History Without the Humbug

Countering the Re-Writing of History

The Media Myth and Global Cult of Nelson Mandela



by Shaun Willcock

Karl Marx said: "The first battlefield is the re-writing of history." This is an age when, very rapidly, the truth about the past is being "revised" by Marxists, liberals and others, and unless this wicked revisionism is resisted, people will be thoroughly indoctrinated with lies and myths presented as "truth". Already vast damage has been done, and even many who lived through more recent historical events have been so well indoctrinated, and conditioned to think along the "party" line, that they actually believe the lies and myths they have been fed. Very few people think critically anymore. They do not even know how to do so. They simply swallow whatever they are told by their Red, almost-Red, and religious-Red heroes and masters.

The purpose of these articles is to counter the deliberate re-writing of history with those stubborn things called facts, and that wonderful thing called truth. "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil" (Isaiah 5:20).

Introduction

The ugly truth about the world's favourite terrorist-turned-politician, Nelson Mandela, has been buried deep beneath the media-created myth of the man, who for decades was given such a whitewashing by the liberal/Socialist media that the *real* Mandela disappeared from the world's eyes, and in his place appeared a messiah, a saviour, a demigod, whose only resemblance to the real Mandela was the outer shell. The man who emerged from prison and became president of South Africa was at heart the same man who had gone into prison so many years before, a Communist revolutionary, much older but just as committed to the ideology and the revolution as he had been when the prison gates slammed shut on him. Yet by the time he emerged from prison, the worldwide liberal/leftist media had repackaged him, presenting him to the world as a wise, big-hearted, moderate, decent man, who had been unjustly imprisoned for his stand against apartheid, and who would, when he became president of South Africa, govern this complex and diverse country with wisdom and magnanimity, creating a wonderful earthly paradise where all would live happily ever after.

The real Nelson Mandela was, however, vastly different from the media-created myth. But this was

the deliberately-constructed image which the international Communist movement, and Mandela's own organisation, the African National Congress (ANC), wanted the world to believe; and the media, so enamoured with Communism and the ANC, ensured the dissemination of this myth. As the saying goes, tell a lie, tell it often enough, and the people will believe it. They did. In their millions.

And this media-created, lying image of Mandela the wise, Mandela the magnanimous, Mandela the elderly statesman, Mandela the Great, indeed Mandela the Messiah, continued to be fed in the years that followed, not only during the time he was president of South Africa but afterwards as well, as he gradually retired from public life and grew increasingly frail, and especially – on an unprecedented scale – when he died. The media continued to build up the myth. Many referred to him as "the greatest man of the twentieth century", as "the world's greatest hero."

By the time he died in December 2013, he had been transformed into a man so great that in the eyes of multiplied millions he deserved to be placed higher than virtually all others, even on an equality with, or greater than, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He had become a Christ-figure.

Alas, if only South Africa's blacks, and the world in general, had looked beyond the myth to see the truth about this man! Their failure to do so meant that Mandela became South Africa's president, and led this once-great country down the slippery path of Socialism. Under his leadership and that of his ANC successors, South Africa became just another self-imploding African Socialist wreck; and this tragic state of affairs was the *true* legacy of Nelson Mandela and his vile organisation, the ANC. Yet incredibly, such is the Mandela myth that even as SA continued to spiral downwards, year after year, multiplied millions throughout the country and the world continued to gaze with loving, star-struck adoration at Mandela himself; and this idolatry will continue long after his death. No matter how bad things became in SA, they separated Mandela from his atrocious ANC, as if he was larger than the ANC, somehow above it and beyond it and in some mysterious way disconnected from it. And no matter how bad things continue to get, they will continue to do the same, as if he was in no way ever complicit with the ANC in its crimes. In truth he was a lifelong, loyal servant of the African National Congress/South African Communist Party (ANC/SACP) alliance. But such is the power of an image, even a lying image, and SA's tragedy is that this image took on a life of its own, and will live on long beyond his death.

The truth will out. One day the truth about Nelson Mandela will become so well-known that the falsehood of his media-made image will come crashing to the ground. That day is not now. It is not tomorrow, nor next year, nor a decade or more from now. But that day will come, as the real truth behind the facade of the Mandela myth is gradually brought to light, little by little as the years go by, until the trickle eventually becomes a flood. But even then, the majority will shut their eyes and refuse to see it.

Here, then, is the cold, hard truth. Although this article contains much original material, much use has also been made of the information about Mandela in my book, "Holy War" Against South Africa.² There is no need to rewrite what has already been written and documented. For a much fuller understanding of the Communist revolution in South Africa, the ANC, Mandela and other terrorists, and the vast support given to the revolution by the Vatican and various Protestant religious institutions, the reader is referred to the book itself.

Mandela, the ANC, and the Communist Party

The African National Congress was the black political organisation which the Communist Party decided to infiltrate and use to achieve its objectives in South Africa. It was resolved in 1928 that the Communist Party of South Africa, working under orders from Moscow, would transform the ANC into a revolutionary organisation.

In the 1940s men such as Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and Oliver Tambo joined the ANC; men whose names would become synonymous with the organisation in the years to come. At the ANC conference in 1949, these men staged a coup, and from that date on the ANC became far more radical.³ In 1961 *Mkhonto we Sizwe* (called "MK" for short, and meaning "Spear of the Nation"), the ANC's armed wing, was formed, and Nelson Mandela became its Commander. The ANC was under the

control of the South African Communist Party, and the Soviet Union supplied it with arms, as part of its worldwide strategy to advance the Communist cause. An ANC official said of the Soviet Union, "We will cherish their friendship for many years to come"; and, "They are our allies of old time. We are not ashamed to have Communists in our ranks."

Indeed, so obviously Communist was the ANC that in a better time the U.S. State Department branded it a terrorist organisation, which it most certainly was.

The Truth About Mandela's Arrest and Imprisonment

In 1963 the ANC suffered a blow. After a number of bomb attacks orchestrated by MK, most of its leaders were arrested, including Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki and Nelson Mandela. The police also recovered a number of documents. One of these gave minute details of the plans of MK's "Operation Mayibuye", which was a blueprint for seizing control by means of sabotage, revolution, terrorism, and guerilla warfare.

As the years went by, Nelson Mandela was portrayed in the world press as a hero who had been unjustly imprisoned for opposing the hated "apartheid regime" of South Africa. But this was a lie. Many others actively and forcefully opposed apartheid but were never sent to prison for it. Therefore, it could *not* have been merely for "opposing apartheid" that he was imprisoned. Why, then, *was* he imprisoned?

The truth is that he and others had planned the manufacture of many thousands of anti-personnel mines, hand grenades, bombs, pipe bombs, syringe bombs, and bottle bombs! They had planned to overthrow the South African government. It was not, therefore, for unjust reasons that Mandela was arrested and imprisoned; it was, in essence, for *high treason!*⁵

These facts have been completely ignored by the international media, as have the following: Mandela had written a document entitled *How to be a Good Communist*, and had written of the coming of a "Communist world", of wiping out the enemies of Communism, etc. Another document, written in his own handwriting, declared that "*traitors and informers should be ruthlessly eliminated*". He was, and remained, a committed Communist – but the world is hardly aware of it, thanks to the media cover-up of facts like these.

When arrested and tried, he at no time challenged the authenticity of these documents (so much for the oft-repeated cry that "he spent 27 years of his life unjustly imprisoned for his opposition to apartheid"); in fact, counsel for the defence stated that, "in the face of the overwhelming bulk of evidence", it would be "futile to refute any of the charges". The documents were so incriminating that the prosecution believed it could have obtained convictions on these alone. Mandela and the others, although they could have received the death sentence, were found guilty of armed insurrection and were sentenced, after an extremely fair hearing in open court, to life imprisonment. Even the liberal *Rand Daily Mail* said, in an editorial for June 17, 1964, "the sentences pronounced by Mr Justice de Wet yesterday at the conclusion of the Rivonia Trial were both wise and just....The sentences could not have been less severe than those imposed....The men found guilty had organised sabotage on a wide scale and had plotted armed revolution. As the judge pointed out, the crime of which they were found guilty was essentially high treason."

