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THE BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

By Gordon F. Nelson

The kiss from the Beauty who succumbs to the Beast, suddenly transforms him into a charming prince. The kiss broke the spell some witch had placed on the prince.

There you have a John 3:16 version of the classic, The Beauty and the Beast. The original goes back as far as the sixteenth century in Europe, thus a French version, a German version, etc., almost as many versions as the Bible. The popularity of this story is comparable to our own "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

What is the fascination to audiences throughout the world of a Beauty falling in love with a Beast? There must be latent within each of us a cord that is ignited when drawn to such extreme opposites as the Beauty and the Beast. Why does a short fat man want to marry a tall skinny woman? Who knows? Opposites attract, is the only answer. The negative and the positive forces must meet to create energy, I guess.

Then too, there is the "fatal attraction." Do you know what I mean by the "fatal attraction?" Literally, it is when the Beauty (the Christian) marries the ungodly, the "damned" (Mark 16:16), or the Beast. "*The sons of God (Seth) SAW the daughters of men (Cain) that they were fair (beautiful); and they took them wives of all which they chose.*" Genesis 6:2. Whenever you marry a "daughter of Cain" (this world), you must remember that her father (the devil) will move into your house. "*Ye are of your father the devil*" (John 8:44), Jesus declared to the church of His day.

Dr. Bebe H. Patten and Aimee Semple McPherson had much in common; both Pentecostal, and both women preachers. Bebe Patten attended Angelus Temple Bible College. She was inspired by the late Aimee Semple McPherson. Both abounded in energy that spelled catastrophe for their initial marriages to just plain ordinary men. These were extraordinary women who could not be shackled by marriage to just ordinary men. Both wore beautiful, flowing, floor length gowns, usually white: white being the color of angels. These women could give you more than just an "apparition of the Virgin Mary."

As a young woman, Dr. Patten developed a strong athletic body through competitive swimming. The Bay Area witnessed a somewhat more subdued Dr. Bebe H. Patten than Chicago. I had only been saved for about six months, myself. This was all very new to me.

“The Chicago Crusade for Christ” was more like a high fashion show of Adrian designer clothes from Hollywood (an Adrian, one-of-a-kind specifically designed to fit your body; cost \$15,000 and up), with the evangelist being the model. On stage, in these plunging neckline gowns that split above the knees (revealing a beautiful pair of legs), your mind wandered from the sermon to the beautiful body of Dr. Bebe H. Patten. The lights were subdued, except on this gorgeous evangelist sporting a “rock” the size of your thumb. As the light hit the various prisms from the “rock,” it sent flashes throughout the auditorium. Perhaps, a sinner may have thought judgment day was here for sure, seeing these bolts of light flash from that “rock.” What a show! Perhaps the Chicago revival was a flop! Who knows? because never again would I see this particular Adrian designer gown on her, nor the wearing of that size of a “rock.”

However, I was still a baby in the Lord. Who was I to judge a preacher? I moved to Oakland, California to be near my father who worked as a shipwright in the San Francisco Hunter’s Point Ship Yard. Reading in the Oakland Tribune, I discovered a full page ad telling of the Great Revival, over 5,000 souls had been saved. Wow! Caught up in the excitement of the Patten-style evangelism, I soon forgot about Chicago. Perhaps, Dr. Bebe H. Patten had changed.

“I am the first man to bring big time religion to Oakland,” Tom Patten would boast as he strutted on stage in his cowboy boots and his Texan 10-gallon hats. In Chicago, it was Dr. Bebe H. Patten! In Oakland, C. (for Cash) Tom Patten, who enjoyed the title “the Kingfish,” was stealing the show by his con-artistry, his Tennessee drawl, his hillbilly spun yarns, Bob Wills’ Texas Playboys (the king of country music) as his friend, recollections from his football player days, his 100 pairs of boots (Bob Wills giving him the prized pair), and always his undying devotion to Dr. Bebe H. Patten.

Like Elmer Gantry, he had captured the hearts of Christian folk uprooted due to the dust bowl, and striking “pay dirt” in California. “I wish every one of you were millionaires,” he’d say, and we would laugh as he extracted \$25,000 to \$50,000 at every service. We had church 365 days a year and three times on Sundays. And like Willy Brown, he had a different tailor-made suit and custom tie for each service. On the day “the Kingfish” announced he had eight brand new Cadillacs sitting in his driveway is the very day I “put my hand in the sop” (went to the DA’s office and “buncoed” on Tom; to use the Patten vernacular).

