

# The Sackcloth Times

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*For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

- Luke 14:11

## **TO HIS HOLY HIGHNESS the WORSHIPFUL BISHOP REV. Dr. APOSTLE GRAND POOBAH excerpted from J. Lee Grady article**

Jesus just wasn't into titles. We shouldn't be either.

I am often asked if I have a title, and my answer doesn't satisfy some people. I travel a lot, so I don't consider myself a pastor. All kinds of labels have been pinned on me: Reverend, prophet, apostle, even bishop. Once I was introduced to a church as "Dr. Grady" and I almost crawled under my seat. I only have a college degree. There are no letters after my name.

I tell people: "You can call me Lee. Or if you want to sound formal, you can say, 'Brother Grady.'"

Today it seems we've developed a title fetish. For a while everyone in charismatic circles was becoming a bishop (and some were installed into this office with rings, robes and funny-looking hats). Then the same guys with the pointy hats started calling themselves apostles. Then the prophets got jealous and started calling themselves apostles too! I knew one lady who, not to be outdone, required people to call her "Exalted Prophetess."

Now the latest fad is requiring church folks to address certain people as apostles. (As in, "When Apostle Holy Moly arrives, please only address him as, 'Apostle,' and then make sure he is seated in a private room while his two adjutants, wearing dark glasses, guard his door.") They've even invented an elaborate theology to go along with this ridiculous rule. It suggests that you can't receive the true anointing from a man of God if you don't honor him with the right title.

Sounds so very ooo-oooh spiritual to the naive. But it's garbage. Jesus didn't play this religious game, especially when he was around the Grand Poobahs of His day—the long-robed scribes and Pharisees. After accusing them of loving the best seats in the synagogues, He pointed out that they loved to be called "Rabbi" by men (see Matt. 23:7). Then He warned them: "But do not be called Rabbi; for One is your Teacher, and you are all brothers... the greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself shall

be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted" (v. 8-12, NASB).

People have quibbled over these words for centuries, insisting that ecclesiastical titles are not the problem; pride is what Jesus was rebuking. I would agree that Jesus was going to the root sin. But He was also asking these title-crazy guys if they'd be willing to ditch their labels and act like normal people.

When I was in China several years ago, I met some amazing leaders who had planted thousands of congregations. They had also spent a lot of time in jail for their faith, and they'd been beaten with iron rods for preaching the gospel. They were the bravest apostles I've ever met. But when I asked them if they used "apostle" as a title, one guy said: "We believe in those roles in the church. But we prefer to call each other 'brother' or 'sister.'"

That settled it for me. A few years later I met Iftakhar, a Pakistani apostle who has oversight of 900 churches. He also has two scars on his arm from gunshots fired by Muslim extremists who have put a price on his head. When I asked him how I should address him, he smiled and said, "Iftakhar."

If these two giants of the faith—and true apostles—don't require to be addressed with titles, then Your Worshipful Grand Master Rev. Dr. Bishop Jones (who claims oversight of maybe four churches) shouldn't wear his ministry role around his neck like a tacky neon name badge.

If people can't see the anointing on your life through your character, then don't cheapen the gospel by wearing a title you don't deserve...

Jesus is the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Son of David, the Prince of Peace and the Apostle of our Confession. Yet when He came into this world He laid aside His heavenly glory and took on the lowly name of Jesus. He wore no fancy robes. He demanded no titles. He did not come to be ministered to, but to minister. If we want to serve Him honorably, we must forsake our need for fame and cast our crowns at His feet.

(Original Source of above: <http://www.charismamag.com/index.php/fire-in-my-bones>)  
(J. Lee Grady is the former editor of *Charisma*.)

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*Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.*

- Psalm 34:19

*Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.*

- Jeremiah 33:3

**GOD HAS THE ANSWER**  
**by Pastor Jackson Morro**

We live in a world filled with problems: wars, tensions, crime, poverty and sickness. These general world problems often touch our lives in some way, and, as individuals, we are faced with problems. Perhaps you have cried out at some time, "Why doesn't God do something about all this?" Well, He has.