"These are the facts of history. Sentencing Mandela to imprisonment instead of letting him be hanged was an act of mercy on the part of his political enemies. Mandela had, therefore, every reason to be grateful and not the least reason to harbour a grudge against them. He owed his life to them."

The remaining ANC leaders continued operating as exiles, Oliver Tambo being the leader-in-exile; but the ANC's terror campaign was severely curtailed.⁸

Such is the truth about Nelson Mandela and the other leaders of the African National Congress: Communist terrorists who had planned armed insurrection and the violent overthrow of the South African government. And yet, 27 years later, these same revolutionaries were free men, legally entitled to build up the ANC within South Africa's borders while it continued with the same murderous terror tactics that it had been using for decades, and overseeing the surrender of South Africa into their bloodstained hands.

The ANC's Terror Campaign

After the ANC was banned in 1960 and went underground, and after Nelson Mandela and others were arrested a few years later and sentenced to life imprisonment, its leadership, led by Oliver Tambo, operated from outside its borders, and conducted an ongoing terror campaign against South Africa. ANC headquarters were established in Zambia, bases were established in other southern African states, and offices were opened in London, New Delhi and Moscow. As the years went by, in addition to the support it received from the World Council of Churches and various other "church" groups, it also received support from the United Nations, the Soviet Union, the Communist-bloc countries of Eastern Europe, Libya, and various Western governments as well.

Its armed wing, MK, did not cease with the arrest of Mandela and the others. MK members were trained in Angola, Libya and elsewhere, and potential leaders were trained in the Soviet Union itself. After receiving specialised training, they infiltrated South Africa and carried out terrorist bomb attacks. Infiltration was vital to the success of the revolution. In the early 1970s the revolutionaries infiltrated black youth groups, trade unions, and white universities.⁹

False Preachers Exalt Mandela as a Saviour

In South Africa itself, so-called "church" leaders were deeply involved, by the mid-1970s, in the revolutionary onslaught – even justifying *murder* by distorting the Scriptures, as the following testimony reveals.

A young black woman, Salamina Borephe, a former ANC member, testified before a study committee of the Republican Party in Washington that in 1975 she attended the Congress of South African Students, which was, she was told, a branch of the ANC (the ANC being banned at that time). Priests praised Communism. Anglican priests told her and the others that local black councillors (seen as sellouts by the ANC) must *die*. In a meeting held in the Roman Catholic "church" building of Evanton and Sharpeville in September 1975, the priests referred to the Bible to explain why local councillors should be murdered. They also called for the killing of policemen. And they compared Nelson Mandela with Moses in the book of Exodus.¹⁰

Here were men, claiming to be ministers of the Gospel and servants of Christ, deceiving young and naive blacks into believing a false "gospel" of deliverance from political oppression through murder. In classic "liberation theology" (i.e. religious Communism) style, they turned to the biblical account of the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, and depicted the blacks in South Africa as being in the position of Israel of old, needing a deliverer (Mandela) to free them from the tyranny of "pharaoh" (the white government). To thousands of restless young black people, ignorant of the Scriptures but religious and full of confidence in their priests, it made perfect sense. How could they know that the exodus from Egypt, that mighty deliverance wrought by the hand of God, typified the deliverance from the dominion of sin which is wrought by Christ in all His elect? Their priests did not tell them, because they did not believe it. To these wolves in sheep's clothing, the Bible was useful to advance the Marxist ideology among religious people by perverting its teachings to make it appear as if God supported the revolution of the "poor and oppressed" against the "rich oppressors". Roman Catholic and Anglican priests, and the religious leaders of many other institutions were deliberately teaching their followers the doctrines of Marx in a religious disguise – "the 'gospel' according to Marx" – the so-called "theology of liberation"! Tragically, their lies were believed. Convinced that God was on their side, and that murder was justified when committed by the "oppressed" in South Africa, these young people were soon committing terrorist crimes with the full blessing of their priests and pastors.

The Release of Mandela

By 1985 the calls for the release of Nelson Mandela were increasing. He was turned into the symbol of heroic resistance to apartheid by the international media, revolutionary organisations, and religious institutions sympathetic to the "struggle". Around the world he was labelled a hero, a patriot, a true leader, unjustly imprisoned by the white authorities of racist South Africa. The real truth about the reasons for his imprisonment was never told. And the world believed the media reports. If ever the South African government could be pressurised into releasing Mandela, this would be a massive

victory for the Communist forces, for it would boost the morale of the revolutionaries. It would be a strong signal that the SA government was capitulating, and that total victory was not far away. Very few in South Africa could have realised, in 1985, that his release was only five years away.

In actual fact, more than once South African President P.W. Botha offered to release Mandela, *if* he would renounce violence. A very reasonable condition indeed! But Mandela refused to do so, and so remained in prison *by his own choice*. Again, this is a fact hardly ever reported.

On February 2, 1990, after decades of pressure from the international community, the United Nations, the Vatican, the World Council of Churches, the South African Council of Churches, trade unions, the South African Communist Party, the African National Congress, and a vast array of other groups, South African President F.W. de Klerk announced that the SACP, ANC and other revolutionary organisations were unbanned, and that Nelson Mandela would be released. The international conspirators had won a resounding victory, and South Africa was on the slippery slide to total disaster.

The revolutionary forces that South Africa's sons had sacrificed so much to keep at bay were unleashed on the Republic, legally, with a stroke of the pen. The enemy was now free to operate within South Africa's borders, and during the next few years would drench this lovely land in the blood of thousands upon thousands of people.

As Nelson Mandela, living symbol of the ANC, walked out of prison a free man on February 11, 1990, being ecstatically hailed around the world as the saviour of South Africa, and as the jubilant hordes of ANC and SACP "exiles" began to prepare to flood back into the country, ordinary lawabiding citizens of all races shuddered. This was the much-vaunted "New South Africa", and it did not take long for South Africans to find out exactly what it would be like.

Mandela Calls for the Intensification of the Terrorist Revolution

The ANC lost no time in taking advantage of the new opportunities that were presented to it. It had *no intention* of forsaking its armed revolution: it could now conduct it with far more ease, and success, than ever before. Nelson Mandela, after his release, actually called for the "armed struggle" to be *intensified*. ANC insurgents continued to secretly establish hideouts and caches of weapons in South Africa. 12

The ANC had a definite strategy to seize power. The armed revolution was a prominent part of that strategy. In addition, it planned to use mass mobilisation: strikes, mass defiance, rent boycotts, rallies, etc. All of these would serve to mobilise the masses, and would of course lead to violence (which the ANC desired). From February 21 to March 6, 1990, 84 people were killed, and 129 injured.

Another important part of the ANC's strategy was the use of underground structures: trained agents sought to infiltrate and control political organisations, unions, the media, etc. This of course is standard Marxist policy. ¹³

A Tidal Wave of Terror

The first few months of 1990 saw incredible changes taking place in South Africa, and none of them for the better. Not just Mandela, but many other terrorists in prison were released, and were permitted to publicly proclaim their ideology. The Communist leaders continued to call for an intensified "armed struggle". Inevitably, the violence and killings escalated. In the townships, black political leaders were murdered, the people were intimidated, and at least 19 people were brutally "necklaced", as the now legalised ANC and other terrorist organisations unleashed a tidal wave of terror. ¹⁴

After the release of "political prisoners" (i.e. terrorists) in 1989 and especially after the release of Mandela in February 1990, there was an upsurge in *witchcraft cases and witch-burnings*, according to the Human Sciences Research Council. Many of the youths who burned to death those accused of witchcraft flew the ANC and SACP flags. ¹⁵

Mandela's Triumphant World Tour, and His Use of Religion

Nelson Mandela began to travel the world, drumming up support for the ANC, and being praised by

the world media as a moderate, wise, reasonable, dignified man who had suffered unjustly at the hands of the "oppressive white government" of South Africa, by being imprisoned for 27 years. Little or nothing was said about the *reasons* for his imprisonment, or his definite Communist links. He was hailed everywhere as the future president of South Africa.

