

Mike Perino (Walsh). 12 special intentions.

Religious Bulletin
February 6, 1952

Prayers said immediately after Mass are for the conversion of Russia.

The Atonement Of Whittaker Chambers.

In his own words Whittaker Chambers (February 9th Post) begins the story of his retreat from communism, attempting thereby to make sincere atonement for his betrayal and at the same time to render an account of his stewardship. He speaks directly to his two children, indirectly to the world.

Mr. Chambers' soul-searching effort will be to make clear the true nature of communism and the source of its power. What he has to reveal, how men's souls are lured and trapped by communism's "vision", will not be the scoop the Post predicts. For Communism has long been condemned by the Vicars of Christ--officially by the late Pius XI.

Be that as it may, what Mr. Chambers has to say about communism, terrible as it may be, tragic in its effect upon the souls of men, may serve to alert other minds and other wills to this mortal danger.

(
Decision.

"For in this country," says Chambers, "within the next decades, will be decided for generations whether all mankind is to become communist, whether the whole world is to become free, or whether, in the struggle, civilization, as we know it, is to be completely changed. . . It is popular to call it a social crisis. It is in fact a total crisis--religious, moral, intellectual, social, political, economic. . . I see in communism the focus of the concentrated evil of our times. . ." (Diabolic?)

What Is This Evil Power?

"Communism makes some profound appeal to the human mind. You will not find out what it is by calling communism names. That will not help much to explain why communism, whose horrors on a scale unparalleled in history are now public knowledge, still recruits its thousands and holds its millions--among them some of the best minds alive."

Mr. Chambers goes on to explain what the simple communist conviction is, from which arises all its deadly and horrible seriousness: IT IS NECESSARY NOW TO CHANGE THE WORLD. "Communist power, whose nature baffles the rest of the world, because in a large measure the rest of the world has lost that power, is the power to hold convictions and to act upon them. Communists are that part of mankind which has recovered the power to live or die--to bear witness--for its faith."

"Man Without God."

"Like all powerful faiths, its (communism's) force derives from a simple vision. . . the vision of Man without God. It is the vision of man's mind displacing God as the creative intelligence of the world. It is the vision of man's liberated mind, by the sole force of its rational intelligence, redirecting man's destiny and reorganizing man's life and the world. . . It is the vision of materialism. . .

This vision is intensely practical, continues Chambers, and the tools to turn it into reality are at hand--science and technology, "whose traditional method, the rigorous exclusion of all supernatural factors in solving problems, has contributed to the intellectual climate in which the vision flourishes. . . For the vision is shared by millions who are not communists and they are part of communism's secret strength. Hence the Communist Party is quite justified in calling itself the most revolutionary party in history. It has posed in practical form the most revolutionary question in history: GOD OR MAN?"

There are serious minds who hold that an evil power has been "unleased" upon the world. The Apocalypse suggests that it would - Satan would be this terrible evil.