

This is the Apocalypse

by Emmett J. Culligan, K.S.G.

We are living in the days of the Apocalypse—the last days of our era.
We are witnessing the death of an era in civilization.
From *Communism and the Conscience of the West* by Bishop Fulton Sheen

THE APOCALYPSE, as all Christians know, is the last chapter in the Bible and it was written by St. John. It has to do with the events of the last days of the world before the second coming of Christ.

The word, "Apocalypse," is seldom mentioned from the pulpit, nor does it appear in current publications; the explanation given is that it is too frightening. However, the subjects of the Apocalypse are becoming more and more discussed in private by Christians of many faiths. Current events seem to read right into St. John's Bible story.

There are those who know much

about the passing of the Apocalypse and the last days of the world who maintain that the information should not be broadcast for fear it might frighten people. It will frighten people. It frightened me; but it also brought me closer to God. It gave me comfort, too, to learn for the first time since 1914 what is back of world wars; that the terrific struggle now under way throughout the whole world is not just the coming of the "last world war" but rather the dramatic finale of the great biblical drama of Christianity that has been running for over 19 centuries. Our apocalyptic times are

mentioned again and again in the Bible. Many friends, some of them not of my own faith, who are true Christian American neighbors, have urged that I make this information available to all faiths, and have assured me that it will give men and women great satisfaction to know what is really back of these diabolical wars. I am told it will aid in establishing a united Christian front to meet our common Godless enemy—Communism. *And I am told it will save souls.*

I have lived in two centuries. I was eight years old at the start of the fast-moving 20th Century. I was born on the prairies of the Dakota. I saw the first automobile that crossed the Jim River. My first memory was my father taking me out on the prairie to gather household fuel. The fuel we gathered was dehydrated cattle and buffalo dung. There was no such thing as pasteurized milk or bakery bread. Clothes were washed by hand on a scrub board by the "women folks". There was no furnace heat or indoor water facilities.

Then came the 20th century with its modernism, its atheistic intellectualism, its Godless industrialism, its jazz music, pornographic literature, and so many Satanic forms of entertainment. And at Mid-Century, America, too, has become very fat with 60 million automobiles and over 60 million television sets, many other modern inconveniences, and bulging "fear boxes" in the base-

ment vaults of tall buildings downtown. What does all this modernism mean? Are modernism and all these other "isms" a part of God's Plan? I do not think so! Was Jesus a city man? He was not! Did he hold out to mankind an offer of professional, academic or industrial careers as the ideal Christian way of life? He did not!

Until June 28, 1950, I was a modernist, too, going about my business trying to get rich, in common with most all Americans. Success and the obtaining of money was my aim. My muscles were continuously strained to the utmost. I never looked up or down—I never read—I never rested—I was always going forward toward that vague success, which we Americans love to glorify. I believed in this great American fallacy. And, then, for me it came to a sudden end.

TWO OF MY sons had just graduated from a university and one from a high school. These three of our sons were on a summer vacation, touring by car through Wisconsin with their mother and father. Son John was reading a *Chicago Morning Tribune* and spoke up, "Dad, a new war is starting this morning. Truman is sending our boys to some place called Korea. Where is Korea, Dad?"

I did not know exactly, but answered, "Somewhere in the far Pacific."

John asked, "Why is this war be-

ing fought?" I answered: "I do not know."

And, Jude spoke up, "What was the Second World War fought for?"

And, again, I answered, "I do not know and do not believe anyone knows the true answer to that question."

Gerald, our number seven, spoke up, "That is a fine kettle of fish! We spend almost a trillion dollars on a war and the people who must fight the war don't know what it was about!"

John asked, "What did you old guys fight for in 1917, in the First World War?"

I answered, "We were told it was a war to end all wars—to save the world for democracy."

Everyone in the car, including myself, had a big laugh.

John spoke up again, "It seems that some group of master minds has been leading the Christian world astray—with two world wars and the terrible one in Spain, now history—a new one starting today and almost one-half the world now Communist—including many in Washington, D. C."

THEN, one of the boys said, "Dad, if we must all go to Korea to fight this new war for Mr. Truman, I want to know before I go the reason we are fighting."

I answered, "You are absolutely right! Stop the car! Turn around."

"Where to, Dad?"

"We are going to find out what is behind these Satan-inspired demonic world wars. Head for Dubuque and the Trappist Monastery. There are monks out there who have had time to think, men who can tell us *What is behind world wars.*"

My mother's folks—the Courtneys and the Sullivans—met the Irish Trappists when they came up the Mississippi River to land at Dubuque back in 1849. They helped the monks build New Mellery Monastery.

