



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

The broadening basis of Ecumenism



Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, one of the United States' most powerful Muslim leaders, right, embraces Australia's Cardinal George Pell during the sign of peace in an inter-faith prayer meeting at Sydney's St. Mary's Cathedral Thursday, April 1, 2004.

Babylonianism, the end-time religion that will predominate the world, is described in the Bible as "the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird," Revelation 18:2. It will be the amalgam of every false religion upon the earth. Meetings promoting the amalgamating of the world's religions have been a feature of ecumenical events for over half a century. So much so that they are hardly noticed. But Christian, notice them you should!

Recently, in Australia, just such a meeting took place. It prominently featured Australian Cardinal, George Pell, and a prominent Muslim cleric from the United States, Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf of New York. We are told that hundreds of "Christians", Muslims, Jews, Buddhists and Hindus gathered in prayer for global peace and tolerance. The worshippers packed St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney for this inter-faith prayer meeting.

Rauf told the gathering that in today's world people from all religious faiths, and even those with no religion, must talk and seek to understand their different points of view.

The prayer he offered has been reported in the press. "O Almighty Creator, we call upon you to inspire all of us present to seek a deeper global commitment to world peace because in that commitment lies one of the purest paths to self-perfection and compassion and intimacy with you."

Of course there will be a political input to all this wonderful "peace-seeking"! New South Wales State Premier, Bob Carr welcomed Rauf's appeal as timely. "I think it's been important for Australians from non-Islamic backgrounds to hear him and to hear his perspectives," he said. All too many Christians ignore such events and fail to see the significance of them. That is very foolish and sinful. Remember the Saviour's words. "When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" Matthew 16:2-3. These events are storm clouds gathering on the horizon and coming our way, irrespective of where we live. In the midst of all the so-called tolerance, there is none for the Bible's message of Christ. This unity will be of the spirit of that formed between Pilate and Herod against the Saviour. The system of religion being formed before our eyes is the one God describes as being "drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus," Revelation 17:6.