

The World's greatest evil

For the past 48 years, beginning with my first serious trip behind the Iron Curtain to Yugoslavia in 1961, my wife and I have been working in restricted-access countries. Now for the past nine years our work has been increasingly focused on Islam.

Without a doubt, communism constituted a tremendous threat to America (and believe-it-or-not, still does). Until the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, the Reds ruled almost a third of the earth and intimidated the rest. But there was a unique factor that constituted its Achilles' heel – only 5% of any country was actually members of the Communist Party. The 5% controlled the 95%.

Today Islam boasts approximately 1.2 billion followers. The most significant difference is that almost 95% of the people in these Muslim countries are committed to the 6th Century ideology of a desert-bandit pedophile who told his followers to “spread the faith by the sword” – jihad.

Communism and Islam: There are many parallels in these two faiths. Both *claim* an interest in “peace.” The communists speak of “the lion and the lamb lying down together,” but in their mind the lamb is *inside* the lion.

When the Muslims speak of peace it is the “peace of Islam” which means “submission” to Allah and Shariah law. As they spread the faith there are only two alternatives: submit or die. Islam is a religion of death. They

love death and are willing to die as martyrs and the more infidels they can kill the more brownie-points they gain with Allah. What kind of god is that?

Yet, many of our pulpits are silent today in the presence of this evil. Some pastors are afraid of liberal cells within the church that will be critical of them if they speak out. In the growing climate of multiculturalism they are worried about being accused of bigotry and left to swing in the wind by their own church.

Paul warned the Church at Ephesus, “*We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age.*”

Eph. 6:12 The Ephesians persevered in many good works, but eventually – in a series of unguarded moments – gradually left their first love. Rev. 2:1-4

We must beware the disaster facing a church that fails to speak out in the presence of this clear and present danger. Why this timidity? Are we afraid of being labeled controversial? For 28 years ITMI has been dealing with tyrant regimes that have tortured saints in the restricted-access countries where we operate. As far back as the 80s we warned of the rise of radical Islam. Few listened.

As theologians de-emphasize the centrality of Christ in our life and society and neglect to assert the *uniqueness* of Jesus as “the Way, the Truth and the Life” a spiritual vacuum is created which radical Islam will rush to fill. Where are the ‘watchmen on the wall’?

The Arabian culture in which Muhammad was born had 360 gods – one for each day of the lunar year. That was too much for the self-proclaimed “Prophet” so he chose one, the lunar god Allah, to replace all the rest. But Allah is **not** Jehovah. Allah is a false, left-over pagan god of the moon worshipers. Allah did not create the “heavens and the earth.” Jehovah created the object of worship that Allah represents. Let's get it straight.

Multiculturalism discriminates in favor of those who challenge the established values of America. Even our President, on a recent Summit tour of Europe, told the President of Turkey (a Muslim country), “We do not consider ourselves a Christian nation, a Jewish nation or a Muslim nation. We consider ourselves a nation of citizens who are bound by ideals and a set of values” – which is another way of saying, “If you don't stand for

something, you'll fall for anything.”

Alexis de Tocqueville understood in the 19th Century that it was a strong Christian faith present in the churches across America that made this country great. Today

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some churches are falling over themselves to accommodate the Muslims, while in many circles Christianity is viewed as irrelevant and Christians are becoming an oppressed minority.

In my lifetime I've seen two great evils confront our Faith – Communism and Islam. The latter is by far the worst and in our increasingly secular society the most dangerous, for while Christianity is being sidelined by so-called “progressives,” Islam is rushing in to fill the vacuum.

There are liberal politicians and even some churchmen who seek to sideline those whom they perceive as *aggressive* Christians; whom they feel “increase the level of fear by exposing the threat of radical Islam.” Thus in this prevailing climate of appeasement and religious submission on the part of Christians, the Muslims are rubbing their hands in glee at what they consider our fatal weakness. We must keep our eyes on Jesus, proclaim Him as the **only** Way of salvation – and prove them wrong.

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