Arriving at New Mellery, I asked Father Abbott, "Have you anyone who can tell me what's back of world wars?"

He answered, "Oh, yes Brother . . . and Father . . . they both have been studying the causes of our 20th century wars and the progress of the Apocalypse for many years. I will give them free time while you are here."

Soon two giant monks came into the room assigned to me—one in a white robe, one in a brown robe.

"You want us?"

"Yes, Father. I want to talk to you about world wars. A new war of world proportions started this morning in Korea. Father, I came to New Mellery to find out what is the real cause of world wars?"

"Sin is the cause of all wars."

"Sin?"

"Yes, Sin! If there was no sin, there could be no war. Wars are

punishments for the sins of the world. There can be no peace without Charity. The only men who can know Peace in this world are 'men of good will.' Any other questions?"

"Don't be so brief, Father. We have three days to talk on this subject."

"Of course," said the Trappist, "you must realize that the world has been passing through the Apocalypse for over 100 years; and that we are rapidly approaching its end. Brother and myself expect the Antichrist may come this decade and surely before the 20th century ends."

I answered, "I know nothing about the Apocalypse except that it is the last chapter in the Bible. Please tell me about it. And what is meant by the Antichrist?"

These Trappists changed my life. The business that I had been frantically pursuing became to me something which seemed without a worthwhile purpose. I began to read everything I could find on the Apocalypse and on the Blessed Virgin Mary—and Her many visits to earth.

THE CHURCH pronounced *Ex-Cathedra* on November 1, 1950, that the Mother of Jesus Christ is in heaven body and soul. Because of this, She can return to earth to give warning and advice.

In 1531, She appeared in America at what is now Guadalupe, Mexico, to give Her blessing to the new

world. In 1830, She appeared in Paris to start off the Apocalypse. She appeared publicly since then four times in France; twice in Paris at the Chapel of the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul in the years 1830 and 1840; and in the mountains of La Salette in 1846; in *Lourdes* in 1859; and finally, again, in 1871 at Pontmain to bring an end to the French-Prussian War. She appeared next at Knock, Ireland, in 1879, and finally, at *Fatima*, Portugal, in 1917, to end the First World War. At all public appearances from 1830 to 1917, Her messages read like a continued story—and can be considered one message, for all follow the same theme—"Pray, pray, pray and do penance." Her messages warn of punishments that would come to the world, and they have come as foretold. She set the time when the Second World War would start. She told that after this war, Russia would spread its Communistic errors throughout the whole world.

All Her messages were apocalyptic in nature. In the Knock, Ireland, appearance, St. Joseph and St. John appeared with Her. Those who go to Knock now can see the apparition portrayed in granite.

At Fatima She told the children seers to keep one part of the message secret until the year 1960. The secret was written, sealed, and given to the Archbishop of Portugal, Cardinal Giovanni Piazzi. He said of this message on January 8, 1957, "the 1960 Fatima secret may reveal

the time of the Antichrist and the end of the world."

Many historical events of the 20th Century have been extremely apocalyptic. The Apostles Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John gave several signs that would indicate that God soon would remake Heaven and Earth. In the 20th Century we have seen all but one of these prophecies fulfilled. We have seen wars and heard rumors of wars; we developed atom and hydrogen bombs; we have seen unprecedented storms and earthquakes. We now have Communism—which is the "great falling away." We have our missionaries preaching the Gospel to all nations. I asked this question of the Provincial of a great Missionary Society: "Is the Gospel being preached to all nations?" He answered: "Yes."

THERE is only one more biblical prophecy to be fulfilled; we must yet have the reign of the Antichrist. "The last days will not come until the man of sin be released, the son of perdition, who opposeth, and is lifted up above all that is called God, showing himself as if he were God." (2 Thess. N-3,4). All Christian antiquity has understood this wicked man to be the "Antichrist."

There is a cataclysm due now. Yes, it is past due. It is inevitable. What is surprising is the length of the "cold war." Co-existence is impossible.

Little by little, Americans have become victims of the atheistic materialism of our age. Perjury, selfishness, subversion, treason, divorce, infidelity, have entrenched themselves in our society. We hear the anguished cry of children of broken homes, deprived of love and care, rising to our ears on all sides. We see the pitiful sight of young boys and girls whose lives are wrecked by drugs, liquor, disease, crime, and sins against their youth. Look around you at a world swept with confusion. We live in a world from which love has fled, a world which has rid itself of the ennobling fear of God, to find itself cringing in the fear of man. Look around about our whole country—and we see crime, corruption and treason. All these are clear signs of the rotting and decay of a society from within—and we all know it. All this is apocalyptic, too.

