

Is the MAJORITY Always Right?

*You have probably heard it said: "Millions can't be wrong."
Is the person who doesn't belong to your social group, your
political party, your church always wrong? Who determines
what is right?*

by Herman L. Hoeh

CIGARETTE commercials drum into our ears: "Millions who smoke . . . can't be wrong!"¹ But does that make their brand of cigarette right?

Commercial drug advertisements often repeat: "Four out of five doctors recommend. . . ." Perhaps the question should be asked: "What does that *one* doctor know that the other four don't?"

Isn't it time we stopped to consider *who* determines right from wrong? Millions are today members of the Communist Party—but that does not make them right! Millions voted approval for Adolph Hitler in prewar Germany—but that did not make them right!

Majority Always Right?

Thousands of newly prosperous individuals are for the first time in their lives investing in the Stock Markets around the world. Do you know the *one basic* rule that investors always recommend to these clients? It is the one rule most often overlooked—the one rule that, when broken, causes more failures than any other?

That rule is this: "THE MAJORITY IS ALWAYS WRONG!"

People are like sheep. They want to do what other people are doing. When some become frightened about the economy, the majority become frightened. Panic hits the Stock Market. The bottom drops out. Life savings are lost. By contrast, when the market rises above its normal level, the majority want to get on the "gravy train"—for easy money. There is a temporary boom and then another reaction and a selling panic. Few realize that the Stock Market is fundamentally a *psychological war*.

The same thing is true in politics and religion. You have probably been told that "*this is a Christian world*"—that "the majority can't be wrong!" But have you ever considered the fact that *the majority* of people on earth *do not believe* in the Christian religion? If Christians are right, *then the majority*

are wrong!

The world's population now stands at 2.9 billion people. Yet in the whole world there are only 870 million people who profess Christianity and over 2 billion who don't believe in any form of Christianity!

Because the majority of people are non-Christian—actually heathen—does that make their religions right? Of course not!

Few have stopped to consider that there is *no* religion on earth that is in the majority. Every one of the "great religions"—whether Mohammedanism, Hinduism, Buddhism, etc.—is a minority. This world is in the control, not of the majority, but of *organized minorities*.

This is as true in politics. In the last presidential election in the U.S.A., the winning candidate received only 38% of the total registered vote potential. That means 62% did not approve him, yet he won! And not more than 37% approved the opposing candidate!

Let's turn for a moment to the professing Christian world.

Protestants a Tiny Minority

Only about 30% of the world's population professes Christianity. Of these, the Roman Catholic Church makes up only 18.2% of earth's population and all the Protestants put together only 7.3% of the world.

Once you admit that the majority of *non-Christians* are wrong, then you are confronted by the possibility—yes probability—that even the majority of *professing-Christians* could be wrong, too! Just because all the various Catholic Churches are five times larger than all Protestant bodies does not prove them to be right. Then what about Protestants themselves?

There are about 213 million Protestants around the world. Yet in the United States, for example, the largest single Protestant body is the Baptist—with only 21.5 million or about 12% of the

total. In other words, over 88% of all Protestants are non-Baptists.

Of that 88%, the Methodists compose the next largest group with about 12.4 millions in the U.S.A. There are less than two million Disciples of Christ—only 300,000 Nazarenes and only 100,000 members of the Friends Societies.

In other words, *no matter what group you belong to, you are in the minority!*

Why a World of Minorities?

How did all these splits and sects and divisions begin in the world? Why has God allowed man to be divided into competitive nations, races, political parties, religious sects? Is there a *purpose* for letting all this go on?

Our competing, divided, sectarian world is a direct result of defiance of the Government and the Rule of God over the world. That is why Jesus never joined any of the sects of His day! It all started at Babel when MAN decided for himself that he would determine right from wrong—that MAN alone would decide for himself what his religion would be and with whom he would associate politically. It is all a matter of Government! Read Genesis 10:8-10 and 11:1-9.

At Babel a man named Nimrod got the majority to follow him. He wanted to decide for himself what is right and wrong—no God was going to tell *him* what to do! He promised to emancipate the people from the laws of God. He fooled the people into believing that they did not have to obey God—that they could do as they pleased. All this Nimrod used as a ruse in an attempt to impose his personal will on the world. He was the first man this side of the flood to attempt to impose the will of an *organized minority* on all the world and the majority has followed him ever since.

But God intervened! He confounded their language—divided the people ac-

ording to families and nations and races and let all the world go its own way, cut off from Him. Since the majority wanted to rebel against His Government, God let them rebel—but He has punished this world by keeping it divided ever since. And that is how this world's religions commenced, too.

The heathen today are the heirs to their parents' religion. They take it for granted that their fathers' religion is true. They do not know any different. But their fathers were divided among themselves—each nation deciding for itself what it thought was right.

The same is true in our professing Christian world. When Christianity was preached in the old Roman Empire only a comparatively few listened. As the teachings of Christ became more widely heard the numbers of curious increased. They soon began flocking into the church, bringing with them most of their previous customs and superstitions, but now adding to those beliefs the name of Christ. When Emperor Constantine finally adopted the Christian religion, the vast majority suddenly overwhelmed the church. The truth was soon obliterated by pagan superstition—and that is how "Christianity" developed.

The religion of the West in the Middle Ages was an organized minority which imposed its rule on Europe and the other areas of the world. Toward the close of the Middle Ages religious fermentation set in. Protestantism arose. The powers of the Roman Bishop were shorn. But soon Protestants were quarreling among themselves. Minorities split and re-split—each one seeking to do what is right in his own eyes!

Certainly all these competing sects and strange religions cannot be right. Who is it that determines right—and what to believe?

It is God!

And now we turn to the crux of the question. All these splits and divisions are the result of rebellion against constituted authority. Every sect and denomination in the pagan or Christian world broke away from some previous form of rule or government. It is a continuous repetition of the story that occurred at the tower of Babel when man broke away from God's Govern-

ment. Without His Government there cannot be unity and truth. Of course, unity can be imposed by an organized minority, but that does not make it right. It takes the Government of God—and that is the very message of the gospel that Jesus brought.

Jesus brought, almost 200 years ago, the gospel—the gospel of the Kingdom of God, the rule of God. But the world rejected that Gospel. The churches today cannot even agree upon what the gospel is! They have lost it!

That gospel Jesus preached is once again going round the world as a final warning to every nation. God is about through letting this world go its own confused way. Almost 6000 years of human suffering and tragedy, human doubt and fear are up. God is about to intervene in world affairs and *force* all these organized minorities to give up their ways and submit to His absolute rule. God knows best. He knows what is good for us and what is bad for us. It is God who determines right from wrong. Not until the world learns to submit to His Government and to obey His Will can there ever be universal peace and harmony.

Minorities Wrong, Too!

In this evil world the majority has always been wrong—and so have *all* the minorities! Everyone has gone astray! Unless God has got hold of you and shaken you up and brought you to your senses, and led you to repentance, you are just like everybody else. Paul describes the world bluntly: "There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God, they are ALL gone out of the way . . ." (see Romans 3.10-18).

Everyone has to repent. Everyone has to learn to submit to the Will of God as revealed in the Holy Bible. But very few have been willing to do that. Many may profess to acknowledge the Word of God, but they do not understand it! It is to them a closed book, because they are cut off from God by their sins and they do not know it. It is time we faced up to the world in which we live.

It is time we examined ourselves and found where we stand before God!

It is time to separate ourselves from this world's sects and divisions!

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