What you and I must know is that God doesn't cause problems; He solves them. Every problem that ever happened or will happen is caused by sin. Sin causes spiritual death in the eternal realm of existence and it is also responsible for the everyday problems of life. (Our problems are really a lesser form of death.) Problems began when the first man, Adam, sinned. Every problem you have today is because someone sinned; either you sinned, or someone you know sinned against you, or someone, somewhere in the past made a sinful decision that now affects you in a negative way.

God knows this and has the answer. The answer is in His Son, Jesus Christ. He sent Jesus to earth to be the sacrifice, the remedy, the answer for every sin and every problem. The Bible says, "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2:2) Just think of it! Jesus can forgive sin and solve any problem that has arisen because of any sin in the whole world! Jesus paid the price for every sin and He paid the price for a Divine solution to every problem that ever happened or will happen. I believe that! For example, I believe that World War I and World War II didn't have to happen. Jesus had an answer for their problems in those generations. And He has an answer for all the famine, suffering, sickness, sorrow and crime that have happened since His Resurrection. None of it had to happen or has to happen if men everywhere will look to Him. His sacrifice on the Cross provided an answer for every problem you and I will ever face.

Right now, those answers exist in heaven, in the mind of God and in the mind of Jesus Christ. They will become real down here on earth as you and I turn to Jesus Christ, give ourselves to Him in our spirit and our mind and our body and ask Him for the answer. Jesus told us in the Lord's Prayer to pray, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." The perfect answer

to your problem will come. God will miraculously solve those problems which we cannot solve ourselves or He will give us the wisdom to make the right decisions to solve those problems we can solve. Sometimes the answer will be in a way we expect; sometimes it will be in a way we don't expect, something totally new. But the answer will always come. Remember, no problem is too difficult for God. Maybe it's time YOU tried Him!

\* \* \*

*24Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:*

*25And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.*

*26And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:*

*27And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.*

- Matthew 24:24-27

**DEATH TOLL FROM FLOODS IN  
PHILIPPINES NEARS 1,000**  
**Associated Press, December 20, 2011**

DKYARILIGAN, Philippines – The Philippine government shipped more than 400 coffins Tuesday to two flood-stricken cities in the south where the death toll neared 1,000 as President Benigno Aquino III declared a state of national calamity and relief agencies rushed to help.

The latest count listed 957 dead and 49 missing and is set to climb further as additional bodies are being recovered from the sea and mud in Iligan and Cagayan de Oro cities.

A handful of morgues are overwhelmed and running out of coffins and formaldehyde for embalming. Aid workers appealed for bottled water, blankets, tents and clothes for many of 45,000 displaced in crowded evacuation centers.

Navy sailors in Manila loaded a ship with 437 white, wooden coffins to help local authorities handle the staggering number of dead. Also on the way were containers with thousands of water bottles.

Most of the dead were women and children who drowned Friday night when flash floods triggered by a tropical storm gushed into homes while people were asleep.

\* \* \*

*Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*

- Galatians 6:7

*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.* - Psalm 14:1

**PUNDIT AND WRITER CHRISTOPHER  
HITCHENS DIES AT 62  
Associated Press, December 16, 2011**

HOUSTON – Christopher Hitchens, the author, essayist and polemicist who waged verbal and occasional physical battle on behalf of causes left and right and wrote the provocative best-seller *God is Not Great*, died Thursday night after a long battle with cancer. He was 62.

A most engaged, prolific and public intellectual who enjoyed his drink (enough to “to kill or stun the average mule”) and cigarettes, he announced in June 2010 that he was being treated for cancer of the esophagus and cancelled a tour for his memoir *Hitch-22*.

Hitchens, a frequent television commentator and a contributor to *Vanity Fair*, *Slate* and other publications, had become a popular author in 2007 thanks to *God is Not Great*, a manifesto for atheists that defied a recent trend of religious works.

“I love the imagery of struggle,” he wrote about his illness in an August 2010 essay in *Vanity Fair*. “I sometimes wish I were suffering in a good cause, or risking my life for the good of others, instead of just being a gravely endangered patient.”

An emphatic ally and inspired foe, he stood by friends in trouble (*Satanic Verses* novelist Salman Rushdie) and against enemies in power (Iran’s Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini).

