



## The Burning Bush—Online article archive

### Vicious attacks on the elderly — a feature of 2003!



A recent victim of thuggery

Despite all the political upheavals of the year just past, I believe that for many it will be the increased attacks upon the elderly in their homes by young men in their teens and early twenties that have made 2003 a year to be remembered. The badly injured faces of the victims, often frail and invalids, printed on the front pages of the local newspapers and seen by millions on the television screens, will live long in the memory of many. The attacks brought great fear upon the elderly community living alone. It also brought confusion, for such activities were virtually unknown in previous generations. These attacks beg the question — WHY? Why could anyone, no matter how great their greed for money, attack a frail person and harm them so? For an answer to that question we must turn to the Word of God.

Turning to the Bible for an answer to the social problems of today is something society is not inclined to do, thanks to the discrediting of the Bible by the time-serving men in the pulpits of the land and the theology of human reasoning that they have espoused. After all, who is going to heed someone or seek their counsel when their “cures and potions” have so miserably failed? The disorder in society and the utter disregard for others are the harvest of the modernistic theology that the main churches espoused a generation ago. They abandoned the faith set forth in the historic creeds of Protestantism and embraced the liberalism and rationalism so fashionable amongst the so-called “intelligentsia.”

With the casting away of the Bible came the abandoning of common decency and consideration for others that sprang from the fear of God and the recognition of our duty toward Him and our neighbour.

The Saviour’s reply to an important question provides us with the core of true religion. “Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets,” Matthew 22:36-40. In one recent attack, that upon an elderly Christian man, the foul language of the attacker was rebuked by the words: “The Lord is watching you.” The young thug’s reply was basically unprintable but he made it plain that he had no regard for the Lord. In that, he never said a truer word!

In this particular attack, in which the attackers used a hatchet, the old man’s teeth and nose were broken. His attacker was caught after he broke the jaw of an elderly lady a few days later.

#### What saith the scriptures?

The Word of God tells us of these developments in those prophecies which deal with the



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close of this age.

Paul, in 2 Timothy 3, particularly states the features of the demeanour of men generally as the coming of the Lord draws near. This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away, 2 Timothy 3: 1-5.

The chief feature of the age is set forth under the term perilous. We can best understand the meaning of the word if we look at the only other place it appears. And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way, Matthew

8:28. Here it is translated by the word fierce. The two devil-possessed men give us a very good picture of the modern young thug.

Paul also tells us why such evil trends will develop. Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils, 1 Timothy 4: 1. When the devil's lie is taught in society, do not be surprised at society taking on a resemblance to him. The Word of God promotes godliness and the word of the devil promotes devilishness. That is what we see demonstrated in these attacks. In the final analysis, the pulpits of Ulster, and the other lands afflicted with the same plague, will have a lot to answer for!