A heaven-sent apocalyptic warning was given to Americans on last Good Friday, when our national capital was cast into complete awesome darkness in mid-day. The United Press broadcast this weird news:

"The *Washington Post* reported the Good Friday darkness on Saturday morning, March 28, 1959, as follows: 'Good Friday worshipers find it night as symbolic darkness envelops the City of Washington. Worshipers emerged from Church rites commemorating the traditional three-hour agony on the cross, to find mid-afternoon turned into

darkest night, as though in accord with St. Luke's account of Jesus' death which records "the sun was darkened." The heavy pall persisted for ten minutes. The sun was blotted out *completely precisely* after the end of the three-hour devotion . . . after 3 p.m., pilots refused to take off airplanes at the airport. Automatic light switches controlling street lights lit up 3800 lights."

Three o'clock on Good Friday commemorates "The Midmost Moment of all Times."

AN APOCALYPTIC warning will never be popular, but it is in order in these times. I am aware that it is a sensational topic on which to write and that I will be subject to innumerable criticisms on that account. I

expose myself knowingly and willingly to criticisms for I passionately believe all that is said in this article. I believe it so confidently that I dare publish it for others to share with me.

If I am right in my belief that a great era of world peace will follow a cataclysm soon to come, surely all Christians should be alerted so they can prepare spiritually for its coming. It is the enactment of the parable of the grain and the cockle that I believe is near at hand. "One will be taken and one will be left." (Matthew, 24:43).

The Late Cardinal Suhard of Paris said: "Something is dead on earth which will not rise . . . it is not an intermission but an epilogue. It marks the end of a world."

(This article by Emmett J. Culligan is taken from his book, *Triumphant Peace*, Crestline Book Company, 3435 Circle Drive, San Bernardino, California.)

Immortality

If the Father deigns to touch with Divine power the cold and pulseless heart of the buried acorn and to make it burst forth from its prison walls, will He leave neglected in the earth the soul of man, made in the image of His Creator?

If He stoops to give to the rose bush, whose withered blossoms float upon the autumn breeze, the sweet assurance of another springtime, will He refuse the words of hope to the sons of men when the frosts of winter come?

If matter, mute and inanimate, though changed by the forces of nature into a multitude of forms, can never die, will the imperial spirit of man suffer annihilation when it has paid a brief visit like a royal guest to this tenement of clay?

No, I am sure that He who, notwithstanding His apparent prodigality, created nothing without a purpose, and wasted not a single atom in all His creation, has made provisions for a future life in which man's universal longing for immortality will find its realization.

I am as sure that we live again as I am sure that we live today.

—WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

SPOTLIGHT ON PERFORMANCE

by William H. Allen

You are invited to contribute to "Spotlight on Performance." Letters, documented materials and criticism will be acknowledged

UNTIL the 1960 nominations for President, no other's performance will interest so many as Governor Rockefeller's for NY State and the City Inquiry into NYC government operations. He reiterates that he's concentrating on his performance.

He says the NYC Inquiry is not a witch hunt. He hasn't promised that it won't be a witch detour. He says "I think the Republicans are objective." Objectivity doesn't require the GOP to ignore NYC's need for a second party. The reforms he explains to audiences didn't stop the "grave train" the legislature continued with his signature: of 286 recess employees, 236 were found by the *NY World-Telegram and Sun* to be away from Albany on private jobs or in homes.

While City Manager of Kansas City, L. P. Cookingham (now Fort Worth City Manager) made his of-

fice a training school for public service, 34 city managers sought apprenticeship with him.

The annual report of the Comptroller General U.S.A. for 1958 offers every public library and every newspaper a hand, if it wishes, in promoting better government. The more key readers of it, the more Congress and the President will have it used.

Scripps-Howard papers featured stories, June 3, that the Comptroller's staff, General Accounting Office, told of more than \$30,000,000 in excessive costs on 14 contracts. Did your paper report it?

National Association of Manufacturers listed 15 ways to cut billions from the President's budget; it didn't use proofs from GAO where cuts were possible without curtailing services.

Citizen's Business, Duluth 2, Minnesota, compares five Minnesota cities' taxing of realty: commercial properties of equal value were assessed from \$20,500 to \$36,480;