“God is dead.”  
- Nietzsche, 1882  
  
“Nietzsche is dead.”  
- God, 1900

\* \* \*

**GOD’s POWERFUL ARMY  
by David Wilkerson**

Something very powerful and awesome is going on in the world today - something beyond human comprehension - something that will affect the whole world in these last days.

God is preparing a small but powerful army of Christians, the most dedicated army on the face of the earth. The Lord will come forth to command them to do exploits; He is going to close out the ages with a pure, devoted, fearless remnant.

All my life I have heard stories about our godly forefathers who hated sin. These men and women knew God’s voice and spent hours, even days, in fasting and prayer. They prayed unceasingly and had the power and ability to successfully stand up against immorality in their day.

These forefathers have long since passed on. But God is in the process of raising up another army and this time His warriors will not be made up only of elderly, gray-haired fathers and mothers of Zion. This new army will be composed of both new and seasoned believers, both young and old, ordinary Christians who lay hold of God! A whole new realm of ministry is about to come forth!

The denominational church system appears to be in the throes of death. It has almost no influence in the secular world, no mighty power in Christ. Some accuse me of being “hard” on pastors. But I am in touch with many godly pastors who grieve as I do over the backsliding in the ministry today. There is a holy remnant of godly pastors in the land, and I thank God for every one of them. Yet, it is still a fact that more and more ministers are racing down the road of compromise.

The Bible warns that we are not to fret! God has a plan and it is being manifested. It is put forth plainly in Scripture, mostly in the first four chapters of First Samuel.

The prophet Samuel is a type of God’s last-days remnant. The Lord chose him amid the worst of times and hid him away in training until it was time to bring forth His new thing. God told Samuel, “Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle” (1 Samuel 3:11). What would so amaze and startle all who heard it? It was the judgment of God on the backslidden religious system and the raising up, training and anointing of a new, holy remnant!

What God did in Samuel’s day, He does in every generation. Indeed, in every generation there has been a remnant, a praying people after His own heart.

**BIRTH OF THE LAST-DAYS REMNANT**

The prophet Samuel is a type of the last-days holy remnant – a prepared body of believers that rises out of the ruins of the old, decadent church.

Hannah, Samuel’s mother, birthed her son through bitter tears and much prayer. “And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the Lord and wept in

anguish” (1 Samuel 1:10).

Try to imagine the scene: Hannah was at the temple every day, on her knees before the altar, crushed and broken because she was childless. As she wept, her adversary - her husband’s other wife - made fun of her. “And her rival also provoked her severely, to make her miserable, because the Lord had closed her womb.” (1 Samuel 1:6)

There are three important things I want to point out from this passage:

\* First, the remnant that Samuel represents is born in grief and intercession.

\* Second, those who pray and grieve after God’s heart will be provoked by adversaries.

\* And third, God’s remnant is always going to be misunderstood!

Note what happened to Hannah as she prayed: “And it happened, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli watched her mouth. Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli thought she was drunk. So Eli said to her, ‘How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you!’” (1 Samuel 1:12-14).

Eli and his sons represent the dying, corrupt church that has forsaken the Lord’s way. Eli was so out of touch—so dead in his spirit—he thought Hannah was drunk!

When Hannah was praying, she was filled with grief, burdened for the birth of a son. All she could do was move her lips because of her groaning in the Spirit. She prayed, “If You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and . . . will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life” (1 Samuel 1:11).

Here are two distinguishing marks of God’s holy remnant:

\* They pray like Hannah. Their burden is deep and their heart is stirred because of the wickedness in God’s house.

\* Like Hannah, they give themselves to prayer every day of their lives.

God wants to make you like that. He wants you to be able to touch Him and hear from Him. He wants to give you a ministry to others who will come to you with their burdens and trials. And as you pray for them, His Word will come forth!

