



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Church Adverts sparks press row in Canada

Paid for by Heritage Free Presbyterian Church

THE UNMASKING OF ANTICHRIST

Rev. C.H. Spurgeon is arguably the most famous, but certainly the most-quoted Baptist preacher in history. He lived in England in the 1800's and pastored the Metropolitan Tabernacle (which seated over 6,000), preaching to more than 10 million souls in his day! Let us hear C. H. Spurgeon on Antichrist.

"It is the bounden duty of every Christian to pray against Antichrist; and, as to what Antichrist is no sane man ought to raise a question. If it be not popery in the Church of Rome there is nothing in the world that can be called by that name. If there were to be issued a hue and cry for Antichrist, we should certainly take up this church on suspension, and it would certainly not be let loose again, for it so exactly answers the description.

Popery is contrary to Christ's Gospel, and is the Antichrist, and we ought to pray against it. It should be the daily prayer of every believer that Antichrist might be hurled like a millstone into the flood, and for Christ, because it wounds Christ,

because it robs Christ of His glory, because it puts sacramental efficacy in the place of His atonement, and lifts a piece of bread into the place of the Saviour, and a few drops of water into the place of the Holy Ghost, and puts a mere fallible man like ourselves up as the vicar of Christ on earth; if we pray against it, because it is against Him, we shall love the persons though we hate their errors: we shall love their souls though we loath and detest their dogmas, and so the breath of our prayers will be sweetened, because we turn our faces towards Christ when we pray."

Quoted from C.H. Spurgeon, Minister Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, England.

Join us for a very SPECIAL SERIES of messages on Sunday evenings
"THE UNMASKING OF ANTI-CHRIST"
 The "man of sin" revealed in the Word of God

Join us for our Lord's Day Services
 Sunday School 10:00 am • Morning Worship 11:00 am • Evening Service 6:30 pm

Heritage Free Presbyterian Church
 4020 Bainsam Road, Prince George
 Questions or comments? Call Pastor Thomas 962-8232

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One of the adverts which sparked the rumpus.

A series of articles written for his church advert by Rev. Jonathan Thomas, minister of Heritage Free Presbyterian Church in Prince George, British Columbia, sparked a row in which pressure was exerted by ecumenists on the local newspaper editor to ban the adverts. Ecumenical churchmen, who took exception to the articles because they exposed the anti-christianity of the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church, demanded that the editor refuse to publish the adverts. The Advertising Manager stood firm on the right of free speech and defended Rev. Thomas's right to place such adverts and our brother was able to complete the series of adverts.

The adverts, headed "Let The Bible Speak"-- dealt with the historic perception of the Pope as an anti-christ. Mr. Thomas has quoted from Reformation and Puritan writings to support his view. In one advert, he quoted extensively from C H Spurgeon on the antichristianity of the pope and his false doctrines.

The very reaction of the pro-Rome lobby demonstrates the need for such an exposure of Rome's

falsehoods. Were these the ecumenists to get their way, all freedom to preach the Word of God and apply its truths to the errors of today would be taken from us.

The resulting publicity drew people in under the sound of the Word of God in Heritage Church. That has made the whole controversy worthwhile. Here is Rev. Thomas's summary of the affair. "The results were certainly noticeable! We had visitors to each of the Sunday evening services. Two ladies who came to the meetings (one a converted R.C.) have kept coming to our evening services since then. The opposition was pretty intense: an 'anonymous letter' was left at our church one Sunday morning while the service was going on inside. The Editor of the paper that carried our articles tried to stop our adverts but the Advertising Manager refused to do so because my articles was creating interest and selling his papers, etc. Some of our people have been pressured by their families and friends to leave our church. One member who comes (a lady) was met by her next door neighbour who was standing at her front door when she got home from church one evening. Her neighbour was furious at her and told her she would never allow her little boy to come to Sunday School again and the Free Presbyterian Church was a bunch of fanatics who just hated Catholics, etc. She came from the south of Ireland as a little girl and said she has



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heard Dr. Paisley. He yelled at her and scared her as a little girl and she "knows" that he and all the ministers in the FPC won't be happy until all the R.C.'s are dead! "

Please pray for our brethren and the congregations to which they minister in Canada and in other outposts of the gospel that they may be granted grace to continue to preach and witness amidst an atmosphere of ecumenical hostility. Few have any fellowship outside their own immediate flock and some are hundreds of miles from their nearest Free Presbyterian Church neighbour.