

Personal from. . .

Ronald L. Dart

Negotiating with the Devil

When I was growing up, fascism was a political term in common use. I was seven years old when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the years following saw us occupied with the defeat of fascism. I can't say I knew what it meant. I just knew it was bad. I have this uncanny feeling that, as fascism rears its ugly head again in our world, that a lot of people still don't know what it means. One reason I think so is because more than a few people object to the term "Islamofascism."

Here is a definition of fascism, so we know what it is we are talking about: 1) a political philosophy, movement, or regime (as that of the Fascisti) that exalts nation and often race above the individual and that stands for a centralized autocratic government headed by a dictatorial leader, severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition; 2) a tendency toward, or actual exercise of, strong autocratic or dictatorial control.

With Islamofascism, we add a new element—religion—into the mix. And it is beyond dispute that there is a movement afoot among some sects of Islam, to exalt Islam

above the individual; that stands for centralized government headed by a dictatorial leader, that imposes severe economic and social regimentation, and forcible suppression of opposition.

I had a strange sense of *deja vu* watching Oliver North's "War Stories" production dealing with the death march in Bataan in the Philippines, as well as the Japanese use of slave labor in Burma. The Japanese treatment of prisoners was, excuse the term, inhuman. And the same inhuman spirit, a spirit of fascism, seems to possess some parts of Islam to this day. And I sometimes wonder if the term "inhuman" may say more than we realize.

The way the Japanese overlords treated their own soldiers as less than human gave those soldiers license to act inhumanly. And, of course, the Germans, while more civilized, were also possessed of

an inhuman spirit. It has been common over the years to attribute demon possession to Adolph Hitler. What is the rest of the world to do when they come up against the absolute embodiment of evil in a man, a nation, or a movement? Especially a Christian world that follows the Prince of Peace, and believes in turning the other cheek.

Is it just possible that we don't fully understand how a godly man might respond to the presence of evil? And by evil, I am not talking about men who steal because they want stuff. Nor men who kill out of envy or jealousy. But we are getting close when we come to serial killers. And we are even closer when we come to the Islamofascists who send children to commit suicide while blowing up women and children.

There is at large in the world a *spirit* of fascism that simply does not die. In World War II, the seeds of that spirit were destroyed. It is uncanny to see that spirit at work again. Oddly, it can be recognized first by a hatred of Jews. It is hard

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What Your Tithes and Offerings Are Doing

"I come from another religious background and my family hates Christianity. We became Christians through your programs. Though times will be tough, we believe God will strengthen us" (A *Born to Win* listener from Benin Republic).

Memorial Day Family Retreat/Pentecost Weekend

It's time to start plans to attend the CEM Family Retreat, May 25-28, 2007. Call 1-800-250-8614, CEM Group #3078 for reservations. For information, log on to <http://tennessee.gov/environment/parks/ParisLanding/>. Pictures from last year can be seen at: <http://groups.msn.com/SkipsPictures/shoebox.msnw>

The schedule is beginning to fill up, but is still preliminary. We will have a Meet and Greet Friday evening, with sandwiches furnished by CEM. Saturday morning will begin with seminars at 9:00 am and 10:00 am, and YEA classes for five age groups beginning at 10:00 am [Beginners (3-5,) Primaries (6-8,) Juniors (9-11,) Intermediates (12-15,) and Senior Teens (16-19)].

Sabbath Services are Saturday afternoon at 2:00 pm with Bronson James speaking. Bronson currently serves as pastor of the Detroit Congregation of the Church of God, International. He is an accomplished vocalist, and is one of the personalities of the CGI's television program, "Armor of God."

Paris Landing begins a series of free Gospel Concerts on Memorial Day Weekend each year. The Park hasn't finalized their plans, but most likely there will be a concert at the amphitheater Saturday evening. Concurrently, the famous CEM Pie and Ice Cream Social will be at the Conference Center.