The Vatican's Jesuit/Illuminati forces, operating through a maze of organizations in SA and around the world, had worked long and hard for Mandela's release, knowing what a massive boost this would give to the revolutionary forces. On June 15, 1990, Mandela had a private audience with the pope of Rome, John Paul II, in the Vatican. Welcoming Mandela, the one whom God's Word identifies as the Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:1-10) said, "Thanks be to God that we can meet." Later he said to Mandela, "God bless your initiatives." The two men were photographed holding hands. Mandela asked John Paul to take a clear position in support of sanctions against South Africa. According to Mandela, the Roman pontiff did *not* ask the ANC to renounce violence. He told the press that the pope "apparently understands the situation better than some of you do. He has made no such request." 16

The Vatican was clearly jubilant. Its years of work were paying off: the fall of the Republic of South Africa was now not too far away. The Roman pope did not ask the ANC to renounce violence, because it knew that violence was the only way for it to achieve victory, and because the Papacy has always supported violence if its goals are furthered thereby. The ANC was (even unknowingly) doing the Vatican's bidding in South Africa, and the Roman pope was perfectly willing to "bless" its initiatives, knowing full well that these included the use of horrifying violence.

Millions of Roman Catholics worldwide saw that their pope, the head of their "Church" and the man they considered to be the Vicar of Christ upon earth, had joyfully welcomed Mandela as a friend and hero. These millions, ignorant of the sinister forces at work behind the scenes, assumed that Mandela was a good, moderate man, a man who favoured the Roman Catholic "Church", the best man to rule South Africa.

Also in June, Mandela visited the United States, where so much of the ANC's support had come from over the years. Guests at exclusive dinners paid up to \$50 000 to dine with him, and the funds went to the Mandela Freedom Fund. He was enthusiastically welcomed by American religious leaders – Roman Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, Jewish and Muslim. They praised him highly, gave him huge sums of money, and declared their support for continued sanctions. Spiritually blind ministers of Satan, they rejoiced at the release of a convicted Communist terrorist, and eagerly anticipated the long-awaited ANC victory in South Africa.

Speaking at a Harlem, New York "church" service, Mandela said that the ANC was an organisation brought up in the atmosphere of religion. "The religious influence in the ANC has been strong right from the beginning; our first president, Dr Dube, was a well-known religious leader," he said. Then, regarding the role of the US "churches" in South Africa's revolution, he said: "You are our comrades in arms, you are our brothers and sisters..."

Mandela's Veiled Threat of Violence Against Whites

Since the unbanning of the ANC and other groups in 1990, the violence had increased dramatically, especially between the ANC and Inkatha, a predominantly Zulu organisation. The majority of the Zulus were anti-Communist and absolutely opposed to the ANC. The ANC deceptively shifted the blame for the violence to Inkatha and the security forces, whereas in fact it had been initiated by the ANC. Mandela, speaking on May 16, 1991, warned the government that if it failed to stop the violence, it could spread to white areas. He said, "When they ["our people"] realise that the government is working with the black organisations that are killing our people, they will arm themselves and go to the white areas, and kill innocent people there." Even though he added that the ANC did not support this, it was nevertheless a thinly-veiled *suggestion* to black militants. The ANC/SACP tactic was, first, to initiate the violence; and then secondly, to blame it on Inkatha when its members retaliated, or on the government when the security forces clamped down to restore law and order! The media, of course, took the ANC's version of events at face-value.

Mandela Threatens Mass Action, and the ANC's Plans for Taking Power by Force

On June 16, 1991, Mandela said that the ANC would not compromise over its demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government, and warned of more mass action if these demands were not met.²¹ According to the Communist strategy, the first stage of its planned takeover of the country involved removing power from the hands of the government, and establishing an interim government dominated by the ANC.

In June 1991 the ANC confirmed for the first time that its leadership had ordered a "back-up" plan of armed revolution, if its negotiations with the government failed. This included establishing arms caches in South Africa, to create a national uprising.²²

The unbanning of the ANC just over a year earlier had not in any way made that organisation give up the armed revolution. It had simply made it far easier for it to conduct such a revolution, for it could now do so from within South Africa's borders! The country was teetering on the brink of an ANC-inspired bloodbath.

The ANC continued to rapidly prepare military structures to seize power by violence and bloodshed if the "negotiations" (negotiated surrender) ever failed. Large supplies of Russian arms were being smuggled into South Africa by MK, and stashed in secret arms dumps. MK had an estimated 10 000 highly-trained guerrillas in SA's neighbouring countries. They were trained in Cuba, Libya, China, Russia, and by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). MK was establishing "Self-Defence Units" in the townships, called "Township Defence Forces", for the purpose of controlling the residents by intimidation.

The British *Intelligence Digest* declared: "Increasingly, South Africans are coming to realise that they are facing a classic Marxist/Leninist revolution, organised by dedicated South African communists trained in the former Eastern bloc and by Western communists. Surprising to many will be the information received by *ID* sources in South Africa that the revolution is still being directed by communist cadres in Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union."²³

Mandela and Islam

In 1992 the ANC also began to openly court the Islamic states. Mandela visited Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Iran. These had all supported the ANC. In July he was awarded an honorary doctorate at Teheran University. He said: "The people of Africa will make Iran's Islamic revolution a model for their revolutionary moves." He also met the Ayatollah Khameini, and laid a wreath at the tomb of the Ayatollah Khomeini. The bloody revolution that swept Khomeini to power – a model for Africa! Chilling words indeed.

When in early 1992 Mandela met Muslim terrorist leader, Yasser Arafat, at the PLO headquarters in Tunisia, he said, "We regard the PLO as one of the most progressive movements in the world and we are going to continue that friendship." ²⁵

This was the supposedly moderate, "democratic" Mandela!

The Terrible Violence Continues

Meanwhile, the hideous violence racking South Africa continued. From May 15 to 30, 1992, the township of Sharpeville erupted. Winnie Mandela came to the township and told the ANC people to form "street committees", and that soon it would be time to fight. Shortly after this, an Inkatha man was burnt to death by necklacing. ANC "comrades" went from house to house, insisting that all young men had to join them. People were shot, necklaced, etc. One man's burnt body was placed on top of a chimney, as a warning to all not to oppose the ANC. Even children attacked the police and Inkatha members, saying, "If we find you in the township after 6.00 p.m., we'll kill you." Where were the strong words of condemnation from Mandela, the ANC's head? There was just silence.

In June 1992 the ANC, declaring that it would render South Africa ungovernable, launched a "mass action" campaign to topple the government, involving marches, sit-ins, strikes, etc.²⁷ It was called "Operation Exit". On June 2 a massive hospital strike was launched, affecting many hospitals. Workers were intimidated and even killed.²⁸

According to SA's law and order minister, between February 2, 1990 and May 25, 1992, over 3000

attacks against policemen had been initiated by the ANC; and several hundred ANC members had been arrested for possession of unlicensed firearms.

During the first half of 1992, 1181 people were killed in 4489 incidents of political violence, 109 policemen were killed, and 23 people were necklaced.²⁹

This was the ANC of the supposedly peace-loving, gentle, moderate, decent Nelson Mandela!

