

Dear Friend,

February 2017

Recently, Pope Francis came out with a scathing scolding of anyone who is proselytizing people in other churches. He called proselytizing a poison that is seriously affecting the global drive of all faiths to find common ground on which to unite. In other words, preaching the truth of the 3 Angel's messages is a thorn in his side because it is hurting his plans for ecumenism of the churches of the world! Notice, **"Pope Francis called religious proselytism "poison" during a meeting with Lutheran pilgrims in the Vatican's Paul VI Hall last week. The audience took place before the Pope's trip to Lund, Sweden, for a commemoration of the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago.** The meeting will also celebrate 50 years of official ecumenical dialogue between Catholics and Lutherans. In the Holy Father's speech to pilgrims he expressed gratitude for the initiative of the ecumenical pilgrimage that made its start in Germany and ended in Rome. He emphasized Baptism as the unifying basis for dialogue between the two Christian confessions and expressed hope for a continuous ecumenism...Pope Francis answered that the "last thing" the girl has to do is to "speak." He urged her to, "live like a Christian, like a Christian girl: chosen, forgiven, and on a path." Then he argued ambiguously: **"It is not licit that you convince them of your faith; proselytism is the strongest poison against the ecumenical path."** Jan Bentz OPINION FAITH  
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Since the Pope sees ecumenism as the goal, then anyone who is pointing out the apostasy of other faiths and calling people to come back to God's truth in the Bible, is poisonous! According to the pope, he is the soul interpreter and arbiter of that which constitutes truth! He cannot stand those who stand on a 'Thus saith the Lord'. "But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority--not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain "Thus saith the Lord" in its support. Satan is constantly endeavoring to attract attention to man in the place of God. He leads the people to look to bishops, to pastors, to professors of theology, as their guides, instead of searching the Scriptures to learn their duty for themselves. Then, by controlling the minds of these leaders, he can influence the multitudes according to his will." GC, pg. 595

Edward sent this letter to me recently. It is profound in the light of Pope Francis' testimony and of our mission as Seventh-day Adventists. Here it is. "I wanted to share with you this testimony from right here in Zambia. I received this story from a priest of Ndola who called me to ask where the American was. This priest told me that he was called James. He lives in Ndola parish and he started by telling me that the American's radio program has brought a big problem in their churches because he speaks lies about us and he has even written so much lies about our holy church and all of us priests of holy order. I was quiet listening to him talking. He then continued to say, you know Edward, and we know you and you are just being used by that evil American who has caused **a lot of our members to leave our churches.** So the more he speaks, **the more people are leaving our churches to join the SDA or our members now are staying at home where they are watching the American speaking to our members through his DVD sermons.** This priest revealed to me that the Catholic Church would like to have a meeting with him and ask him to stop speaking about us and giving out his sermons to our people. This priest James told me that the American should be taken to the confessional room and prays to Mary to be forgiven. He also said the "we will never forgive the sins of the American" because