Sunday morning will begin with seminars and YEA classes. Pentecost Services will begin at 11:30 am with Ronald L. Dart speaking. Ron is the voice of the international *Born to Win* radio broadcast. He is the author of two books, *The Lonely God* and *The Thread, God's Appointments with History*. As a conservative visionary and educator, his honest approach and rare insights into the Bible and current events allow him to reach the minds and hearts of people in an unargumentative way.

A Bible Fair will begin at 2:00 pm at one of the outdoor pavilions. It will be moved to the Conference Center in case of rain. The Bible Fair will be fun for all ages, but especially for our youth. This will be a first, so be sure to check it out.

A cookout, starting at approximately 5:00 pm, will be held at one or both pavilions. Burgers, hotdogs, and fixin's will be on the menu.

A family dance will start at about 8:00 pm at the Conference Center. Music will be provided by Michael Deering and Bernard Carman. Bring your dancing shoes. Refreshments will be served. They plan to play "old folk music" early.

Monday morning will bring more seminars. There will be a "brainstorming" seminar led by Jim O'Brien at 9:00 am. We have left Monday morning free for the youth to plan their own activities, since Saturday and Sunday are both Sabbaths this year.

Summer Camp 2007

I know it's difficult to think about summer when it is freezing outside, but it is time to begin planning for summer camp. This year's summer camp will be held at Camp Wewoka Woods, near Wewoka, Oklahoma. The dates for camp are June 24 to July 1st.

Camp is open to all teens who are at least 13 but have not yet turned 19. Summer camp is open to all teens, regardless of their church affiliation, or that of their parents.

The tuition fee remains a real bargain at only \$260. But, we also recognize that not everyone can always afford to attend camp, so we have established a special camp scholarship fund. Anyone who would like to help sponsor a deserving young person attend camp can make a contribution to this camp fund. This special donation will still be tax deductible, but will be used exclusively for helping a young person come to camp.

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to explain on any rational basis the obsessive hatred of the Jews that persists in the world, but I think I understand what it is at the root.

At the very end of his ministry, Jesus was talking to his disciples about hatred. “If the world hate you,” he said, “ye know that it hated me before it hated you” (John 15:18). He went on to say, “He that hateth me hateth my Father also” (v. 23). And here is the bottom line. In the eyes of the world, the Jews represent God. They have refused to assimilate into the world at large and have retained their identity. And a world that hates God focuses that hatred on the Jews. Why wouldn’t they? And if all the Jews were gone, do you think the hatred would go away? No, it would fall on Christians, as it has already begun to do.

I can’t help wondering about this spirit of hatred that persists in the world. We can’t really understand it, perhaps because we don’t really like to think about it. But it should be plain to anyone that there is a spirit world that exists right alongside the world we live in. Perhaps you can recall that encounter Jesus had with the Devil. The adversary took him up to a mountain top and “showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory” (Matthew 4:8). “All this can be yours,” he said, “if you will fall down and worship me.”

I don’t think the Devil was showing Jesus the *physical* kingdoms of the world. I think he displayed kingdoms that he ruled—kingdoms in the spirit world. I asked above, “What is the rest of

the world to do when they come up against the absolute embodiment of evil in a man, a nation, or a movement?” Let me ask further: Do you believe that it is possible to negotiate with the Devil and achieve any worthwhile end? Do you think evil can be appeased?

There was a time in Israel’s history when they were the dominant power in the Middle East. It was during the reigns of David and Solomon. The world was in a state of chaos not very different from the mess in the Middle East today. What few people realize is that if the Arabs were able to wipe out the Jews, they would start in on one another. Look at the incessant killing in Gaza. Now that the Jews are not available for killing, they are killing one another.

Civil war certainly exists among the Palestinians, and something like religious gang war is common in Iraq. And while we are losing a few American soldiers and Marines in Iraq, the Iraqis are killing one another at an appalling rate. The Arab world is gripped in a fever of killing. We in the West love life. The Islamist world loves death and practices death at every opportunity. Iran is obsessed with obtaining the greatest killing weapon of all. Nuclear weapons.

