

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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Who Will Claim Adolf Hitler?

(Jerry Fite)

He is the personification of evil. The inhumane treatment and murder of over six million Jews was not forgotten by the 20th Century, and will forever be correctly attributed to the name Adolf Hitler. Many God fearing people would like to make him an atheist, for only a godless heart could do such atrocities against humanity. Atheists respond with evidence showing Adolf Hitler believed in God and specifically point to him being a “Christian”, trying to prove such religious belief is harmful to humanity.

While no one wants to claim Adolf Hitler, he claimed to believe in God and trusted in His providence. In a speech given July 5, 1944 he said, “I may not be a light of the church, a pulpiteer, but deep down I am a pious man, and believe that whoever fights bravely in defense of the natural laws framed by God and never capitulates will never be deserted by the Lawgiver, but will, in the end, receive the blessings of Providence” (*Charles Bracelen Flood; Hitler: The Path of Power; p.208*).

After he escaped a bomb blast designed by Colonel Count

von Stauffenberg to take him out, he addressed a radio audience by saying his survival was, “... a confirmation of my assignment from Providence to continue to pursue my life's goal as I have done hitherto.”

The Pulitzer Prize winner John Toland quotes Halter as saying, “I am now as before a Catholic and will always remain so.” (*Adolf Hitler*, page 507). He may have merely claimed to be Catholic, highlighting how he was raised.

Regardless of his reasons, the evidence is pretty clear Hitler was not an Atheist. Does this mean that Catholicism or belief in God is to blame for his monstrosity? No, for the same reason we should not blame Christ for how Hitler justified his actions toward the Jews. In a 1922 speech in Munich, Adolf Hitler said, “My feeling as a Christian points me to my Lord and Savior as a fighter. It points me to the man who once in loneliness, surrounded only by a few followers, recognized these Jews for what they were and summoned men to fight against them ... In boundless love as a Christian and as a man I read through the passage which tells us how the Lord at last rose in His

might and seized the scourge to drive out of the Temple the brood of vipers and adders. How terrific was his fight against the Jewish poison.” (*Norman H. Banes; Speeches of Adolf Hitler: April 1922- August 1939 p.19-20*).

Condemning certain merchants for making the house of God a house of merchandise (*John 2: 16*), does not mean that an entire race of people should be exterminated. Adolf Hitler, like the Devil, used Scripture without regard for context and the harmony of Scripture (*cf. Matthew 4:6-7*). Hitler was no more a Christian, than the Devil is.

In his twisted thinking, Hitler may have referred to God to assure others that the work in purging the world of a certain race was providentially allowed, not that he was a true believer. Signing a “Concordat” with the Catholic Church in 1933 may have been primarily for political purposes in keeping the Catholic priests from acting in political parties, and not that Hitler personally cared for the spiritual work of Catholicism. As for Hitler and ourselves, our claims of knowing the Lord is not as important as does the Lord know and claim us (*Matt. 7:21-23*)!