This pair claimed they would only hold a nineteen-week revival, and then they would be moving on! I remember her sermon, “A Tree Planted in Oakland.” This was an invitation for other churches to join the crusade, because the laurels of victory would be all theirs. Instead of leaving town as promised, they bought the prestigious City Club Hotel, ideally located between downtown Oakland and Lake Merritt. Oakland was evidently hungrier for revival than even the Patten’s had surmised. This city, second to San

Francisco in everything, was ready to be plucked by the slickest con-artist since “Yellow Kid” Weil, but a million times more dangerous. This knave of hearts, master swindler, gambling welcher, and car thief was truly a Beast. Just how did Tom Patten (alias Jack Groves) of Lyle, Tennessee, win the heart of this Beauty?

Only by seeing the movie, *Elmer Gantry*, or reading the novel by Sinclair Lewis, can some of your unanswered questions be addressed concerning this pair; the Beauty and the Beast.

From all appearances, the Beast falls madly in love with the Beauty. “If Dr. Patten wanted to go to the moon, I’d figure out a way to get her there.” Leave it to Beaver! It was self-evident the Beast pursued long enough to where he plucked the Beauty.

The only God the Beast knew anything about was his personal goddess, Dr. Bebe H. Patten. Far too many men want a goddess of flesh, so they can worship at her altar. I even recall Jimmy Swaggart stating that the only thing to make him give up on his cousin, Mickey Gilley, was when he saw Frances, his future wife, in his father’s church. Is there no fear of hell fire and brimstone? I became a Christian over the doctrine of hell. I was sure I was going there if there was such a place!

It is far more important that a headless creature find her head, then for a man to obtain his personal goddess. This incredible something that God places in a normal female, is like a lighthouse to guide the male home (provided that the lighthouse is a virgin).

The male “plucker” eventually will tire at his own goddesses’ altar. Idolatry has a tremendous price tag. A prostitute’s “rendezvous” with married men is how they stay in business. From whom do they draw the most? the “pluckers” or the “plucked”? In Hollywood, Clark Gable always gets his woman! In life, you had better let that woman find her head. Wisdom speaks thusly, “If she named and claimed it, then why shouldn’t she obey?”

I married a woman who, admittedly, I did not love. God gave me a dream. I never had a date with the woman. Just like when I joined the Navy, I stepped out on that dream, and married whom I believed was God’s choice for me; a woman who deeply loved me. We survived 25 years with nary a fight, because her love was so great for me. I was unworthy of such love that God had placed in this woman. Linda Johnson, student body president of Patten College and Seminary, had just called for a prayer meeting by the student body for God to slay me. “Now I know they’re all nuts,” said my wife-to-be as she quit the school the very day of the prayer meeting.

“*I (John) SAW a woman sit upon...a beast.*” Revelation 17:3. In scripture a woman is a type of the church. In this particular case, Apostle John SAW a picture of the end time “One World Religion” which is identified as the “Great Whore.” One of the angels said unto him, “*Come hither and I will shew*

you the judgment of the Great Whore that sitteth (rules) upon many waters (nations of people). ”
Revelation 17:1.

“I SAW a WOMAN sit upon a scarlet colored BEAST, full of names of blasphemy.” Scripturally, this woman is a type of “the broad way” that Jesus referred to in Matthew 7:13. *“Broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat.”* There are only two churches: this woman upon the back of the Beast, and the “little flock,” the dissidents of Romanism. Constance Cumbe, author of The Hidden Dangers of the Rainbow, suggested a third church, “The New Age.” Today, however, this is no mystery, but simply Christians clamoring to affiliate with Emperor Constantine’s church without even the necessity of an edict.

But, Jesus admonished us to *“enter ye in at the strait gate”* (Matthew 7:13) as laid down by the “little flock” of twelve disciples. The Apostle John only saw two churches. The large one which always found a comfort zone in Rome, the Caesars, and the Pope. The other church, the “little flock,” always rejected the authority of the Mother Church of Rome. Luke, the physician, said of this church, *“Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”* Luke 12:32.

To which do you owe your allegiance? The broad way, or the narrow? The little flock, or the hordes of mass evangelism that come to your large auditoriums riding on the Beast? “If you belong to the World Council of Churches,” shouted William Branham in his healing crusades across America, “don’t even worry about the number 666, because you already have it!”

Billy Graham is the very first evangelical Evangelist to ever come to our cities riding on the back of the Beast. William Randolph Hearst ordered his syndicate of newspapers across America to give front page advertisement to the Billy Graham crusade in Los Angeles. Overnight, Billy Graham was no longer a Saturday night “Youth for Christ” speaker, but a spokesman to the world. Why? Was it Billy Graham’s affiliation with the World Council and compromise with Romanism as also “a way” of salvation? “Go to the church of your choice!” Inferring, “all roads lead to Rome!” The Mormon cult exploded numerically during the world evangelism of Billy Graham.

I heard Billy Graham say on worldwide television, “The only hope of the world is the Pope of Rome!” I am confident Dwight L. Moody, Charles Finney, Jonathan Edwards, Martin Luther, and even John Calvin would feel appalled at such a statement.

