

# Christ, by our Faith, Hope & Charity, Conquers

## Infiltration by Satan and his Espionage, Sabotage & Subversion

**S**ATAN gloats when people deny he exists. He gloats over all sin, especially:

- Sins against **Faith** like apostasy and sacrilege;
- Sins against **Hope** like presumption and despair, or tendencies in such direction like pessimism, defeatism and gloom,
- Sins against **Charity** like malice and hate.

**Satan tries to insinuate his agenda into our thinking:**

- by **distracting** us from the full truth,
- by **blinding** us with our own **enthusiasms**, and
- by **manipulating** our feelings.

**INFILTRATION: The Plot to destroy the 'Church from within**, by Taylor R. Marshall, Crisis Publications, Sophia 2019

In his book, Marshall exposes the infiltration by Satan's Marxism and Freemasonry, and he makes good use of Bella Dodd, convert from Communism to Catholicism.

However, his good work is marred by vague, grave allegations against Paul VI and Vatican II; also he so exposes iniquity -- and there is no shortage of that -- that some readers will feel like giving up altogether. It's a book only for the battle-hardened, with a strong stomach.

He himself seems **somewhat infiltrated**, and we too must guard ourselves against Satanic **self-deception**.

For instance, he objects to "**Subsists** in the Catholic Church" (LG n. 8), yet it's **dictionary definition** is "**to exist or continue to exist**". What's wrong with that?

Again, he says VCII blurs the difference between priest and laity. That is straight out false:

Though they **differ essentially and not only in degree**, the **common priesthood of the faithful** and the **ministerial or hierarchical priesthood** are none the less **ordered one to another**; each in its own proper way shares in the one priesthood of Christ. The ministerial priest, by the sacred power that he has, forms and rules the priestly people; in the person of Christ he **effects the eucharistic sacrifice** and offers it to God **in the name of all the people**. The faithful indeed, by virtue of their royal priesthood, participate in the offering of the Eucharist.

*Lumen Gentium* n. 10b; and cf. *Actuositatem Apostolicam* n. 2)

## Foundations of HOPE in truth and faith

*Without a vision, the people perish* (KJV Proverbs 29:18)

*Through mud & blood, to the green fields beyond* (RAC)

*Constant Vigilance and Eternal Suspicion* (Jungle Warfare)

See *Handouts* n. 120 p.2: Espionage, Sabotage, Subversion.

## FAITH AND PIETY and the Wisdom of Solomon

"Give Thy servant therefore an understanding mind that I may discern between good and evil... to discern what is right..." (1 Kings 3:9,11,12)

Keep up a full and balanced faith and piety with the **Twenty Mysteries of the Rosary**: through Christ's Passion and Resurrection and beyond, to the final triumph, the Crowning of our Lady, embodying in herself and all at once the glories of God in His Creation and New Creation, and His Son's Incarnation, Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension.

2. Find friends who are **undaunted by the excess of evil** and who know how to hold onto Truth, Beauty, Goodness and God.

## MORALE in the CHURCH

### Lessons for the Church Militant from the Army

**F**IELD-MARSHAL SLIM was a great military leader in World War II, specially in Burma (1942-1945).

He worked very hard to **build up morale**. In his memoirs, *Defeat into Victory*, 1956, he said the most important thing about an army commander was his effect on morale.

He added that "success is the easy foundation on which to build morale -- if you have it... [But] even without success, confidence in their leaders will give soldiers morale."

The dictionary says that '**morale**' is the French feminine of 'moral', and that it is **the spirit of devotion and enthusiasm among members of a group for one another, their group and its purpose**. For both individual and group it is shown in willingness to perform assigned tasks, confidence, cheerfulness, and discipline. Morale is *esprit de corps* and *élan*.

Morale was the context for General Slim's enthusiasm for his motto, "**God helps those who help themselves**." It goes back to Aesop and his fables (c. 550 B.C. in *Hercules and the Wagoner*): "The gods help them that help themselves."

This was 'baptized' into a Judaeo-Christian formula enunciated by George Herbert in *Jacula Prudentum*: "**Help thyself and God will help thee**."

Some variants are:

"For to the worker God Himself lends aid," (Euripides 428 B.C.);

"Trust in God and keep your [gun] powder dry," (Oliver Cromwell);

and "Pray as if it all depends on God and work as though it all depends on you." [Is this from St Thomas More, or from the Jesuits? Readers might care to inform us.]

"**Morale is a state of mind**," said General Slim. "It is that intangible force w/ ich will move a whole group of men to give their last ounce to achieve something, without counting the cost to themselves; that makes them **feel they are part of something greater than themselves**. If they are to feel that, their morale must, if it is to endure -- and the essence of morale is that it should endure -- have certain foundations. These **foundations are spiritual, intellectual and material**, and that is the order of their importance:

1. **SPIRITUAL** foundations come first because they alone can stand real strain. For the army, 'spiritual' is not necessarily a religion but **simply belief in a cause**. There must be a great and noble object whose achievement is vital and everyone must feel that his contribution counts. [Similar statements, by the way, are found in the writings of St John Bosco, Gilbert Highert, Cyril Northcote Parkinson and Fr James V. Schall S.J.]

Significantly, Slim did add that, "**The Christian religion is above all others a source of that enduring courage which is the most valuable of all the components of morale**."

2. **INTELLECTUAL** foundations, because men are **moved by reason**. The troops must be convinced that the object is attainable; that the organization is efficient; and have confidence in their leaders and that the leaders care about them.

3. **MATERIAL** foundations are important but come last because the very highest kinds of morale are often met when material conditions are lowest. Everyone needs to feel he will get a fair deal from his leaders and from the organization; that he will be properly helped and equipped and given a suitable environment in which to work.