And think of this: The Saudis have far more to fear from a nuclear Iran than we do. Right now, we have 18 Ohio class submarines. These are missile subs, called Boomers. Each one carries 24 Trident missiles. Each Trident missile carries 8 independently targeted warheads. That means that the President of the United States could give the word and rain

total destruction on 3,456 Arab cities and military sites. And these are not small suitcase nukes. These are the real megaton deal.

You would think that this fact would focus the minds of people like Ahmadinejad, but in fact, some would welcome death in such numbers. It would be an outcome to be relished. We won the Cold War with mutually assured destruction, because we were against an enemy who loved life. Now we have an enemy that loves death and cares nothing for nuclear retaliation—and may be motivated by a Spirit that hates God.

You cannot negotiate with this spirit. It sees negotiation as a sign of weakness to be exploited. We saw this most clearly with Adolph Hitler. We saw it again with Yasser Arafat. Why on earth didn’t the whole world know that the man was a liar, that he only used the peace process as a tool in his war to destroy Israel? There was no good will in Arafat. But then, there is no good will to be found in the Devil. And without good will, negotiations are pointless.

As World War II developed, the great powers realized they could not have another negotiated armistice as they had after the first Great War. Germany went home, licked her wounds and prepared to do it again. So they adopted a policy of unconditional surrender, and as a result, they crushed the enemy, completely demoralized them and left them with neither the will nor the means to resist. The result was they left the Japanese, Italians and Germans, in the same condition as the man out of whom

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Jesus cast a legion of demons.
Clothed and in their right mind.

The Allies adopted a policy similar to David's policy when he faced the chaos of the Arab world in his own day. He was the first king ever to disarm Iraq, and when the Syrians came to help the Iraqis, David soundly defeated them, put garrisons in Syria and made them pay taxes. I don't think King David had a State Department. He realized he was fighting an implacable enemy that could not be appeased—an enemy that understood brute force and nothing else. He may even have realized that he was fighting against men who had sold their souls to the Devil.

There is more, but space doesn't permit including it here. However, this is the basis of a new radio program you won't want to miss titled, *Negotiating with the Devil*. You can get a *FREE* CD or tape of the program just by checking the box on the enclosed card and sending it back to us.

Keeping you informed about world conditions,

Ronald L. Dart

PS. Did you know that if you don't have a radio station nearby, you can listen to any and all of these programs on your computer at home? Go to our website, www.borntowin.net, click on *Born to Win Audio Services*, and play today's program. Not only that, but if you click on *Radio Archives*, you will find two weeks of daily

programs. You can download them and listen to them at your leisure.

Moreover, you will find my sermon of the month listed there, and a sermon archive with dozens of sermons available for download. All that and more can be found at www.borntowin.net. Most material there is *FREE*, but you can also

contribute online to support CEM and *Born to Win* so that we can provide even more services.

And, we have launched a new email newsletter with links to the program and all the latest from CEM and *Born to Win*. On the home page of the website, click on the link in the *What's New* section.

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Activities include water skiing and tubing, swimming, horseback riding, mountain biking, group initiatives, ultimate Frisbee, arts and crafts, beach volleyball and basketball, dances, the annual camp fun show and "wacky" Olympics. Every year we try to add something new and plans are underway to continue this year with the addition of a service project as a part of arts and crafts as well as a new activity or two. We always have our daily Bible studies and group studies, and the "huddle" to close the day with praise and worship, but we are "spicing" things up a little this year.

If you know someone you think would enjoy camp, be sure to tell them to call, write or e-mail lsw@cemnetwork.com for an application. And, if you are able, please help a deserving young person come to camp by making a donation to the camp scholarship fund.

We look forward to the best ever summer camp for 2007. So be sure to get your name in early to insure your attendance at camp! For more information see our website at <http://www.borntowin.net/newsite/Announcement/index.aspx?level=1> or call 903-509-2999.



**Radio
Update**

Dallas, TX
KVCE 1160 AM
Sun 12:30 pm

Houston, TX
KSEV 700 AM
Sun 7:30 am

Corpus Christi, TX
KCTA 1030 AM
Sun 7:30 am

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