We are living in “the hour of deception” that Jesus warned us all about. *“Inasmuch that if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”* Matthew 24:24. *“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged (Gk.-burdensome, weighty) with surfeiting (Gk.-headache, seizure of pain from eating and drinking), and drunkenness, and cares of this life* (Nelson version- KISS- Keep It

Simple, Stupid!), *and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare* (Gk.-a trap, a trick, or stratagem [temptation]) *shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.*” Luke 21:34-36.

Is this the stratagem, or temptation, placed before the entire Christian world when on March 29, 1994, the church overturned the Reformation by signing a joint declaration of leading American Evangelicals and Catholics entitled, Evangelicals and Catholics Together: the Christian Mission in the Third Millennium? On March 30, the very next day, the New York Times reported the culmination of this two years of work:

“They toiled together in the movements against abortion and pornography, and now leading Catholics and Evangelicals are asking their flocks for a remarkable leap of faith; to finally accept each other as Christians. In what’s being called a historic declaration, Evangelicals, including Pat Robertson and Charles Colson (one of the chief originators), joined with conservative Roman Catholic leaders today in upholding the ties of faith that bind the nation’s largest and most politically active groups. They urged Catholics and Evangelicals...to stop aggressive proselytization of each other’s flocks.

John White, president of the Geneva College, and former president of the National Association of Evangelicals, said the statement represents “a triumphalistic movement” in American religious life after centuries of distrust.

Other Evangelical endorsers include the heads of the Home Mission Board, and Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention (who acted in an independent capacity), the nation’s largest Protestant denomination, and Bill Bright, the founder of Campus Crusade for Christ...Mark Noll of Wheaton College, Jesse Miranda (Assemblies of God), Richard Mouw (president of the Fuller Theological Seminary).”

NY Times - 3/30/94

This document could be the most cunning and deadliest blow that the church has experienced since Martin Luther. It literally outlaws Protestants from ever witnessing to a Roman Catholic. In addition, it is an admission on the part of Evangelicals that “active participation in church” makes you a Christian, whether Protestant or Catholic. The document further explains how that both Catholics and Evangelicals endorse the “Apostle’s Creed” to which even Mormons also affirm that Christ “suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.”

Embracing the Nicene creed, or other creeds, is not what constitutes a Christian. “*Ye must be born again*” (John 3:7) to enter into the kingdom of God, is tactfully omitted. “Catholic evangelism” is based on works, the very opposite of the “*grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.*” Titus 2:11. To Catholics, salvation comes through the observance of seven sacraments. The irony is, the Protestant church holds and reveres these same seven sacraments. “I found that my beliefs are essentially the same as those of the orthodox Roman Catholics.” (Billy Graham)

Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, and Pope Paul II are encouraging all to climb on the back of the Beast. Promise Keepers, and Women who keep Promises, are also extending their hands to help you aboard the back of the Beast. *“For wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction.”* Matthew 7:13. Ever since the signing of this document, Protestants are being tempted by “the broad way.” It is to the “little flock,” the Gideon band of 100, the 7,000 that have not yet bowed their knee to Baal, that the *RIVERBANK NEWS* directs its monthly message.

“I SAW a WOMAN sit upon a scarlet coloured BEAST, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.” Revelation 17:3. The seven heads are the seven empires to rule over the earth during *“the times of the Gentiles.”* Five were revealed to Daniel. *“Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image...This image’s head was of fine gold (Babylon), his breast and his arms silver (Media-Persia), his belly and his thighs of brass (Greece), his legs of iron (Roman Empire), his feet part of iron and part of clay (one-world government of Antichrist).”* Daniel 2:31-32. This is probably the most remarkable fulfillment of prophecy in all of scripture. Daniel named every Gentile world power that would comprise the “age of the Gentiles.”

Egypt and Assyria, Gentile world empires that preceded Daniel’s remarkable prophecy, must be included to obtain the correct number of “seven heads.” Daniel SAW the WOMAN sitting upon a BEAST. *“And the woman was arrayed in purple (royalty) and scarlet colour (red), and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls (the colors of the Cardinals and the Pope of Rome), having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”* Revelation 17:4-5.

You will please note, it does not say “Mystery Rome,” but MYSTERY BABYLON! When Assyria defeated Egypt, the religion of Egypt and her gods became a part of the “spoils of war” by Assyria. In turn, the conquering Babylonians assimilated all their sorcery, witchcraft, tarot cards, into Babylon. MYSTERY BABYLON included all the witchcraft, idolatry, temple prostitutes, and the occult of both Egypt and Assyria.

The gods of Egypt, Assyria and Babylon became the gods of the Media-Persians. Have you ever wondered why the Bible declares of Pergamos, *“I know thy works, and WHERE THOU DWELLEST, even where Satan’s seat is.”* Revelation 2:13.