\* \* \*

*10And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king.*

*11And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be*

*his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots.*

*12And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots.*

*13And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers.*

*14And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants.*

*15And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants.*

*16And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work.*

*17He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants.*

*18And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day.*

*19Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;*

*20That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.*

- 1 Samuel 8:10-20

## **GOP VOTERS OFFERED NO CHOICE FOR VICTORY**

**Excerpted**

**Alan Keyes, WorldNetDaily.com**

**December 15, 2011**

In February 2009, a Newsweek cover story proclaimed “We are all Socialists Now.” In the corresponding article former Newsweek, editor John Meacham cited the fact that “The U.S. government has already – under a conservative Republican administration – effectively nationalized the banking and mortgage industries. . . . Whether we want to admit it or not . . . the America of 2009 is moving toward a modern European state.” Meacham accurately identified “the architect of this new era of big government as George W. Bush, who moved to bail out the

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financial sector last autumn with \$700 billion. Bush brought the Age of Reagan to a close....”

As Meacham himself admitted, however, “polls show that Americans don’t trust big government and still don’t want big government.” This implies that the “we” in Newsweek’s famous title is not “we the people,” but “we the educated, literate, successful elite.” With the usual elitist prevarication Meacham goes on to assert that Americans “do, however, want what government delivers, like health care and national defense, and now, protections from banking and housing failure.” Yet just as “polls show” Americans rejecting big government, they also show them rejecting the bank bailout, the stimulus package and Obamacare. Indeed, they indicate a rejection of the whole self-serving, elitist, sham Democrat/Republican party system. Meacham correctly observes that both parties encouraged the trend toward government domination that culminated in G.W. Bush’s treacherous leap into overt socialism (when, as he later explained in a CNN interview, he “abandoned free-market principles to save the free-market system”).

Bush claimed that he hoisted the jolly roger of socialism “to make sure the economy doesn’t collapse.” But there’s more than enough of the wary “yankee trader” left in the American body politic to keep many Americans from ignoring the truth: The socialist skull and crossbones flies over rampant acts of elite piracy. Whatever elitist mouthpieces like John Meacham may claim, these Americans aren’t so stupid as to clamor for more government spending. They realize that the only “welfare” really served by the “welfare state” is the advantage of the elitist cliques as they build and lubricate the machinery of their power. To this end money is unconstitutionally extorted from entrepreneurs and working people by the federal income-tax system. To this end the elitist banking system is abused to pillage the good faith and credit of the American people, burdening their posterity with gargantuan debt for generations to come. To this end feckless, purposefully incompetent national-security policies are implemented. They sap the nation’s material and moral strength while generating an atmosphere of perpetual threat that masks the real war of attrition, the one the elitists are waging against the constitutional liberty of the people.

As we approach the critical months of the 2012 election cycle, we should keep in mind Newsweek’s smug proclamation of socialism’s conquest of America. In that moment of triumphant exclamation, the mask of the twin-party sham didn’t just slip. It fell entirely away, to reveal the divide that is and always has been the fulcrum of human politics, the divide between the many and the few, the feudal lords and the serfs, the oligarchs and the people, the self-

approving, self-serving elitists and the multitude of God-approved humanity they are pleased to regard as common, unintelligent and unclean. The triumph of socialism in America, in whatever guise, marks humanity’s retreat from the high-water mark of the tide of government of, by and for the people Tocqueville accurately predicted as the destiny of the United States.

Even now, however, I do not believe this regression toward elitist rule stands confirmed and irreversible. To be sure, the elitist machinations of the sham party system are predictably moving America toward another false choice between an avowed socialist Democrat and a prevaricating socialist Republican. Yet, like the countless unemployed people who have given up on an elite manipulated economic system in which they can no longer find work, there is a countless multitude of Americans who have given up on an elitist political sham in which they no longer find representation. If roused to self-conscious unity and political involvement against the Democrat/Republican sham party system, this multitude would be more than sufficient to garner 35-40 percent of the vote, winning three way contests at every level.

There are Americans who know and declare that the sham party system offers no choice but evil (more or less) for America’s future. They know and admit that the Democrats who pretend to respect God and the principles of liberty are lying. They know and admit that the Republicans who pretend to oppose socialism and the abandonment of moral decency are prevaricating. They know and admit that the elitists in both parties promise jobs and responsible government, but deliver instead irresponsible, self-serving government spending and perpetual debt slavery. They promise security, but deliver instead the fear-inspired surrender of the unalienable rights of life, family and decent political liberty. They promise tolerance and the freedom to choose, but deliver instead the bondage of addictive, self-destructive passions, and the intolerant persecution of moral and religious faith and conscience.

