



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

The devil's work and who is doing it?



The "Belfast Telegraph" of May 23rd 2007, under the headline "**Paisley blasts his critics for doing 'the devil's work'**", mischievously sought to make me the subject of Dr Paisley's attack in an article under his name in the Free Presbyterian Church's magazine, "The Revivalist."

In "The Revivalist" article, Dr Paisley did not name those to whom he was referring. The "Belfast Telegraph" reporter is speculating when he linked my name to those targeted by Dr Paisley in "The Revivalist".

In the article, Dr Paisley said: "It is the ploy of Satan to attack those whom God has signally appointed and specially anointed as leaders in His work." "The tactics of Satan have not changed and the Bible was written that we might be prepared for similar satanic attacks upon the leaders of God's work today." "To depart from the clear commands of Scripture and enter into a tirade of accusations and call for support from the blatantly ungodly as contenders in arms with their views is completely anti-scriptural."

The "Belfast Telegraph" reporter then went on to refer to my opposition to the present power-sharing arrangement between the Democratic Unionist Party, led by Dr Paisley, and the murderous Sinn Fein/IRA party and implied that I was the target of Dr Paisley's attack.

I do not think that such a presumption on the part of the reporter is correct and should it be correct and I were the target, then the attack is utterly unwarranted.

It would be far from the truth to say that I have not expressed my views personally to Dr Paisley. Equally, it would be far from the truth to say that I have allied myself with the "blatantly ungodly", or indeed, anyone else in any attack upon him.

On November 4th, two days prior to a meeting between a Presbytery delegation of ministers and Dr Paisley and other leading members of the DUP, I e-mailed him with the question that I was going to put to him when I met him. This I did in order to remove any appearance of trying to "score points" in the discussion that would take place.

I also said in that e-mail that I believed that should he become First Minister with Martin McGuinness as Deputy First Minister in a power-sharing arrangement with Sinn Fein/IRA, his new role would be incompatible with his being moderator of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster.

Here is the text of that e-mail.

November 4th, 2006.



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Dear Ian,

You will know that the reported terms of agreement between the DUP and Sinn Fein/IRA which may or may not be finally ratified, are the cause of great concern amongst those who are your friends.

Personally, I could never give my consent to Martin McGuinness holding the office of Deputy First Minister and the thought of you, whose life's struggle is known to me as well as any outside of your own immediate family, finding yourself in tandem with one who is guilty of the blood-shedding of so many of our fellow countrymen is utterly heart-breaking and incompatible with your duties as Moderator of our church.

Whatever the future holds for us all, I would wish you to know that I and my whole family hold the name and the labours of Ian Paisley in highest esteem. That is what makes the possibility of you in political partnership with such a wicked man so unthinkable and grievous to me.

I have been placed upon the Presbytery delegation that will meet with representatives of the DUP on Monday.

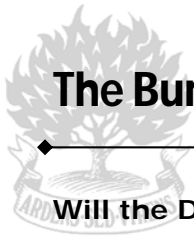
As a token of my sincerity and to show that I do not consider this to be a matter of scoring points, I am now giving you a copy of the question I intend asking in the will of God.

"In the light of the teaching of the Word of God that aiding wicked men into high office or forming a political alliance with them for such, as in the case of Jehoshaphat, is seen by the Lord as helping the ungodly and loving them that hate the Lord, 2 Chronicles 19:2;

And in the light of the murderous careers of Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness, to name but two of the leaders of the organisation which we have all, in the past, agreed was a monstrous and ungodly organisation upon which the judgment of God rested;

And in the light of the DUP's oft-repeated and uncompromising rejection of the possibility of Sinn Fein/IRA holding office in a coalition while it did not manifest a "sackcloth and ashes" spirit of repentance which would necessitate the complete dismantling of every aspect of its terrorist organisation, its handing over the names of those guilty of crimes for which they have not yet been punished, a return of Sinn Fein/IRA's ill-gotten gains from robbery and intimidation as well as its full support for the police and justice system;

And in the light of the teaching of Rome that "no faith is to be kept with heretics" and that it is lawful for a person to dissemble when taking an oath by holding a mental reservation regarding the substance of the oath being taken:



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Will the DUP enter a political partnership with Sinn Fein/IRA?"

Since that meeting on November 6th last year, I have repeatedly enlarged upon my views in Dr. Paisley's presence within Presbytery.

There have been occasions when procedural steps have been taken to hinder the articulating of such views. But on Friday 2nd March, March 30th and May 4th, opposition to Dr. Paisley's occupying the moderator's chair while leading a power-sharing arrangement with Sinn Fein/IRA was clearly stated to him.

As well as this, I have openly preached upon the matter in a series of sermons and freely made them available to all who desire to listen to them.

I have also authored some brief articles on this serious issue and its implications, which again are freely available. In them all when referring to Dr. Paisley I named him. I leave the terminology of what I said and the spirit in which I said it to be judged by those who care to listen to my sermons.

At no time did I utter criticism of him under the cloak of withholding the name of the person to whom I was referring.

Question

Just what is **"the work of the devil"**? The Saviour is the best person to answer that question. **"Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it,"** John 8:44.

According to the Lord Jesus, the devil's work is **murder and lies**.

Nothing I think is more clearly stamped upon the ethos and endeavours of Sinn Fein/IRA than these two vices. They have murdered and lied their way to their present position.

Latterly, they have been assisted into government by the DUP since all Sinn Fein/IRA's murderous and deceitful efforts would have failed if they had not persuaded the DUP to join them as coalition partners.

To join in league with Sinn Fein/IRA, as the DUP has done, is coming dangerously close to being linked to those two chief works of the one Christ called **a murderer and a liar**, the devil.

Ivan Foster.
24th May 2007.