Pergamos was being prepared for Rome. The armies of Rome conquered the entire world, including Pergamos. The transition of all the gods since Pharaoh to Rome was made possible by Augustus Caesar. They were all in Pergamos, thanks to Alexander the Great, who centralized “Satan’s seat.” This is the

reason for the scripture declaring MYSTERY BABYLON and not MYSTERY ROME. Rome is identified with Babylon by the transfer of the entire occult world from Pergamos to Rome.

“And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered (Gk.-admired, marveled) with great admiration (Gk.-gaze wide-eyed, as at something remarkable). Revelation 17:6.

Why distinguish between those saints killed and the ones martyred? *“The blood of the saints and the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.”* Both die by Rome’s sword! Paul chose to be a martyr long before he allowed Rome to displace his head. *“I press toward the mark for the prize of the HIGH CALLING of God in Christ Jesus.”* Philippians 3:14. Martyrdom is the highest calling of the church! The seed of revival is in the blood of the saints being offered up freely for a cause. *“They loved not their lives unto the death.”* Revelation 12:11. As evil as was Pergamos, the very “seat of Satan” (Revelation 2:13), *“even in those days wherein Antipas (Gk.-father) was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.”* Revelation 2:13. This man, Antipas, would never have been mentioned in scripture had he not been a martyr. Is your goal in life abundant living, or dying for a cause? Because Antipas chose to die, his name is immortalized!

There is no evidence in the Bible of those who died in the Lord having any consciousness of the happenings on earth. Only martyrs enjoy this privilege. *“And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar THE SOULS of them that were SLAIN (martyred) for the word of God (correct cause), and for the testimony which they held: and THEY cried with a loud voice (from their lodge seats), saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?”* Revelation 6:9-10.

At a football game, there are certain seats that cost as high as one thousand dollars, and are called “lodge seats!” You can see everything and can enjoy your coffee or drinks, fully protected from the weather.

The Apostle Paul says, *“But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ...I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung (cow manure), that I may win Christ...being made comformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the (first) resurrection of the dead...I press toward the MARK for the prize of the HIGH CALLING of God in Christ Jesus.”* Philippians 3:7-14.

To view the rest of the game from these lodges “under the altar,” was Paul’s greatest ambition. He knew his work was cut out for him, *“As a wise masterbuilder, I HAVE LAID THE FOUNDATION.”* 1

Corinthians 3:10. The Apostle Paul laid the foundation! This is probably the most misunderstood doctrine in scripture by the laity!

The Word-Faith movement, along with Copeland-Hagin, believe that E.W. Kenyon wrote the foundation. Robert Schuller believes the deceased Norman Vincent Peale wrote the foundation. Still others believe by their actions, that surely the Baptists, the Methodists, the Assemblies of God, the Nazarenes, the Catholics wrote the foundation. The Mormons believe Joseph Smith wrote the foundation! The Seventh Day Adventists believe Ellen G. White wrote the foundation. The Jehovah's Witnesses attribute the writings of Judge Rutherford to their foundation.

John the Baptist came preaching saying, *"Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For THIS IS HE that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias."* Matthew 3:2-3. John did not come riding on a Beast. He wore the evidence of a conquered Beast, his raiment of "camel's hair." He made a "leathern girdle" from the hide of the Beast. He wore them as signs of victory over the Beast.

"And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them. And when the chief priests and scribes (the Beast) saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased. And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say?" Matthew 21:14-16. "Can you understand one word these children are saying?" Amid all this crying, weeping and singing praises, "Hosanna to the Son of God," it must have sounded like they were drunk. Peter tries to answer the same question to another crowd, *"For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day."* Acts 2:15.

These are just children! Leave them alone! said Jesus. *"But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."* Matthew 18:6. Azusa Street in Los Angeles, was nothing more than "children crying in the Old Glory Barn, saying, "Hosanna to the Son of God."

Brother William Seymour, a black minister from Topeka Nazarene Bible College, was the leader. It is said he kept his head continually in an apple box until his time to speak, desiring *"that no flesh should glory in his presence."* 1 Corinthians 1:29. There was no Beast, neither any hypocrites, at Azusa Street! It was too new. The Assemblies of God wouldn't be organized until about six years later. *"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."* Acts 20:29-30.

The day will come that unless the Beauty (the church) succumbs to the Beast, she will *"be hated of all men."* Matthew 10:22. Even the false church will be destroyed by the Beast. *"And the ten horns*

which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore...” Revelation 17:16. The Antichrist, “*who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God...shewing himself that he is God*” (2 Thessalonians 2:4), will not share his glory with a mere “Vicar of Christ,” or you as a professing child of God.

“And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.” Micah 4:2