Another Veiled Threat by Mandela Against Whites

On May 31, 1992, Mandela said in a speech that whites could become targets of angry blacks in spreading violence. And he added, "You are going to see mass action on a scale you have never seen before." By saying this, he was implicitly *encouraging* blacks to attack whites.

Mandela's Interfaith Approach to Religion

Nelson Mandela, committed Communist, gave an interview in 1992 in which he spoke of his own attitude towards religion. Although he said he was "not particularly religious or spiritual", he also declared, "I am not an atheist. Definitely not." Indeed, for Communism to succeed in Africa, it *had to* be a form of *religious* Communism; and liberation theology was the ideal answer to this Communist dilemma. Mandela had obviously drunk quite deeply of this merger of Communism with religion. He spoke with affection of an Anglican prison chaplain named Hughes, whom he met while in prison, of André Schafer of the NG Kerk in Afrika (Dutch Reformed), and of Theo Kotze, Methodist chaplain. He said that he had enjoyed the ecumenical approach of the chaplains, who did not ask which church or religion people belonged to. And he said, "I never missed a service and often read the Scripture lessons." No doubt such statements were designed to reassure religious people that he was a religious man; and they probably did. But true Christians would not be fooled by such words. They know that attending services, and reading the Scriptures, do not prove one is a Christian.

He also enjoyed the visits of a Muslim Imam, with whom he often spoke at length. He was clearly impressed with Islam.

When at Pollsmoor Prison, it was a source of disappointment to him that only the Methodist chaplain was allowed to visit him, because he was a member of the Methodist denomination (and said during the interview that he still was). He became friends with his chaplain, Dudley Moore, and regularly received the Methodist sacrament of communion. It tells us much about this denomination claiming to be Christian, that it could have a convicted Communist guerrilla on its membership rolls, and that it could permit him to receive the ordinance! Mandela said of the communion service: "The sacrament gave me a sense of inner quiet and calm. I used to come away from these services feeling a new person." A new person he might have felt, but a "new creature" in Christ he was not (2 Cor.5: 17).

On December 14, addressing the "Free Ethiopian Church of Southern Africa", Mandela praised the contribution of what he called "the broad Ecumenical Movement in South Africa and internationally" for its "unparalleled" struggle against the "heresy of apartheid". He then outlined what the "Church" should be doing in SA (according to the revolutionaries). He said it "has no option but to join other agents of change and transformation". Note the words, *no option*. This was an indication that the only type of "church" the ANC recognised was one that aided and abetted the revolution. It was clearly in favour of those religious groups that formed part of the "broad Ecumenical Movement" that supported the revolution, but of no others. In this light we must interpret another sentence of his on that occasion: "In the ANC we guarantee both the freedom of religion and the independence of the church." As far as the ANC was concerned, freedom of religion should only be extended to those religious institutions that joined the revolutionaries in their so-called "struggle".

Mandela and Communism

Communist Party control of the ANC was as strong as ever in 1993. In a letter written by SACP deputy general secretary, Charles Nqakula, which was leaked to the *Aida Parker Newsletter*, it was revealed that, of the 50 people on the ANC's National Executive Committee (its highest decision-making body), 33 were SACP members. Communists headed all the most sensitive administrative structures of the ANC. Many denied that they were Communists, but what did this matter? Their

denials meant absolutely nothing.³⁴

On January 29, 1993, Nelson Mandela denied that there was any ideological connection between the ANC and the SACP, and he said that the alliance would very likely be terminated once the ANC became a political party.³⁵ This was nonsense, of course, and the subsequent continuing alliance between the two proved that it was nonsense.

The Violence Continues – and Mandela Continues to Fuel the Flames

In 1993 the terrible chant was being increasingly heard at ANC gatherings: "Kill the Boer, kill the Farmer!" Used by the ANC Youth League's fiery leader, Peter Mokaba, it drove South Africa's white farmers to prepare for war. Systematically, brutally, farmers and their wives were being murdered. In 1992 there were 369 attacks on elderly people on their farms. Platoons of men began patrolling farms, and other measures were taken, ³⁶ reminiscent of Rhodesia in the 1970s.

Countrywide, the violence continued to escalate in 1993. 55 people a day were being murdered, on average. On April 18, in Sebokeng, 21 people were killed in a series of random shootings. On April 21, a car bomb in Amanzimtoti injured nine people. In East London, five whites were killed and seven wounded by gunmen armed with AK-47s.

Far from calling a halt to the violence, Nelson Mandela urged youths, on April 22, to join MK, saying that they would be sent abroad for training. Quite plainly, various countries were still training MK guerrillas in terrorism, with Mandela's blessing.

Massive Support for Mandela and the ANC from Religious Institutions

Religious institutions in South Africa and abroad continued to give massive, enthusiastic support to Nelson Mandela and the ANC. In July 1993, when Mandela visited the United States, leaders of Chicago's Roman Catholic, Protestant, Muslim, Jewish and Sikh communities attended a luncheon with him. He said, "The ANC is perfectly at home with religious leaders and the religious community. My generation is the product of missionary education.... Religion is in our blood because of what it has done for our community." It is true that the ANC was certainly at home with Romanism, and liberal Protestantism, and Islam, and other religions; but not with biblical Christianity. Satan, the great adversary of the Lord, His Church, and His Gospel, was behind both the ANC and the religions which supported it.

The great majority of South Africans, and indeed the majority of people worldwide, have always believed that Marxists only advocate atheism; and therefore, when a Communist makes pro-religious statements, even (at times) what appear to be *pro-Christian* statements, many are completely fooled. They think to themselves, "How can this man be a Communist? How can the organisation he represents be Communist?" Most people have completely failed to understand that, especially in more recent times, Marxists came to view the "Church" as a useful organisation with which to influence the masses. This was particularly so in countries which were strongly religious, such as South Africa. Instead of waging outright war on religion, they sought to harness it, to make it work for them. Consider the words of Z. Berbeshkina, in a book entitled *What is Historical Materialism?* It was published by Progress Publishers in Moscow in 1985. "Marxist- Leninist parties," he wrote, "pay due attention to the role of religion in contemporary social development and to its influence on the masses. Marxists show deep regard for those who work for peace, whatever their religious belief.... On the other hand, Marxists combat the alliance of reactionary clericals and the forces of imperialism and aggression.... Marxism-Leninism provides the only correct scientific criticism of religion as a social phenomenon maintained and encouraged by the exploiter classes."

Famous American liberal religious leader, Jesse Jackson, cajoled and coaxed the crowd, at the Chicago gathering, to dig deep into their pockets, singling out people by name. "If he [Mandela] could give 27 years of flesh and blood, could we not give some money?" he asked. A Roman Catholic priest called Mandela a "model of what it means to live the gospel"! What a lie. Over R500 000 was raised for Mandela.³⁸

Mandela the Religious Chameleon

Mandela continued to depict himself as a religious man, thereby wooing gullible religious people to his cause. Like a chameleon, his colours changed according to his religious surroundings. He appeared equally at home with liberal Protestants (he was a Methodist), Charismatics, Roman Catholics, Hindus, Muslims, or witchdoctors. On August 15, 1993, at the Wanderers Stadium in Johannesburg, the Carmen Music for Peace Concert was held and Mandela was present. The concert was organised by the charismatic Rhema "Church". Frank Chikane, the general secretary of the SACC, led in prayer. Ray McCauley, the pastor of Rhema, was an enthusiastic supporter of Mandela.³⁹ Then on September 12 Mandela attended a service at St. Mary of the Angels Roman Catholic "Church" in Athlone, and was photographed giving the black power clenched-fist salute while members of the "church" sang "Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika" ("God Bless Africa"), the anthem of the revolutionary movement in South Africa.⁴⁰ Another photograph, in the *Argus* newspaper on September 14, showed him with Muslims. And in November, he participated in the Hindu Dipawali festival.⁴¹