\* \* \*

*....Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more...*

- Revelation 18:10,11

**BEWARE THE COMING  
BAILOUTS OF EUROPE  
Ron Paul, Prison Planet.com  
December 20, 2011**

The economic establishment in this country has come to the conclusion that it is not a matter of “if” the United States must intervene in the bailout of the euro, but simply a question of “when” and “how.” Newspaper articles and editorials are full of assertions that the breakup of the euro would result in a worldwide depression, and that economic assistance to Europe is the only way to stave off this calamity. These assertions are yet again more scare-mongering, just as we witnessed during the depths of the 2008 financial crisis. After just a decade of the euro, people have forgotten that Europe functioned for centuries without a common currency.

The real cause of economic depression is loose monetary policy: the creation of money and credit out of thin air and the monetization of government debt by a central bank. This inflationary monetary policy is the cause of every boom and bust, yet it is precisely what political and economic elites both in Europe and the United States are prescribing as a resolution for the present crisis. The drastic next step being discussed is a multi-trillion dollar bailout of Europe by the European Central Bank, aided by the IMF and the Federal Reserve.

The euro was built on an unstable foundation. Its creators attempted to establish a dollar-like currency for Europe, while forgetting that it took nearly two centuries for the dollar to devolve from a defined unit of silver to a completely unbacked fiat currency note. The euro had no such history and from the outset was a purely fiat system, thus it is not surprising to followers of Austrian economics that it barely survived a decade and is now completely collapsing. Europe’s economic depression is the result of the euro’s very structure, a fiat money system that allowed member governments to spend themselves into oblivion and expect that someone else would pick up the tab.

A bailout of European banks by the European Central Bank and the Federal Reserve will exacerbate the crisis rather than alleviate it. What is needed is for bad debts to be liquidated. Banks that invested in sovereign debt need to take their losses rather than socializing those losses and prolonging the process of adjusting their balance sheets to reflect reality. If this was done, the correction would be painful, but quick, like tearing off a large band-aid, but this is necessary to get back on solid economic footing. Until the correction takes place there can be no recovery. Bailing out profligate European governments will only ensure that no correction will take place.

A multi-trillion dollar European aid package cannot be undertaken by Europe alone, and will require IMF and Federal Reserve involvement. The Federal Reserve already has pumped trillions of dollars into the US economy with nothing to show for it. Just con-

sidering Fed involvement in Europe is ludicrous. The US economy is in horrible shape precisely because of too much government debt and too much money creation and the European economy is destined to flounder for the same reasons. We have an unsustainable amount of debt here at home; it is hardly fair to US taxpayers to take on Europe’s debt as well. That will only ensure an accelerated erosion of the dollar and a lower standard of living for all Americans.

\* \* \*

*Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.*

- Hebrews 11:3

*And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.*

- Matthew 17:20

## **MOUNTAIN-MOVING FAITH** **by Paula Leanes**

I wanted to briefly address a misconception in the world of Charismania that we’re supposed to speak ourselves into Donald Trump-like wealth. It is true, as scriptures above tell us, that we need God’s faith in us, and we need to be able to speak what we believe, in faith, in order to receive answers to prayer and gifts and our needs met from the Kingdom.

It is also true, however, that our words must be within God’s plan for our lives. Certainly He would not have us lack any good thing. The Kingdom’s riches are ours. But there is much more to Kingdom riches than financial wealth. To know God’s will, and God’s plan, in our lives, we have to be willing to spend time in prayer and time studying His Word. Our faith increases by hearing the Word of God, and our spiritual senses are sharpened only in His presence in prayer. We prosper as our soul prospers (3 John 1:2).

So many don’t take the time to pray in today’s world. It’s easier to just listen to Preacher So-and-So on the radio or on TV. The problem is, more preachers today are preaching what the Bible calls “other gospels.” They add to the truth manmade doctrines or take away from the truth the parts they don’t believe.

Real faith lies in what we receive from the Creator of faith, and real Kingdom blessings, or riches, can only come when we are in His will, and when we speak—yes, in positive confession and in prayer—that which we know to be true about His will for us.