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\* Knights of Malta \*

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## Chancellor's Update

### Fatima's Prophecy – Then and Now

On November 7, 1917 a revolutionary changing of the guard occurred in Russia, which would eventually have ramifications around the world.

Ironically, several months earlier in a cove in Fatima, Portugal, Our Lady had told three children, "If my wishes are fulfilled Russia will be converted and there will be peace. If not, **Russia will spread her errors throughout the world.**" At that time World War One was still continuing and most people were paying attention to the major players in the war, not to Russia. What errors did the Lady at Fatima have in mind?

Bolshevism in Russian refers to those who "demand at once a complete overthrow of existing forms and the substitution of a new social order...The downfall of the Czar furnished the occasion for putting the theory in practice. . . The Bolshevist element (as opposed to the conservative and moderate elements), led by Lenin and Trotsky, declared for the taking of all the land from their owners by the peasants at once, and urged a similar confiscation by the workmen of the factories in which they were employed... Since only the comparatively few were propertied and the millions had nothing, the program of Lenin had a powerful appeal... Mines, forests, waters and landed estates, with their livestock, buildings and machinery were declared the common property of the people (Collier's Encyclopedia New York, 1928)." Note error number one against the Seventh Commandment.

The Encyclopedia continues, "A reign of terror was promptly inaugurated, and excesses were perpetrated before which those of the French Revolution pale into insignificance. Men and women inimical to the ruling power were executed with barely the pretense of a trial. Women and children were held as hostages for the fidelity of men of their family who were at the time out of the government's reach, and vengeance was visited upon them unsparingly on occasion. Spies were everywhere and no man dared to speak to his neighbor for fear of being denounced. In many cases fiendish torture and mutilation were an accompaniment of the killings." Note error number two against the Fifth Commandment.

Criticism followed for the attitude of the Bolsheviks toward the home. "It is alleged that the sacredness of that institution has been profaned, and that a state of affairs prevails that is essentially the practice of the doctrine of free love...A condition exists as to marriage and divorce that destroys the sanctity of the marriage relation and can be made a vehicle of unbounded license. The marriage bond can be severed at the merest whim of either party to the contract and there is no limit to the successive unions that may be contracted. It practically establishes a state of free love." Note error number three against the Sixth and Ninth Commandments.

"Bolshevism is the avowed enemy of religion. Atheism is taught to the children. All church property has been confiscated, and the clergy and all others connected with religious institutions have been disfranchised and deprived of the right to occupy public positions. The Sunday school has been suppressed and all teaching of religious doctrines in public... is expressly forbidden. The recognition of a Supreme Being in judicial oaths has been prohibited." Note error number four against the First Commandment.

"Large sums have been devoted by the Bolshevist Government to spreading propaganda with a view to undermining and overthrowing other governments. They have paid emissaries at work in Sweden, France, Germany, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, Italy, Great Britain and the United States as well as in Brazil and Argentina in South America...They have

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been dangerously near to success in Hungary... and in Germany... In the United States their activities were quelled temporarily. . . by the rounding up and deportation of...the most dangerous agitators." The Encyclopedia describes the spread of Bolshevist doctrines among Mohammedans, also in India, Afghanistan, Persia, China and Japan. Note error number five against the Tenth Commandment.

In 1958 the celebrated and patriotic former director of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover, penned a book entitled Masters of Deceit. "Today as I write these words, my conclusions of 1919 remain the same. Communism. . .threatens the very existence of our Western civilization." Other observations of Mr. Hoover follow.

"Communism is many things: an economic system, a philosophy, a political creed, a psychological conditioning, an educational indoctrination, a directed way of life. **Communists want to control everything:** where you live where you work what you are paid, what you think what streetcars you ride (or whether you walk), how your children are educated, what you may not and must read and write. The most minute details, even the time your alarm clock goes off in the morning or the amount of cream in your coffee are subjects for state supervision. They want to make a 'communist man', a mechanical puppet, whom they can train to do as the Party desires. This is the ultimate, and tragic, aim of communism."

"Marx proclaimed ...the 'perfect' and 'final' society: **stateless, classless, godless.**"

Marx said that the capitalist society: "would probably organize a 'counterrevolution' - which means defending itself. Hence, under the leadership of the Communist Party, the workers must, if necessary, be prepared to use force, that is, violent revolution. If the capitalists submit peacefully, good; if they resist, slaughter them."

"At the age of sixteen, Lenin ceased to believe in God. As with Marx and Engels atheism was the first step toward communism."

As for tactics, Lenin stressed, "A man was either your friend or your foe. Find out quickly. If a friend, clasp his hand; that is, as long as he served a purpose. If a foe, take drastic action. Use any weapon - knife, hatchet, or gun - to achieve your aim."

"In the Russian provinces terror developed into arrest, executions en masse and wholesale eviction of bourgeois and educated people from their houses, leaving them homeless."

**Russia's errors persist today.** Error number three and error number four have conveniently merged thanks to today's aggressive atheists like psychologist Nicholas Humphrey. "Parents have no God-given license to enculturate their children in whatever ways they personally choose...to bring them up in an atmosphere of dogma and superstition or to insist they follow the straight and narrow paths of their own faith." Richard Dawkins asks if parents "should be free to impose their beliefs on their children. Is there something to be said for society stepping in?" He even makes a reference to child abuse. (Dinesh D'Souza, www. Townhall. copy 10 /22/ 07). Note error number six against the Fourth Commandment.

Note also that in post-Soviet Russia opposition is not tolerated. Note the murders of dissident journalist Anna Politkovskaya on October 7, 2006, and of Alexander Litvinenko, former KGB/FSB officer, who died on November 26, 2006 as a result of radioactive poisoning, which also put scores of British residents at a health risk.

**If we want to stop the spread of Russia's errors and bring about Russia's promised conversion, we should heed Our Lady's requests to pray, especially the Rosary, to do penance and to make sacrifices for the conversion of sinners.**

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