Then came the witchcraft ceremony in Durban on October 24, 1993, the purpose of which, according to the Johannesburg *Star* of October 26, was to call down the ancestors' blessings on Mandela and to cast away evil spirits. It was part of a cultural festival organised by the ANC, and 60 000 people attended. A Hindu guru, a Muslim imam, and a so-called "Christian" minister initiated the proceedings. During the ceremony, 32 witchdoctors called on the ancestral spirits to "bless" Mandela, who was present. This ceremony, however, was far, far more sinister than the *Star* made it out to be. It is a ceremony used by witchdoctors for anyone who wants power, riches, health or good luck. And for the ceremony to be valid, *human blood and human flesh are normally required!* For this reason, in many of the ritual murders which take place in South Africa, body parts are removed. 42

Furthermore, the fact that Mandela was prayed for by witchdoctors, by spirit mediums, meant that he was now seen by many blacks, steeped as they were in their traditional beliefs, as a man too powerful to oppose. The effect of this was to intimidate blacks into supporting him.

This satanic festival was endorsed by the ANC, praised by the media, and supported by people claiming to be "Christians", even "ministers"! A religious Babel, an abomination in the sight of God, in which demons were invoked under the guise of ancestors, and in which (very probably) human blood and flesh played a part! Not even a whimper of protest was heard from the various religious leaders claiming to be "Christians" within the SACC, who were always so vocal in their praise of the ANC and Mandela. Not surprisingly, because these men were not true Christians, and the "churches" they represented were not true churches of Christ. They merely assumed the name of "Christians", and took the holy name of the Lord Jesus Christ into their wicked lips, but in truth they did not object to men following "other roads" to God (in direct violation of Matt. 7:13,14, Jn. 14:6, Acts 4: 12, etc., because they themselves did not know the true way); they encouraged multi-faith worship, religious syncretism, for they knew not the God of the Bible.

Truly, the Charismatics, liberal Protestants, and Roman Catholics who praised Mandela, supported him, and supported and encouraged multi-faith worship, etc., were as spiritually blind, as dead in trespasses and sins, as any ancestor-worshipping witchdoctor! He who does not worship the true God worships devils, whether they are hidden behind the names of Mary, the so-called "saints", or even behind the name of Christ. For there is "another Jesus" as certainly as there is the true Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God (2 Cor. 11:4): this "Jesus" is the Jesus of man's imagination, of man's invention, and he is worshipped by millions in many forms. But such worship is false worship, abominable to God. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12); "wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat" (Matt. 7:13) - yes, and go in thinking that they are worshipping God, and are Christians! Few indeed find that narrow way which leads to life (Matt. 7:14); and that way is Christ (Jn. 14:6).

The Fraudulent 1994 Election: Mandela and His ANC Come to Power

Finally, the election which brought Mandela and his ANC to power was held in April 1994. But this victory was achieved through massive fraud and deceit. It was probably the most rigged election in

history. Utter confusion prevailed across the country, in thousands of polling and counting stations. In order to advance Communism, Lenin had advocated "constructive chaos"; and this was certainly what there was. It was plainly obvious that the ANC/SACP deliberately created a situation of "constructive chaos" which they could manipulate to their own advantage – and did. A wealth of documented evidence for the fraud and vote-rigging is given in the book, "Holy War" Against South Africa.

I wrote the following soon after the election:

"It has finally happened. Following the April 26-29 election in South Africa, the Marxist-controlled African National Congress of Nelson Mandela has come to power. It is the culmination of decades of revolution, conspiracy, murder and mayhem: decades which have seen this once-great land reduced from a First World giant to what promises to be a Third World disaster; decades which have seen literally tens of thousands of lives lost in one of the most brutal, most savage guerrilla revolutions the world has ever known.

"The Communist forces have been victorious. They have won. In the face of unprecedented international pressure, betrayed by its 'friends' in Washington and London and by its own weak, infiltrated government, besieged by Moscow-financed terrorists who bombed civilians, murdered farmers and township residents, burned to death so-called 'collaborators', and undermined by evil, scheming, Communistic 'clergymen' who preached fiery revolutionary sermons and stirred up the masses to hate and kill and to think that they were doing God's will all the while, South Africa has caved in. And on its ashes 'the New South Africa', a 'People's Democracy', a Marxist state, will now arise.

"From politicians in halls of government to the pope of Rome in the Vatican, from the dirty streets of Soweto to the manicured lawns of the White House, an ecstatic cry of victory has ascended. 'Free at last!' said Mandela in his victory speech, echoing the words of Martin Luther King. 'Power to the People!' screamed the headlines. 'A triumph for democracy!' blubbered the journalists. The masses, both here and around the world, are for the most part blissfully ignorant of the stark truth: *that South Africa has just become the world's youngest Communist state*. It is not freedom that has come to the black people of South Africa, but rather a worse form of tyranny than any they have ever known. 'Equality' of a sort has come, yes: they will be equally poor, equally miserable, equally oppressed.

"The election is over, and the ANC has won. But if anyone pays any heed to the cries which we are hearing from all quarters now, that the election was 'free and fair', he is naive in the extreme. That this election has been 'free and fair' will surely rank as one of the greatest lies of the twentieth century, a lie perpetrated by newsmen, 'churchmen', politicians, observer missions; a lie that they planned to tell, long before the election was even held. No matter what happened, there was no way this election was ever going to be declared anything but 'free and fair'. The internationalists wanted this election; the United Nations wanted it; the United States wanted it; Britain wanted it; the European Union wanted it; the Organisation of African Unity wanted it; the World Council of Churches wanted it; the Vatican wanted it. And all of them wanted the ANC to win, and by fair means or foul, they were going to see to it that it did."

It did; and the world rejoiced. But if the world had cared to notice, there were those whose hearts were broken, and whose eyes were full of tears. They knew that this was not a time for rejoicing.

The Hand of God in the Affairs of Men

"For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another' (Psalm 75:6,7).

"And he [God] changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings" (Daniel 2:21).

The life story of Nelson Mandela illustrates so well the truth of the two texts given above. From childhood obscurity in the rolling hills of the Eastern Cape/Transkei, to the practice of law, to active involvement in the Communist revolution, to imprisonment for 27 years, to release in his old age from that life behind bars, to globetrotting hero of the conspiratorial forces and the blinded masses, to exaltation to the highest political office in the land, that of President of South Africa. Truly, it would be hard to *invent* a story more astounding! His is a true-life story stranger than fiction indeed, a story of a rise to power and worldwide fame that, as he grew to manhood, he could never have imagined, not

in his wildest dreams. A story so bizarre, so full of surprises, so unique, that it defies all logic, all rational explanation, and must be attributed to the hand of God in the affairs of men.

His is not a good story, but it is an astounding one. His rise to power was not without terrible bloodshed, cruelty that defies description, and almost unbelievable deception and intrigue; but nevertheless his inauguration as President of South Africa on May 10, 1994, would never have come to pass if God Almighty had not ordained it. This is by no means to say that the Lord approved of the terrible events that transpired whereby Mandela came to power, and truly there is a day of judgment coming; but it is absolutely certain that all things that occur in this world, do so by the decree of God. "He doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth" (Dan.4:35); and "the powers that be are ordained of God" (Rom.13:1), whether they be good or evil, benevolent or tyrannical, for the performance of His purposes (Isa.10:12).

