MAKING HAVOC OF THE CHURCH Acts 7:57, 58; 8:3; Gal, 1:13

VARIOUS TYPES OF CHURCH WRECKERS

- 1. Saul Made Havoc of the Church: (1 Cor. 15:9)
 - 1. By a campaign of cruel, ruthless hate and murder. This is the devil's method in many places.
 - 11. This method especially used when Christianity was first introduced into a country.
 - (a) Italy a present day example. Their treatment of our missionaries.
- 2. Constantine Made Havoc of the Chruch:
 - 1. Converted when he thought he saw in the sky a vision of the Cross just outside Rome at Milvain Bridge, October 27, 312 A. D.
 - 11. He made Christianity the state religion. Under him the church came to be more political.
 - 111. He did some good things:
 - (a) His Edict of Toleration in 313 A. D. gave full religious liberty. This was the first law of its kind.
 - (b) He made the first day of the week a day of rest. Forbade all ordinary work. Gave soldiers leave for church services.
- 3. Theodosius Made Havoc of the Church: (378-95 A. D.)
 - 1. He made church membership compulsory. Church filled with unconverted.
 - 11. Under him the church became more of a political organization and took its nose-dive into the millenium of Papal Abominations.
- 4. How Men Make Havoc of the Church Today:
 - 1. By popularizing the church.
 - (a) It has become popular but weak.
 - (b) It has become rich but poor. Rev. 3:17
 - (c) It has become worldly but spiritless. 1 Tim. 5:6
 - 2. By "Factionizing" the Church. 1 Cor. 1:10-13 James 3:
 - (a) Factions, contentions, strife, wreck the membership. 1 Cor. 3:3
 - (b) Who can measure the woe, or repair the damage done to the church by internal foes?
- 5. The Greatest Havoc of the Church Today is Made by its Friends. They Wreck the Church by Neglect.
 - 1. They believe in the church but do not help support it. They rob the church and therefore God and Christ of their:
 - (a) Time
- (b) Money
- (c) Christian Influence
- 11. They belong to the church but do not attend the worship.
 - (a) Steadfastness (Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 15:58).(b) Faithful to Assemble (Hebrews 10:23-25).
 - (c) The result if STEADFASTNESS and FAITHFULNESS be lacking (Jude 19).

Revelation 2:10

"... be thou fai thful unto death, and I will give thee a crown

life."

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