he has committed the same sins of Luther and other old reformers who were punished by the church. But as for James, he wanted the American to get converted **and stop stealing away their people from their church.** They have lost membership. After he spoke, I asked him that what crime has the American done which has caused your members to leave your cathedrals. That priest told me that the sin of John Huss is the crime the American is doing. He is translating our beliefs into a lie and he warned me to inform the American to come out from the hiding and have a meeting with them and stop giving out the DVD sermons. I asked him politely that sir have you watched any of the American's DVD sermons??? He agreed and told me that yes, he has not only watched him in the DVD's, but he listens to what he speaks from Kavu but we are telling people from our radio stations and TV not to mind the American. I then asked him again whether he has found any error from his teachings according to the teaching of Gods truth. He answered me and said what the American teaches is strange and new which cannot be understood by people. He admitted that what he sometimes talks about other subjects is good but when he is teaching about two books of the Bible Daniel and Revelation, he speaks wrongs and bad things about us and we want to ask him never to teach about the two books of the Bible. I asked him another question that what sermon did you like when you were listening to the American, he revealed to me that the American has actually taught some things he wanted to ask him alone such as the truth about Jesuits and the papacy. He even said the American seemed to him to be an X- Jesuit man who just became an SDA layman. He said he enjoyed listening to last scenes of Jesus, Ezekiel series, Elijah messages and what he has said about health. I then asked him a straight question that why do you plan to harm the American even when he speaks the truth, for people out there know that the American teaches what is true and has continued to reveal a lot of Bible truth to many people. He refused to agree that the priests would want his blood, all he said was that may Virgin Mary forgive his sins and repent from attacking the papacy, the priest and the church. He then ended by telling me that when he leaved the priesthood in future, he will need to study some teachings of the American which he is keeping and his phone went off. This conversation is very unique and rare. **I knew that many Catholics have come out and are in the SDA churches and at their homes listening to the wonderful sermons they request from me.** No wonder I have several requests every day to send to many people whom I did not know and other do appreciate the messages so among these people, **there are many Catholics who are listening and are making up decisions.** Praise the Lord. I really wanted to share with you this conversation I had with a Catholic priest here in Ndola. I was glad to know that God indeed has people who will hear HIS voice and will follow."

Praise the Lord, friend! God is taking the humble, lowly efforts of the American and Edward to shake Africa for Jesus and His truth!! Our very existence is wrapped up in the proclaiming of the 3 Angel's messages and the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation. **"A message that will arouse the churches is to be proclaimed. Every effort is to be made to give the light, not only to our people, but to the world.** I have been instructed that the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation should be printed in small books, with the necessary explanations, and should be sent all over the world. Our own people need to have the light placed before them in clearer lines.... In the very time in which we live, the Lord has called His people and has given them a message to bear. **He has called them to expose the wickedness of the man of sin who has made the Sunday law a distinctive power, who has thought to change times and laws, and to oppress the people of God who stand firmly to honor Him by keeping the only true Sabbath, the Sabbath of creation, as holy unto the Lord.**

The perils of the last days are upon us, and in our work we are to warn the people of the danger they are in. Let not the solemn scenes which prophecy has revealed be left untouched.” TM, pgs. 117,118 We have been given our marching orders, friend, by the Highest, and let us shout the truth from the mountaintops!!

From around the globe .....

From Ghana “May the Lord Grant You His loving mercies for the years ahead that we might press together in helping finish the work. Our annual camps have ended and moving forward in warning the world. At our camp meetings over 10,000 printed materials were distributed and the brethren were happy to have them and encouraged them to collect more when they return to their various local churches. My prayer is with you and stay blessed, From Pastor Benjamin.” These printed materials have come straight from the copy machine that we purchased for them back this summer. That brings the total of printed tracts from the machine to well over 40,000 in the last four months. Praise the Lord!

From Kenya “The Lord is really opening doors in Nairobi. We have had several calls to go there and speak. The books you send to us have been used by the Lord to open these opportunities in Nairobi! Another glad information is to inform you that 8 souls were baptized and 13 will continue with teachings in class baptism. We have received a call from Mombasa a group which has separated from conference. We are heading to meet with them in the New Year! Right now, we are in need of funds. Thank you for the promise that you would send some shortly.” Because of your support, we were able to send funds to relieve this faithful pastor and to help his family and his ongoing ministry!