General Slim was popular but did not set out to be so. He did not hesitate to sack any battalion commander who had more than 5% of his troops not taking their anti-malaria pills -- since sickness immobilized 120 times as many troops as wounds.

He believed in informal **pep talks** to his troops, from generals down to privates -- like a parliamentary candidate except that he made no promises. His approach was simplicity itself. Two things only are necessary, he asserted -- "**Know what you're talking about and believe it yourself.**"

Slim reckoned lack of oratorical power was no obstacle as long as you "**knew your stuff and were dead honest.**"

He believed in old-fashioned army discipline but with a human face: "Every step must be taken to build up the **confidence of the soldier in his leaders.** For instance, it is not enough to be efficient; the organization must look efficient. If the Guard is smart and alert, and the men you meet are well turned out and salute briskly, you cannot fail to get an impression of efficiency. You are right; ten to one that unit is efficient. If you go into a headquarters and find the clerks scruffy, the floor unswept, and dirty tea mugs staining fly-blown papers on the office tables, it may be efficient, but no visitor will think so."

Some think **saluting** is demeaning. Its origins are medieval: knights lifted their right hands to raise the visors on their helmets so that they could be recognized and to show they had no weapon in their hand. Saluting is not servile: lower ranks are required to salute commissioned officers, but those officers are then required to respond by saluting the lower ranks, so that there is mutual confidence and respect.

## SELF-RELIANCE AND LEADERSHIP

**SIR WILLIAM SLIM** -- he was 'Sir William' during his stint as Governor General of Australia -- was written up in *The Sydney Morning Herald* of 15<sup>th</sup> December, 1970 (and this is quoted in all Father Tierney's Bush Boys' books):

"His simple ways, simple speech and unaffected dress (in 'civies' he looked like a farmer) endeared him to Australians, despite his frank disbelief that organized games were of much value in building character.

He said: "Pitching your own camp, trekking across country, sailing a boat, crossing England in a canal barge: things like these **teach a lad self-reliance** in a way games cannot. Games are not like life and not much preparation for it either."

He used to "recall with a chuckle that he narrowly escaped being thrown out of a [British Army] staff college in India for questioning the character building value of polo."

Addressing his officers in the Burma Campaign, General Slim said, "You will neither eat nor drink, you will not sit down or as much as lean against a tree until you have first made sure that the men under you have already done so."

## THE CHURCH'S MORALE

**T**ODAY the Catholic Church worldwide needs General Slim's theory-&-practice of morale-building:

What is most necessary in the present debacle is that **bishops build up the morale of their priests.** Conversely, **priests need to encourage morale-building by bishops.**

Then priests and bishops need to **build up the morale of the laity**, for their apostolate in family, workplace and society.

**Fathers** need to be morale-boosters to **families, mothers and children**: all have responsibility to each other "to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield" (Lord Tennyson, *Ulysses*, 44).

Slim's comments on 'the fighting man' can be adapted by

Christians to their life-long warfare with **the world, the flesh and the Devil**: "That first essential in the fighting man, the desire to close with the enemy... The fighting man's basic qualities: **courage, endurance, cheerfulness** and an eye for country... [For us, the moral environment.] The fundamentals of war... that soldiers must be **trained** before they can fight, **fed** before they can march, and **relieved** before they are worn out."

**For us, the salvation of our souls is at stake.**

**F**INALLY, IT IS GOD Who is our ultimate source of morale. "**The Lord alone is my leader,**" (Deuteronomy. 32:12). He never fails us. God gives us our morale: His morale is His grace, and His gifts of Faith, Hope and Charity. Let us exercise them strenuously.

## Suffering from Softship

by Robert Newson, Forth, Tasmania, letters, *The Australian*, 11-121990.

"We hear a lot nowadays about people suffering hardship, usually because of what the Government has done or failed to do. Yes, there is some real hardship -- people with inadequate food, clothing and shelter, and they deserve our sympathy and any help we can give, but I doubt if they are the ones who make the most noise.

"Too often hardship seems to mean that someone has trouble meeting the payments on a power boat or video camera, or that a child has to walk half a kilometre to the bus.

"I should like to coin a word, **softship**, and suggest that it is what most of us are suffering from today and have been for several decades. It means having too much and too many of most things, many of them unnecessary, and believing that we have a right to more and more, and bigger and better for ever and ever. It is dignified and even sanctified under the name of 'standard of living'.

"Personal experience has shown me that real hardship often brings out the best in people and softship usually brings out the worst."

## Mediocrity for all ? -- No !

**S**YDNEY GRAMMAR headmaster, Dr. Ralph Townsend (*The Australian*, 12-11-1990) aims for a revolution by tradition, by recommitment to the classics, embodying the cultivation of the discipline of language and excursion into a thought-world different from our own. We have produced a generation of **technocrats and commercialists**, too many of whom are men and women of weak judgement and careless morality. We have no concept of *taste*.

He told parents we must train the intellect and wisdom needed for future leadership in a country which urgently needs to **reconstitute its moral and cultural life**. Trendy courses in personal development, mechanical technical skills and the more vacuous manifestations of so-called social sciences will have to be sought elsewhere.

"The **humanities** have been neglected because of a preoccupation with educating children in order that they may be suitably employed. No longer are children encouraged to acquire knowledge for the love of it.

"Educators and politicians striving for equity have arrived at mediocrity. In setting curricula that all can achieve we have discouraged the intellectually advanced from reaching their potential. **Equity has meant mediocrity for all.**"

*Father James Tierney*