Religious Leaders "Bless" Mandela

On May 6, 1994, four days before his inauguration as president, Mandela attended religious services at a Muslim mosque; on May 7 he attended religious services at a Jewish synagogue;⁴⁴ and then on May 8, two days before the inauguration, he was the guest of honour at a "National Service of Thanksgiving" at the FNB Stadium, Johannesburg, organised by the South African Council of Churches. He was escorted to the podium by prominent religious leaders. The purpose of the service was to give thanks for "the attainment of a democratic dispensation in South Africa" and to "express the commitment of the Christian community towards the transformation of South Africa"!⁴⁵

The religious leaders associated with the vile SACC had much to crow over: their objective had been attained. They were ecstatic. They could not suppress their glee. The revolution, which they had baptized and blessed, had been successful. It had cost the lives of tens of thousands of people; but what did they care? All that mattered was that they had won. And they had gathered to celebrate.

But true Christians did not participate in this ecumenical Babel. They did not unite in prayer with these wicked people.

Addressing the service, Mandela said that South Africans should forget the past, hold hands, and begin the task of building a new country. From then on South Africans would constantly hear this theme, whereas in fact it was the ANC and its cohorts who had destroyed the country in the first place. Now that they were in power, they called on everyone to rebuild what they had destroyed! Mandela thanked the "Church" (meaning, of course, those institutions, falsely calling themselves "churches", that had done so much to assist the ANC to power), as well as Muslim, Hindu and Jewish leaders for the role they had played in the "struggle" for "liberation"!

Local and international religious leaders were present. Romish archbishop, Denis Hurley, led the crowd in a prayer for forgiveness and reconciliation for the "long history of oppression and discrimination in our country....and for those responsible for the imposition of apartheid, with all its cruel consequences..." Anglican archbishop Desmond Tutu and others conducted a symbolic act of "reconciliation" at a wooden cross. Tutu said: "We have emerged from a history of strife and death to seek a future of life and health. We are the rainbow people, we are free, all of us, black and white together, we are free."

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Mandela's Inauguration as President of South Africa

Inauguration day, May 10, 1994: South Africa had never seen a spectacle like it. It was more like a coronation than an inauguration. In front of thousands – among them royal personages, presidents, vice-presidents, dictators, tyrants, and terrorist leaders – and watched by millions of television viewers around the world, Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa's president. He ended his speech with the words, "God bless Africa"; but which god did he mean? Certainly not the true and living God, the God of the Bible, for he was a stranger to the true God. After he took the oath as president, prayers and readings by a Hindu priest, a Jewish rabbi, an Islamic sheikh, and Anglican archbishop Desmond Tutu followed!⁴⁹ None of these men knew the true God. This religious syncretism was an abomination to the Lord.

The world's leaders had come to celebrate the entry of South Africa into the World Order. And what an assembly of wicked people it was! Among many others, there was arch-Socialist Hillary Clinton, wife of United States President Bill Clinton, along with US vice-president, AI Gore; there was President Robert Mugabe of neighbouring Zimbabwe, a Marxist dictator with the blood of thousands on his hands; there was the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Yasser Arafat, that vile terrorist organisation, smiling and speaking of Mandela as his "brother"; there was the Marxist President dos Santos of Angola; the UN secretary general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali; US Senator Ted Kennedy; US leftist religious leader Jesse Jackson; and there was Cuban Marxist dictator, Fidel Castro, the man whose forces had been engaged in a bloody and protracted battle with South African forces, as Cuba had done all it could to promote the Marxist cause in southern Africa, a man with the blood of hundreds of South African soldiers on his hands. "Welcome to South Africa," said the now deputy-president, F. W. de Klerk, warmly shaking Castro's hand! Castro had reason to be pleased: South Africa had finally caved in to the forces which Cuba had so long assisted, not by being beaten on the field of battle, but by betrayal. Here he was, one of South Africa's arch-foes, shaking hands with de Klerk on South African soil.

It was a day of celebration around the world, for South Africa had been conquered. A Communist was in power, the immense wealth of the country was available to the internationalist forces, and one of the last remaining pieces of the jigsaw was now in place. Piece by piece, the world map was taking shape according to the plans of the Jesuit/Illuminati forces at work behind the scenes. Another domino had fallen, a vitally important one.

Never had the world united around a single cause – the fall of South Africa to Communism – as it had around this one. Its diverse peoples were now under Marxist rule, and the country itself in bondage to the powerful masters who had orchestrated its fall.

And behind May 10, 1994, stretching back into the years that had passed, was a river of blood and tears that no celebrations on that day could ever dry up.

The Growth of the Myth During Mandela's Presidential Years

Another entire article, or even a book, could be written about Mandela's term as president of South Africa, and then his life of semi-retirement afterwards. During this time, the media-created Mandela myth continued to grow and grow, until he came to be perceived, in the eyes of multiplied millions of South Africans of all colours and political persuasions, as the almost god-like "father of the nation". They separated the man from the political terrorist organisation-turned-party that had been his life, not associating the atrocities, corruption and other iniquities of the ANC with him. Even as the country spiralled downwards, year after year, under ANC/Communist misrule, into a crime-ridden, collapsing Third World mess, Mandela rose higher and higher in the esteem and adoration of the people. Not because of anything positive that he really did as president, but merely because of the power of the mass media to maintain and build on the myth that had been created in those years when he had been in prison.

I wrote in an article in 2005: "In 2004 the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) aired – and then pulled – a programme called 'The Greatest South Africans.' It was a programme in which viewers were asked to vote for the 100 greatest South Africans of all time. 'The people' got all excited. Nominations poured in. Predictably, considering that the SABC is the voice of the ANC government, former South African president, Nelson Mandela, was declared to be the greatest South African of all time.... But what exactly is it that makes Mandela great? Nothing. Nothing whatsoever. He is portrayed by the fawning media as the greatest South African, indeed the greatest African, ever; but – why? He has done none of the things which make a man great. He does not display 'integrity of character', he is not 'magnanimous' or 'noble' [dictionary definitions of 'great']. He helped to establish the armed wing of the terrorist ANC. He was justly imprisoned for life for extremely serious crimes. He was released 27 years later and went on to become SA's first black (and first Communist) president. He did not create a reconciled nation. He did not heal the rifts between black and white. He uttered many very racist, anti-white statements. He enthusiastically supported the world's worst criminals, thugs, dictators and Marxist madmen. His worshippers cannot see that, in truth, 'the

Emperor has no clothes'! Even if we ignore his personal character, etc., and look only at his achievements, he is not 'eminent in point of attainments or achievement; exhibiting signal excellence in some important work' [dictionary definition of 'great']. He achieved nothing of any lasting value, nothing of excellence. He is merely the creation of worldwide media hype. 'The Mandela magic' is really the Mandela myth. The man is real, but his supposed greatness is not. It doesn't exist."⁵¹

And yet the idolatry continued. Huge statues of Mandela were erected in public places, not only in South Africa but in other parts of the world. These are eerily reminiscent of the giant statues of Stalin and other Communist dictators that were erected in the Soviet Union and elsewhere. And yet the world, which condemned those idols, heaped praise upon the Mandela idols. Giant images of his face, also, appeared on screens set up in public squares and other places, dwarfing the passers-by and giving the appearance of him being larger than life, like some kind of deity.

He did nothing whatsoever to deserve his global, virtual deification. Under his presidency the brutal tortures, murders and rapes of thousands of black and white South Africans increased tremendously, and he did nothing to stop this. SA became a criminal haven, with tens of thousands of brutal murders and rapes every single year, and again he did nothing to stop this.

