

From the editor

This month, let us share with you, Pastor Peter's message "From Babel to Pentecost - Next Stage after Globalism -."

From Babel to Pentecost

Next Stage after Globalism

Peter

On the evening of November 13, 2015, a series of coordinated terrorist attack took place in Paris and its vicinities, terminating 130 lives. It was the worst attack on France since World War II and the deadliest to the European Union (EU). In no time the ISI (Islamic State of Iraq) claimed responsibility for the attack, declaring that it was the retaliation for the French airstrikes on ISI targets in their territory.

The event shocked the world, especially the Western world. People were and still are aghast at the scale of devastation, terrified at the sudden appearance of hell in the peaceful land.

What makes the latest terrorism so hideous, I understand, is that the violence is deeply rooted in Muslims' feelings against Judeo-Christian civilization, which has been dominant in Europe for centuries. Even though modern Europe has lost its religious passion and has become secular society, Europe has retained its tradition of haughty

Christianity. The Muslim world would never forget the Western Church's aggressive invasion into their land. The crusade tried to conquer the Arab region and to establish Western civilization there. They made aggressive and vicious wars against the Muslim nations, only to find utter failure and defeat. Not only that, the West earned suspicion and even hostility of Muslims. Until very recently, the Arab region was nothing but the resource of oil and money for the West (and the rest of the world).

Observing the recent political moves by the European nations, I see how the Europeans' guilt feeling in their psyche has played out. When Chancellor Merkel announced that Germany would accept refugees from Syria without limit in the aftermath of the photograph of a Syrian boy found dead on the seashore which circulated all over the world, the world applauded her and Germany's tolerance. It was obvious, however, that Germany and the EU have physical and financial limits. They cannot afford to receive and accommodate all refugees.

Not only the ancient crusade but the Holocaust in World War II has played a great deal of Germans' guilt feeling toward other races and peoples. Insisting that it was Nazi, not German people, who did the cruelest act against the Jews, they must behave like reasonable and righteous gentlemen and show how loving and kind they are. They are to accept refugees as many as possible.

In general, the European nations have become quite tolerant toward Muslims and other races. Europe is supposed to be the land where different races live together in peace and harmony. After all, France, one of the main members of the EU, was born with the policy of liberty, equality, fraternity.

They simply believed in their goodness, and expected that people who immigrated from other countries would appreciate the tolerant policy of the EU and be assimilated into the European culture in no time.

To prove it, the EU adopted the most revolutionary social reform, but I think its aim was more toward economy. They not only introduced one common currency, Euro, but assured people of the freedom of movement. You can go anywhere within the EU without a passport. National boundaries now mean less than what they used to be. The distribution of goods became much easier. The Schengen Agreement has truly revolutionized the European countries.

Muslim immigrants in the EU, however, have taken a different path from what Europeans expected. “Since we are tolerant toward you, wouldn’t you become like us? Look, we’ve provided you with affordable housing. You now have the opportunity to receive education and to work. No more war. You can now pursue your dream, which would otherwise have been impossible . . .”

The scenario has not worked out as expected.

The above analysis may be too simplified, but I believe the essence can be thus summarized. It is humanitarianism in a form of politics.

More accurately it is called globalism. The idea is to place the interests of the entire world above those of individual nations. Instead of dividing the wealth or fighting over it, countries would share the mutual benefit as they come to be united.

It sounds great especially after fierce conflicts and disputes among nations. For centuries Europe suffered much due to wars among separate countries, and they needed true reconciliation and peace on the continent.

When the EU started to be formed around the 1970s, it was said that the long-awaited dream came true: liberty, equality and solidarity that mankind had long hoped for would finally be embodied. It was close to the paradise on the earth. No more dispute or conflict among nations. No tariff but free trade within the Union.

The system, however, has the innate weakness to begin with. It seems that money and wealth is going to just one country, namely Germany. You must acknowledge that Germans are diligent and hard workers who produce good products. In a very short time they have successfully dominated the European market, and the southern countries, such as Greece, Spain and Italy, have lost competitive power other than producing agricultural products.

In 2015, the world economy was threatened by possible bankruptcy of Greece, and Greeks were ridiculed as lazy bums. Granted that their pension system is questionable, the country, I think, would not have come near the bankruptcy crisis had she not become a member of the Union. To receive more financial aid from the EU, the Greek government had to promise to cut down a great amount of their pension.

I do not think it will work out, and the EU will have more serious financial problems in 2016.

In the not-so-distant future, I am afraid that the EU may be involved in severe internal conflicts and face a crisis of self-destruction. I am not an economist, but I have the similar suspicion toward the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) which has reached a tentative agreement among the participating countries. It looks like a great trade treaty, just as it did in the inception of the EU. As the EU had a hidden agenda that money would be gathered into Germany, the TPP, I suspect, will bring enormous profit and money to the United States

(and a little to Japan) at the expense of the less economically developed countries. It is a money game from the beginning to the end.

