Of Self-Suffering - Of Hardships

ROMAN CATHOLICS CONVERTED

During the past 30 years many, many Roman Catholics were converted to Christ at our meetings, both indoors and out-of-doors. Among these converts were two Roman Catholic Nuns and three Priests.

One of the outstanding conversions was that of Miss "Goodnews," pictured here, so named because she had a wonderful message to proclaim after her conversion.

This meeting was held in a Methodist church in Brooklyn, New York. Two converted nuns are shown in the picture, with the numbers 1 and 9 over their ovaled photos. Many of those attending our meeting were former Roman Catholics, who also gave their testimonies at this meeting.

In Support of an Ideal - Of Liberty

This is a photographic reproduction of Dr. Little's letter to the Pope of Rome, Italy, requesting that he stop Roman Catholic Priests from persecuting and murdering Protestant Christians in Spain. We sent this letter Air-Mail, Registered and requested a return receipt. Within a week we received the receipt signed by some one in Vatican City, but as of this date, almost three years later we have not received a reply to our letter.

Pope John XXIII
Vatican City,
Rome, Italy

June 23, 1959

Dear Sir:

This letter is written and mailed to you after much prayer. Please accept it in the prayerful spirit in which it is written.

We are grieved when we read of the persecution of your Cardinals, Monseigneurs, Bishops and Priests in countries under Communist control. Russian Communists and the Reds in China have also persecuted and murdered Protestants, ministers and missionaries. Protestant Believers in Christ are in concentration-camps in China, never to be released. I do not believe in the persecution of anyone because of his or her faith. I have always been opposed to Communism, and have spoken against their tactics and totalitarian aims for many, many years.

In the United States of America, which is the greatest country in the world, we cherish our freedoms, especially freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of religious worship. In this predominantly Protestant country we are opposed to intolerance, bigotry and hatred of anyone because of race, creed or color.

As a Believer in Christ, and a freedom-loving American citizen, I found it appalling to read reports in The New York Times, on May 2nd and May 3rd, 1959, concerning Roman Catholic persecution of Protestants in Spain, under the heading "Protestants' Life in Spain Difficult." And I quote: "...Catholic authorities appear to be increasingly hostile to the Protestant community." "Burial for Spanish Protestants, except in a graveyard for paupers, atheists or lunatics, is exceedingly difficult, and virtually impossible in most small towns or villages." "Bigotry appears to be rising." "In the last few years, at least thirty Protestant chapels or other places of worship have been ordered closed." In Colombia, South America, many Protestant ministers and missionaries have been persecuted and murdered by Roman Catholic Priests because of their faith. Bibles and hymn books in their churches have been collected and burned. In St.Matthew 25:40, Jesus says: "...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

I am very much surprised that you, as the Head of the Roman Catholic Church, did not stop all of these horrible atrocities long ago. Why not announce to the world that you want all of the persecutions and murders of Protestants stopped in every Roman Catholic country in the world. Also, that you believe that all ministers of every denomination should have the same freedom in Roman Catholic countries that your Cardinals, Monseigneurs, Bishops and Priests have in the United States of America, a predominantly Protestant country.

Unless you, as the Head of the Roman Catholic Church throughout the world, will take some action, things will get worse and worse, and finally, God forbid, Communism will take over.

I have documentary proof of the Roman Catholic persecution and murder of Protestants, ministers and missionaries. I am willing to travel to the Vatican and bring this proof to you. Once again, may I request that you accept this letter in the prayerful spirit in which it is written. I would appreciate an acknowledgment of the receipt of this letter, with any comments you would care to make.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Little

Thomas E. Little,
President, A.P.D.L.