Here are the plain, cold facts of Mandela's presidency (italics added):

"During 46 years of [white] National Party *apartheid* rule over 18,000 people had been killed by rioters, terrorists, by the police and the army, on all sides, including terrorists, civilian victims, military casualties and police. A total of 18,000 dead during 46 years of conflict. However, in peace time, under Nelson Mandela, an average of 25,000 people were murdered *every year*. In Mandela's first four years as president, the Rand lost 80% of its value, more than 2.8 million man-days were lost to strikes and the national debt doubled. Yet to celebrate his birthdays, Mandela would regularly open the prison doors and set many criminals, including armed robbers, murderers and rapists, free, some of whom were murdering and raping within 24 hours of being released. Over 100,000 people were murdered under Mandela's term as president.

"In the 1970s, even when facing terrorism, riots and engaged in a border war with the Cubans in Angola, the South African Rand was stronger than the US Dollar. However, after years of US sanctions, the South African Rand had fallen to R2 to the Dollar. Under Nelson Mandela even with no war, no sanctions, no riots, no conscription, and with massive international aid and investment, the Rand plummeted to R8 to the Dollar, and even R10 to the Dollar, then R12 and even R14 to the Dollar for a time." ⁵²

Furthermore, Mandela "was the prime mover of the legalisation of abortion, pornography, gambling and homosexuality in South Africa and of the introduction of sex education in public schools. Since Nelson Mandela forced through the legalisation of abortion, not even allowing ANC MPs a conscience vote, and signed it into Law, 1 February 1997, over a million South African babies have been killed through abortion, officially, legally and with tax-payers' money."⁵³

Mandela's ANC and the SA Communist Party went about "transforming what was by far the most prosperous state in Africa (and the one to which black Africans were fleeing to escape Red/black oppression, despite South Africa's apartheid system then in place) into a corrupt despotism with: squashing of dissent; looting of the treasury by top government officials; sky-high unemployment; increasing poverty and homelessness; some of the world's highest rates of murder, rape, robbery, kidnapping, car-jacking; and the world's highest HIV/AIDS infection rates." ⁵⁴

These facts are the *true* legacy of Nelson Mandela's disastrous presidency!

But despite all this, as he grew older and took on the appearance of a kindly old man, and thanks to massive media distortion of the truth, his association with the ANC, the Communist Party, and MK was all forgotten by those who knew these things. Of course, millions had no idea what he had been before 1994, nor even why he had been imprisoned in the first place. Such is the power of the mass media to keep people ignorant and to rewrite history.

His Last Days: Ratcheting Up the Virtual Deification

When, at the age of 94, he was admitted to hospital in mid-2013, gravely ill, the deification process

continued and in fact moved into an even higher gear. Outside the hospital doors, outside his Johannesburg home, and outside his rural home in the Eastern Cape, streams of well-wishers came to "pay homage" (in the words of the ever-fawning SA Broadcasting Corporation, which prattled on rapturously in semi-religious tones about the "adulation" of the masses for him). Well-wishers spoke of him, and sent messages, that in many cases were nothing short of idolatrous. One person sent a message that said, "Even death is resisted by him." Another said, "He's like Jesus for me... Mandela never took revenge for all of those who persecuted him but instead said, 'let us unite.'" This kind of worshipful adoration of a mere man should fill all true believers with compassion for the lost multitudes, who are "as sheep having no shepherd" (Matt. 9:36). Rejecting the true Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, in their hunger for a saviour they clutched onto this man. The devilish doctrine of "liberation theology" (religious Communism) had done its evil work, permeating almost all religious institutions, promoting a diabolical false "gospel" of earthly salvation from earthly oppression, instead of the glorious true Gospel of salvation from sin and the captivity of Satan. The masses desired a paradise on earth, not in heaven; and to their minds Mandela, their messiah, tried to create this for them. And these poor, lost, deceived people could not imagine a world without him. Such is the futility of setting one's hopes on a mere man.

Day by day, week by week, as he lay in hospital, the hysteria mounted. The subject of Mandela and his health dominated news headlines around the world. Every slight improvement in his health, or every relapse, was reported on as if we were witnessing the passing of a demigod. In a world desperate for heroes and saviours, the myth of Nelson Mandela had taken on a life of its own. It was a myth the media created, and was all too eager to perpetuate. And the weeping "sheeple" flocked by their hundreds daily to lay wreaths, say prayers, sing hymns, and hope for a miracle that a 94-year-old man would somehow miraculously recover and lead the country or at least hover benignly over it like some Greek god on Mount Olympus. Apart from the personal tragedy of Mandela facing a Christless eternity, the larger tragedy was the spiritual blindness of the masses, so desperate for an earthly saviour.

The religious undertones were plainly evident even in the reporting. "The hospital [where Mandela is being treated] is increasingly a place of pilgrimage," one paper reported. "At night, candles burn in front of the hospital. People pray. During the day there is a lot of singing, especially old ANC anthems." As the days went on and he remained in hospital at death's door, the crowds continued to pray, to dance, to sing, often singing songs in direct praise of Mandela himself. They begged their gods to spare his life. One of them was the ANC secretary-general, Gwede Mantashe, who said Abraham died at 195 years old, and he hoped for the same long life for Mandela! "We know we do not live forever, but we are asking God to spare him much longer," he said. Actually, Abraham was 175 when he died, not 195 (Gen. 25:7); but the god of the ANC, of course, is not the sovereign God of the Bible. The adulation continued to be heaped on Mandela's head by the ANC national chairwoman, Baleka Mbete, who said: "We want him to remain with us forever. He is the unifier of the people of South Africa and the world"; and, "We thank God for Mandela."

As the weeks went by and the letters, gifts, flags, posters, cards, balloons, flowers, teddy bears and artwork steadily piled up outside his hospital, the newspapers started to refer to the spot as a "shrine". And indeed this was exactly what it was. A Mandela cult was being created before our eyes. Choir groups from "churches" gathered at the shrine to sing hymns. Street vendors near the shrine sold everything from food and photographs to Mandela merchandise. Scores of journalists were camped outside the hospital.

Truly, Nelson Mandela was being transformed into a demigod before the eyes of the world.

His Death: Making a God of a Man

When Mandela died in December 2013, his ANC went into overdrive to turn the man into a messiah, indeed a god. The world had never witnessed anything like it. No funeral ever conducted was such a spectacle. A ten-day period of mourning was declared by the government, and the world, predictably, jumped on the bandwagon. The worship that occurred during this time was so great that it was utterly nauseating for true South African Christians. It was almost more than could be borne.

First, the government declared the day following his death to be a "day of prayer and reflection." This, be it remembered, for a man who was a Communist, who by his own admission was not even particularly religious, let alone a Christian. He was not even sure there was an afterlife, saying at one time, "If there be another life beyond this physical world..." But by this time he had been virtually deified by so many millions of religious people.

Next, there was the official memorial service on December 10, held at the giant FNB Stadium in Johannesburg. World leaders jetted in for it – the very scum of the earth: former bloodthirsty terrorists in power in their own countries, dictators, mass murderers. All praised him. As it is true that birds of a feather flock together, a man is known by the company he keeps and those who praise him. This says enough about the kind of man Mandela really was.

Next, Mandela's body lay in state for a few days at the Union Buildings in Pretoria, where tens of thousands of people came to view his remains.

Finally, on December 15 he was buried, with all the pomp and ceremony of a state funeral, at his ancestral home of Qunu, in the Eastern Cape province.

In South Africa throughout this entire period, there was wall-to-wall coverage in the news media, amounting to a literal blackout of all other news. It was as if the world had come to a standstill; as if nothing else was occurring anywhere in the world. TV coverage was total. The story of Mandela was broadcast continually, every single day, all day (and night) long. News readers wore black. Newspapers' mastheads were printed in black. Mandela was the sole topic of every newspaper, whether it was the front page, the inside pages, the business section, the sports section. If there were wars occurring elsewhere, if there was *anything* occurring elsewhere, South Africans knew nothing of it unless they saw something on the internet. It was a massive, orchestrated, utterly shameless, openly idolatrous glorification of the man. He ceased in fact to be a mere man, and became a Christ-figure, a messiah, a god.

