



## Can you really buy God’s Blessings or be saved by Twitter?

The Vatican is taking advantage of the most vulnerable and poor. It is making millions of dollars off of the misinformed and misguided. Since its inception, the papacy has invented different gimmicks to swindle money away from people. Through the sales of indulgences to the special masses for the dead in purgatory, the scams never cease to defraud innocent souls who are left in darkness.



**Above: For \$32.37 U.S. dollars you can receive the Pope’s blessing. Below: The office of Papal Charities processes the blessing and takes your payments.**



Take for example the Office of Papal Charities, located at the entrance of St. Peter’s Square, the headquarters of the Roman Catholic church. For just \$25 Euros [\$32.37 US dollars] you can obtain a papal blessing from this office. Or if you are not able to visit Rome, they will take your payments through mail or **online**. In exchange, you will get a certificate with a picture of the pope stating that you have now received “abundant divine graces.” These pre-paid “blessings” are available for just about any occasion—baptisms, weddings,

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## Sunday Debate Heats up in Alabama

**Voters in Gadsden to weigh in on Sunday alcohol sales**  
Fox News | August 25, 2014

Voters in Gadsden will go to the polls Tuesday to decide if their city should remain the largest in Alabama not sell alcohol on Sundays.

After a lengthy process that included a trip to the state legislature, the issue will finally land before voters. They will also vote for the positions of mayor and council members.

Supporters have contended that Sunday sales will be an economic boost to the area. They say four national restaurant chains are interested in locat-

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## Cayman Islands: Public Asked For Views On Sunday Trading

Mondaq.com | August 1, 2014

The Ministry of Commerce is asking the public if changes should be made to **The Sunday Trading Law**, in response to the changing social and economic environment.

Commerce Minister Wayne Panton said the public consultation is in line with other Government proposals that are intended to encourage economic activity, provide support for local commerce, and positively impact employment opportunities.

He also said that during the 2014/2015 Budget Debate, the Premier, the Hon. Alden McLaughlin, outlined a

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## A Call to Repeal the 1961 Sunday Law Decision

**Summary Introduction:** Discrimination has no room in a modern democratic society. Sunday laws limit the privileges and opportunities of both religious and non-religious minority groups who don’t consider Sunday as a special or sacred day. At the same time Sunday laws favor and benefit the larger Christian populations who do consider Sunday as sacred and in need of protection. Sunday laws should have never been passed in the first place because historically they were designed to create uniformity in worship for all of society and ultimately they are unfair because they discriminate against other religious groups. There is no good reason to keep them around on our legal statutes for any future considerations. A successful repeal now would eliminate its discriminating legacy forever and ensure religious liberty for future generations.

Sunday laws were enshrined and codified as the law of the land by four US Supreme Court decisions: 1. McGowan vs. Maryland, 366 U.S. 420 (1961); 2. Gallagher vs. Crown Kosher Supermarket, 366 U.S. 617 (1961); 3. Braunfeld vs. Brown, 366 U.S. 599 (1961); 4. Two Guys from Harrison vs. McGinley, 366 U.S. 582 (1961).

Most of these cases involved Jews whose businesses were closed on Saturday due to their religious conviction of resting on the seventh-day Sabbath. They wanted to be open on Sunday because of the burden of having to close their businesses two days a week. Sunday laws were causing economic hardships to the Jewish communities because it forced them to close their businesses two days a week—Saturday, because that was their day of worship—and Sunday because of the Sunday law. On the other hand Sunday laws placed no burden upon the largest Christian communities because their businesses could open six days a week. Sunday laws actually accommodated and benefited Sunday-keepers. So the Jews claimed that Sunday laws were unfair because it discouraged Saturday-keeping and encouraged Sunday-keeping. The Jews also claimed that Sunday laws were discriminatory because the laws economically rewarded one group and economically punished the minorities. And instead of considering the religious beliefs of these Saturdays, Sabbath-keeping Jews, the keepers of the true Lord’s day, the 1961 Supreme Court ruled that (1) people need to have a day of rest and that (2) Sunday is the uniform day of rest for all citizens. Even though Sunday laws were

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## A recent string of child abuse cases rock Adventist Church

“But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” Matt. 19:14.