From Edward “A friend of mine living in Mbala shared with me that a woman known as Martha 57 has been living with her husband for many years. This couple does not have a child. The husband of Martha was a farmer who used to grow maize and other crops for sale. For a year, he has been listening to radio programs which we aired and he started to get interested in the Daniel and Revelation series which convinced him beyond doubt that the papacy changed the Sabbath to Sunday and he shared that new with his wife Martha and after 5 months, this couple used to observe the Sabbath by listening to what you were teaching on the radio and after that program, this couple would get the Bible and begin to read the reference scriptures you were teaching. One Sabbath the leader of their community called a meeting to discuss matters concerning problems they were facing in their community. The husband to Martha a man called Ndulo went and attended that meeting and when it was 10:30 am Ndulo left the meeting and came home to listen to the American. When the leader of their community, the head man, learned that Ndulo had left to listen to some strange American on the radio, he was upset and asked him to come and explain why he could not sit up to the end of the meeting. Ndulo reported to the headman and explained how the American has helped him to better understand the Bible. The headman who was a Catholic was so amazed to hear that and he wanted to hear for himself. So he got the frequency and the next day, he started to listen to Revelation 14 then. The headman was so pleased to listen to the American and the next Sunday he confronted his parish priest about why Catholics have deceived the whole world. The headman was serious and told their priest that he has quit attending church services until the papacy shall ask for forgiveness and let all Catholics decided whom to serve. For the next 3 months, the headman and Ndulo’s family have been worshiping together in the house of Ndulo and now the whole community wanted to know what these folks were doing on the Sabbath with a small radio and Bibles. So some neighbors attended their meetings and they got surprised to find out how worthy lessons Ndulo and the headman have been learning from the American. P.B., this place is in

a rural area of Tanzania bordering Zambia. A few weeks later a small gathering started to congregate at Ndulo's home and that Catholic church began to lose members and that angered their local parish priest to sort out the headman and Ndulo. I understand that priest came and warned Ndulo and the headman to leave the community and settle far away or face the consequences. The headman defied the priest and told him that he was yet waiting for the pope to address the world why they had changed the Sabbath and free Catholics as long as the priest was not giving him an answer; he was not ready to tolerate the priest. A couple of weeks later, some unknown people attacked Ndulo while he was working in his farm they hit his head with a metal which killed him instantly. When it was later known that Ndulo has been murdered, the headman was very grieved and reported the priest who was his first suspect to the police for the threats he made during his visit. When the police made their investigations, it was found out that the priest has orchestrated the whole plan to murder Ndulo but the police never told the headman their findings. Ndulo was buried and Martha became a widow who held to the faith of his husband. Their meetings were moved from Ndulo's home to the home of the headman and the headman was upset with the priest for the murder of Ndulo. The police later arrested 2 young men who were sent by the priest to murder Ndulo and when that news came to the knowledge of the headman, he vowed to kill the priest. Martha kept praying and encouraging their members and the headman was present. Each time the headman saw Martha, he was more upset and one day, he went to the house of the priest who was released from the police after 2 days at the time of Ndulo's murder. The headman found the priest reading a book. He stood and told him that what have you accomplished in killing Ndulo??? The priest was surprised to see the headman speaking and he told the headman that he never killed Ndulo. When the priest was speaking to the headman, he stood up so that he could face the headman and when the priest lifted up his head to face the headman, the headman drew a rod which was made of steel and hit straight at his forehead 5 times and the priest collapsed and died right there. Workers at the house of the priest head people talking and then there was silence. By now the headman had already left and it was difficult to know who had killed the priest. The police again tried to investigate and could not properly conclude who had murdered the priest but one officer thought of the headman. Later that week, the headman was arrested and he confessed that he had killed the priest for killing Ndulo and failing to answer his question on behalf of the papacy why they had changed the Sabbath to Sunday. The head man revealed the radio programs which the American was teaching many worthy lessons. On the admission of the headman, he was arrested and sent to prison. While in Jail, the headman has repented and has continued to teach fellow prisoners about lessons he learned from the American. The relatives of the headman brought him a good radio and today I am told that 120 prisoners listen in the morning and evening from Kavu. The headman will be released early next year since he was pardoned by the head of state. Martha left that community and came to settle with her relatives in Mbala where my friend met her during tract distribution. She has already started a small gathering with those who love to listen to the teachings from Kavu. My friend has since informed me that I need to send a lot of materials to Martha and to the headman next year when he will be released from Jail."

### **Upcoming appointments**

February 18 Springdale, WA Al Fletcher

March 2-5 High Point, NC Andy McCoy

Blessings to you,

Pastor Bill