often as they could, they beat this woman. The five children were praying for their father and their mother. Finally, the guy said, "There's no use." Guess what? You can sweep the streets Saturday night.

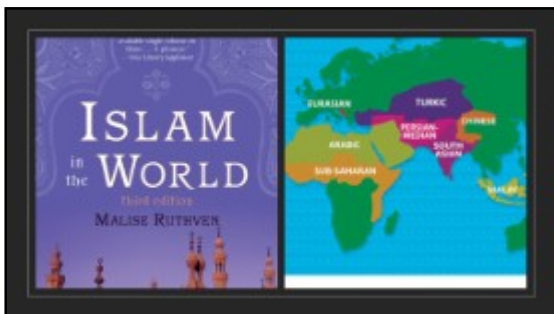
These people remain faithful no matter what. When you're in a communist country, you have to really decide if you really believe these things or not.



Do you remember that Mao's wife said that Christianity was in the museum part like that? Do you remember that? However, christianity simply went underground.

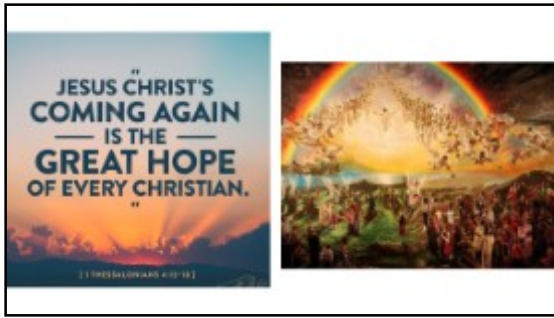
There are 149 million Christians in China today. There are 500,000 Adventists in China.

But it isn't always easy. They still go after us. And you have to decide if you're going to remain faithful for God or not. Many people talk about the last days and the persecution. But if you live in a communist country or you live in an Islamic country, those last days are now.



1.5 billion people are Muslims. 1.5 billion people are communists.

You have Laos, Cuba, North Korea, Vietnam and China. Those are the main communist countries.



How is the Gospel going to reach them? How is Jesus going to come with so many people who do not know Him?

You know, only 60% of the world knows Christianity. There are countries where very few Christians exist. We need to pray for our Islamic brothers and sisters. We need to pray

that God will infiltrate more and more into communist countries like Cuba and North Korea. So that Jesus can in fact really come.

I want to tell you, I don't really want Jesus to come until the world is evangelized. It's not enough that I'm a Christian. It's not enough that you're a Christian. Don't you want the world to accept what we have? Let's do all that we can to spread the Gospel message all over the world.

And beware, because Islam is coming to a neighborhood near you. Beware, It is coming to a college campus near you.

You better believe it's true.

Dear Father, we want to thank you for your great love and your mercy. Lord, you would have died for just one person. Every person is important to you, Lord. And for that we are so grateful. But we know that there are millions, even billions of people who do not know that you are the way the truth and the life, that you brought salvation to a lost world. And so, Lord, help us to pray and help us to do all that we can to spread the Gospel message.

God bless each one of you.