In spite of the tolerant policy the EU has enforced within the continent, Muslims do not behave as expected. Instead of gratitude, some, especially the youth, express their frustration and even anger toward the native Europeans. Granted that these Muslims have better housing and safer environment compared to the former time at their native country, the quality of life is far worse than that of Europeans. Many young Muslims do not have jobs. Their unemployment rate is higher than that of Europeans.

Besides, Muslims could not accept the life value that Europeans regard as good and excellent. Alas, Europeans have no faith at all. Instead of God, they worship money! The immigrants and the newly arrived refugees hold growing hostility toward the native Europeans. To add to their anger, they feel a great economic difference between the natives and the immigrants. Look, how poor we are among the rich Europeans! The difference of life value and the economic fact, I think, have triggered terrorism in Europe.

Nonetheless, it is not the problem only of Europe. It could be, no it is, the worldwide problem. We are all beneficiaries and at the same time victims of globalism. Democratic Capitalism, which I believe is the best form of the political systems in human history, has reached its maximum and now has exposed its innate evil, I mean man's greed, which is the root of globalism.

Many think that globalism is good for mankind, bringing riches and goodness to all people on the earth. That is not the case.

Globalism is the reenactment of the tower of Babel. The

One who oversees human history sees it as a sign of man's arrogance. You can see globalism in action in the beginning of human civilization.

Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. And it came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly." And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name; lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city. Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of the whole earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of the whole earth. (Genesis 11:1-9 NAS)

Was it wrong for all people to have one common language and work toward the same goal? After all, isn't it the dream and the vision of worldwide peace? History reveals how nations and peoples in the entire world have struggled to establish the global peace and benefit after World War I & II and the subsequent wars on the earth. The

United Nations (UN) was founded with good intentions and has tried to solve conflicts among nations, but we all know how powerless and sometimes hypocritical the organization is. At the time of this writing, China is rapidly expanding its military might and threatening the surrounding neighbors in the South Seas, but the UN can exercise little deterrent against the arrogant nation. China is playing her version of globalism; she is the strongest power of Asia (if not of the world) and she implies the rest should submit to her.

Globalism is nothing but man's arrogance. Just as the Lord God abolished the tower of Babel, He will resolve the globalism in its prime. Watch, this will surely come to pass, for the Lord God will not overlook man's arrogance, for it is based on and rooted in man's selfish desire for wealth and power. Man is not content with what he is and what he has. He constantly desires to have more and to expand his territory.

Man's greed is the root of all evil, and the Lord God will bring swift judgment upon the face of the earth. Human dominance through globalism shall be crushed to pieces just like the tower of Babel. What then shall we do? Should we go back to the old time of nationalism, quarreling among one another and making wars? Even though nationalism has proved to be a failure, some countries still retain this political form. A few countries desperately cling to the form of absolutism even to this day. Its ultimate state, you can see, is the society firmly controlled by the Antichrist in the Apocalypse. No freedom is in the state under his control. You cannot buy or sell without Satan's identification on your forehead. Do not think it is a fantasy, for it is possible now with the power of computers.

Yet we are not to accept all this with resignation as the

eschatological fate prophesied in the Bible. Diligent Christians claim the Scripture warns us that the hideous calamities will strike the entire world if we do not listen to the Word of God. Halt there, however. We are not to accept our favorite verses alone, but to believe the whole message of the Bible. I sincerely believe that the Word of God is nothing but His love for the whole creation. The earth and this world will have a chance to survive and will experience the total renewal in a shorter period under the reign of Christ if we stand firmly on the Word of God and keep praising the Lamb in Spirit and truth. No, we are not fatalists. We are the people of the *Heavenly Praise*.

Our God does intervene in human history. He is not apathic to our miseries and our hearts' cries, even though the Bible plainly states the eschatological calamities on the earth to come. The essence of the Word is summed up in this: All human history shall be consummated in Christ. (Ephesians 1:10 J.B. Phillips) We are to see His glory in everything and in every human event. It is the Lord God who completes the history.

Therefore I take the third way, neither nationalism nor globalism. There is God's way to go forward. Since we are engaged in the final cosmic warfare, we must find out God's way.

One of the *interpretations* Mitsuko has brought forth is the following:

In the commemoration service of the *Revelation Praise*, I heard the Lord say, "What did you see *then*?" I knew He meant the hour that the *Revelation Praise* had been bestowed on me. I had never verbalized it before, for I was just there surrounded by its

resounding tune. Should it be expressed in words, I must say I was beholding the cosmic sight that I had experienced at the night of the *White Dove*: The light in the form of a white dove flew toward me, dispersed before me and then another came toward me one after another. And now again I prayed and inquired the vision of the Lord:

Lord, what do You mean by “then”? What is the *Revelation Praise* for? What do You intend to show me?

*My own time it is.
I have revealed to you that My hour has come.
The time is rapidly approaching.
You are the people who should quicken the time.*

Hasn't it been always Your time?