This was evident in the tributes that poured in. One of the cards laid outside Mandela's Johannesburg home said: "He is going to rule the universe with God. He is definitely going to rest in peace because he is peace." Truly this person viewed Mandela as a messiah, for only the Lord Jesus Christ rules the universe with God the Father, and only Christ is the Prince of peace, and peace itself.

One woman, Julia Denny-Dimitriou, an assistant Anglican *priestess* (as she should be called) in Hilton, South Africa, wrote of him as follows: "As one of the privileged possessors of the earth, how do I live out a commitment to the underprivileged and dispossessed? Look at Mandela. What does it mean to live an authentic life? Look at Mandela. How do I act with conscience? Look at Mandela. If he could do it, so can I, and so can we. No wonder he has been compared to Jesus Christ, he is certainly as well known.... I cannot imagine this country without Madiba. He symbolises all the conflicts, struggles, hopes, dreams and personal heartaches of this nation, corporate and individual. He represents not only all that is best about us and in us, but also all our natural shortcomings. Bereft, what am I going to do without him? What are we going to do without him?" This foolish woman wrote of him as if he were the Christ, the Messiah, the Hope of the world. Christians, in all the perplexities of life, look to the Lord Jesus Christ (Heb. 12:2: "Looking unto Jesus..."); but this woman, a spiritually blind leader of the spiritually blind, looked to Mandela. She lamented his passing as one who trusted in him for meaning, for the purpose of life itself.

True Christians have news for this woman. As for what we are going to do without him, here is our answer: precisely what we did before we ever heard his name; precisely what we did when he was sitting in prison, which is where he belonged; and precisely what we did between his release and his death. We will be serving the true Christ of God, the holy, harmless, undefiled Lord Jesus Christ. Mandela was *never* our icon, our hero, our Messiah, and never will be. As for him being as well known as Christ, well, he may be as well known as *her* "christ", for *her* "christ" is a false christ; *her* "christ" is that "other Jesus" of whom the Scriptures warn (2 Cor. 11:4); and there are plenty of such false "christs" in the world. She preaches one of them every time she stands in a pulpit, in direct violation of God's Word. But her substitute christ, her idol, her beloved Mandela, has now met the true Christ of God, the omniscient, omnipotent Christ; and he has heard the sentence passed on him. And it is not what she thinks.

During the days following Mandela's death, the blasphemy continued around the country. Millions of South Africans actually *sang hymns* in honour of Mandela, in church buildings, mosques, temples, synagogues and elsewhere. Innumerable examples could be given of the blasphemies uttered even by so-called "pastors", as they spoke of him as virtually equal with Christ Himself. Vusi Dube, pastor of a Charismatic megachurch, the Durban Christian Centre, said: "As a church, Mandela has done and taught us a lot. But the major thing he taught us was forgiveness, something that is not easy for us Christians. Nelson Mandela lived forgiveness." Imagine this – a man claiming to be a Christian pastor, actually saying that it required a man like Mandela to teach Christians the meaning of forgiveness! Never mind the fact that the entire Bible which he professes to preach and teach is full of the doctrine of forgiveness – no, Christians (according to him) could not be taught this by the Holy Scriptures, by the Lord Himself through the Scriptures, they had to wait for Nelson Mandela to supposedly teach it to them! What blasphemy. What wolves in sheep's clothing occupied the pulpits of the land. False "churches" abounded, false "pastors" preached, false "Christians" praised – not Christ, but Nelson Mandela.

In Cape Town, the Anglican dean of St George's Cathedral, Michael Weeder, said: "as he dies, he lives again and again. He is resurrected in every act of kindness." In spouting such blasphemy, this spiritually blind man made a mockery of the true, physical resurrection of Christ, using classic "liberation theology" tactics to teach the heresy that the "resurrection" of Mandela occurs each time someone performs an act of kindness!

And lastly (though so many more similar statements could be given), Zwelinzima Vavi, the suspended general secretary of Cosatu, the giant South African trade union organisation, referred to Mandela as a "supernatural human." Yes, Nelson Mandela, both during his lifetime and even more after his death, was (and will continue to be) elevated above mankind, transformed into a god.

Truly, this world's sins are a stench to the Lord, and the world is crying out for judgment. It is coming, of that we can be certain. And it deserves all that is coming upon it for all its sins, to which it has added the blasphemy of deifying a sinful human being, Nelson Mandela, to all the rest. Mandela is worshipped by millions, yet the Lord Jesus Christ – holy, harmless, undefiled – is hated by the same world that deifies a terrorist. God is not mocked. The world will reap what it has sown.

Conclusion

In June 2013 South African President Jacob Zuma, a devoted disciple of Mandela, said something which every starry-eyed liberal who has fallen for the media-created Mandela myth should take to heart – but won't, alas. He said: "people should not create their own superficial image of Madiba [Mandela's clan name]. They must love Madiba the volunteer-in-chief of the Defiance Campaign, Madiba the *Umkhonto we Sizwe* [MK] commander-in-chief, Madiba the revolutionary, Madiba the long-serving prisoner. We must not only focus on Madiba the first president..." In other words, he was saying that if they wanted to love him, they must love everything about him. They must love him not just as the elderly president, but they must love the man he was before becoming president: the leader of the ANC's bloodthirsty terrorist "army", MK; the Communist-inspired revolutionary and lifelong member of the organisation that committed atrocious deeds of terror in the name of "liberation". Zuma was right, for Mandela never changed. These were the things he remained committed to throughout his life, and the liberal masses cannot pick and choose what they want to love about him. If they wanted to love him, they must be honest and love everything about him. But no they prefer to whitewash away the unsavoury aspects of his life. Facts, however, are stubborn things, and those who were not taken in by the media myth did not love Mandela, unlike the fawning masses who spoke of him in semi-religious tones as if he was some kind of messiah, saviour, and demigod. He was a mere human being, a sinful human being, committed to a monstrous ideology.

The tragedy of the cult of Nelson Mandela is so much larger than the tragedy for him personally, for he died without Christ, a stranger to the Gospel of the grace of God. It is the tragedy of a world that is floundering in moral relativism, that has rejected the Word of God, the Bible, and the one and only Saviour who is so wonderfully revealed therein, the Lord Jesus Christ. A world in such utter confusion that it cannot discern between good and evil, between light and darkness. A world that makes heroes out of sinful men, and turns its back on Christ, the One who had no sin at all.

When Vladimir Lenin died, despite his hatred for religion and his war against God, it did not take his Communist followers long to turn him into a kind of god. He was *embalmed*, and a *shrine* was built over his tomb in Red Square, Moscow, to which *pilgrims* flocked and lined up for hours to gaze at his body. Even years after his death, slogans were to be seen in the streets: *Lenin Lives!* Note the religious nature of all this: *embalming, shrine, pilgrims, Lenin lives!* Essentially, Soviet Communists' hearts were craving for something to fill the spiritual vacuum that Communist ideology had created. They had rejected both true Christianity and false "christianity", and Lenin became their substitute saviour.

In a secular humanist world, men hunger for a saviour. They long to fill the spiritual void in their lives. But they have no desire to turn to Christ, for they love their sin too much. So they set up a substitute saviour. And for millions this substitute saviour is Nelson Mandela. The shrine was created, the pilgrims flocked to it and will continue to do so, and the world has been told that Mandela will live on, indeed live forever, in the hearts of his adoring disciples and through his "teachings" and philosophy and ideology.

"Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man.... and worshipped and served the creature more than ["rather than", as the marginal note puts it] the Creator, who is blessed for ever" (Rom. 1:22,23,25).

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