*My hour has come –
It means the time
when the Heaven and the earth are united in Me.*
(January 17, 2015)

Indeed, now is the hour of the Lord. In this eschatological time we are to quicken the time. It is the most urgent task to which the Lord has called the people of praise. We must be aware of the task, for our consciousness of the divine mission will change the course of history.

Life seems to develop through pro and con reaction. When nationalism dwindles, history shows the rising of globalism. Yet the third phase of history will be nothing like the previous stages, for it will be integrated with the divine light of Christ. I sincerely believe that the third stage is the kingdom of God which is to be manifested in human history.

When it appears, we shall witness man's dream of

globalism, namely liberty, equality and fraternity, being realized under the reign of the King of kings. The Lord God will form a new Body in which all human schemes in the past will be reconstructed and completely renewed. Our dream of liberty, peace and love among nations is a shadow of the coming kingdom of God. When the real appears, the shadow disappears. Then mankind will truly understand the biblical injunction:

Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have.

(Hebrews 13:5 NAS)

When the root of all evil, our greed, is eradicated, man will enjoy true worship wholeheartedly. Yes, worship in Spirit and truth is the key to the coming new kingdom. Spiritual worship brings forth the heavenly reality to our dispensation. When spiritual worship flourishes all over the world, we shall see man's dream for peace, freedom and equality realized on the earth. The true kingdom of God is through the true worship to the Lord God, that is New Jerusalem, the Bride, and the tabernacle of God on the earth.

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or

crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.” And He who sits on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” And He said, “Write, for these words are faithful and true.”

(Revelation 21:1-5 NAS)

The divine community will emerge here on the earth, and we will be persuaded that this is what we humans have struggled to have since the beginning of history. The Lord God will “wipe away every tear” from those who have strived to make peace on the earth. And we all shall enter the new dimension of the world where “there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain,” for all systems of the old world have passed away.

We thought that must be a fantasy, daydream and biblical mumbo jumbo, but it is not so. We are now on the threshold of the divine kingdom to be manifested here on the earth. It is not a farfetched dream, but the very reality. Then we will all witness the greatest harmony bestowed on us.

And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them. Also the cow and the bear will graze; their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. And the nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den. They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

(Isaiah 11:6-9 NAS)

Perfect harmony it is on the earth. No more contention or war among nations.

Not only that, we must understand that the increase of

knowledge, which has been the vital sign of the eschatological time, is now renewed and refurnished as the divine knowledge, and it is now covering the entire world as the waters cover the sea. Globalism and increasing knowledge, the two vital signs of the end time, are now redeemed in the dispensation of God and are presented as the blessed gifts of the Lord for all mankind and the nature.

This is the *Cosmic Worship*. It is our task to hold the divine image of the coming world, for we are the ones to invoke the fulfillment of God's desire. Should we keep up the image with the *Heavenly Praise*, we shall be able to shorten the time to bring forth His kingdom here on the earth. Then we shall see the Lord God who once destroyed the tower of Babel and scattered human languages give a completely new language to the Body of Christ.

It will be just like the day of Pentecost. The heavenly miracle will happen to the Body.

And when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent, rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. (Acts 2:1-4 NAS)

Yes, it is speaking in tongues in the day of Pentecost. As it was in the old days, the mysterious phenomenon symbolizes the unity in the Spirit, even though people have no understanding of one another. Human relationship with our neighbors is not so important compared to our direct relationship to the Lord God. Pentecost is far more important

than Babel.

In the days of Babel, they knew the most effective means to achieve their ambition, that is to conquer the world and reach the Heaven using the same language. United they stood. Language was and is nothing but the tool for communication of thoughts. The more knowledge man possesses through language, the more powerful he can be. No wonder man craves for more knowledge and the Lord God is displeased with man's work of accumulating knowledge.

The ancient prophet heard the Lord speak:

But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.

(Daniel 12:4 NAS)

The enormous amount of knowledge that we are accumulating by the development of computer technology is unparalleled in history. Even though it has brought much benefit to our life, it has also produced weapons destructive to mankind as a whole. Now in the dispensation of God's kingdom, however, the increase of knowledge will be turned to the covering over the earth with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. God's newness will take over man's oldness.

With the destruction of the tower of Babel, mankind has been in such a state of multi-language that communication with one another is not easy. With the outpouring of the Spirit, however, man has to discover a hidden intention of language: The deepest mystery of language will be revealed

when it works as communion with God. It is life-communion; the divine life will be poured out on us when the language is used as a communion tool with God.

As man holds the vertical relationship with the Lord God as the number one priority, he will find consequently his horizontal relationship with other humans arranged and peaceful. When he finds true language (to worship the Lord I mean), he will understand his fellow humans. Man's language becomes pure when it is used as adoration and praise unto the Lord.

Thus the language will restore its original purpose, that is to commune with God. In worship, man will experience the purest and most vital power that the "word" can offer us. And finally we understand the mystery of the incarnated Word of God.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

(John 1:1-5 NAS)

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