“And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.” Mark 9:42.

The sexual abuse of innocent, defenseless children is as bad as human behavior gets. The only other behavior that comes close to the sexual abuse of children is when people in responsible positions turn a blind eye and allow the abuse to continue. Sadly, this silence means consent and acceptance.

“If God abhors one sin above another, of which His people are guilty, it is doing nothing in case of an emergency. Indifference and neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of God as a grievous crime and equal to the very worst type of hostility against God.” Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 281.

The Roman Catholic church has been plagued with the systematic cover-up of child sex abuse by its priests and bishops. And tragically, many cardinals in leadership have chosen to put the church’s interests ahead of the protection of the most defenseless – the children. Not only are abuses being covered up, but the abusers themselves are hardly ever reported to the authorities. In fact, extreme efforts are made to harbor and move the pedophile priests to places where no one knows what’s going on. Sadly, on a much smaller, this exactly what has happened in the Seventh-day Adventist church.

1. The Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is being sued for \$1 million after a teacher/coach from one of its schools raped a 13 year old girl multiple times. The teacher/coach plead guilty on June

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# THE ETHERNAL GOSPEL HERALD

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The Eternal Gospel Herald is published from West Palm Beach, Florida, USA, by the Eternal Gospel Church, a ministry that was founded in 1992 by Seventh-day Adventist believers to bring true, genuine, world-wide revival and reformation by proclaiming the Third Angel's Message. The Eternal Gospel Herald is sent to you free of charge, with much love, work, and sacrifice. Every effort is made to insure the accuracy of the

information contained herein. This publication is printed to communicate the issues and subjects pertaining solely to the development and fulfillment of the third angel's message and the advancement of Christ's character in the lives of God's faithful people. We hope and pray that you will not only enjoy it but that it will be informative and spiritually enlightening to all of you.

**Ministry Needs**—Our ministry is always in great need of your *prayers and your financial support*. The radio programs that we are conducting at large in English, Spanish, and French, the work of the billboards in different parts of the country, the full-page newspaper ads, the literature work, the prison ministry, the Oklahoma Projects, the foreign missions, the Eternal Gospel Herald, and all other missionary activities—all these require a lot of funds. It is by the grace of God and the help of all of you that we are still moving forward with the proclamation of Three Angels' Messages. May God help us all to remain faithful until the end. God bless you.



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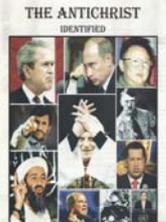
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## Recent Baptisms in West Palm Beach, FL

—Pastor Raphael Perez

One of the highlights of the ministry is when we have the opportunity of baptize souls into the family of God. Recently I had the privilege of baptizing two precious souls, a husband and wife, into the truth of the Three Angels' Messages. Like most people born in Latin America, Jose Puga and Maria Noriega were born into Roman Catholic homes. They are both currently retired. Maria, a professional, worked for over 30 years in the administration of one of the most prestigious universities in Lima, Peru. Jose, an agricultural worker, was a bee keeper. Together they began their journey in search for the truth. Maria joined a Catholic religious order called the Daughters of Mary with the intention of trying to follow God's calling. Feeling that something was missing they left Roman Catholicism and joined different Evangelical and Pentecostal groups for several years. However, they felt that the Holy Spirit was telling them that something was still missing.



While on a trip to Florida as they were visiting their grown children, Jose and Maria came in contact with the Three Angels' Messages. On a Sunday morning drive to a local Evangelical church they turned on the Christian radio station and came in contact with the Voice of the Eternal Gospel Radio Program. Immediately they were shocked with the presentations that they heard. The radio message that morning was on the Sabbath being the seal of the living God, Sunday being the mark of the beast, the perpetuity of God's law, and the faith of Jesus.



They began to look at each other and began to wonder what they were listening to. As they arrived to the church they couldn't get out of the car. They continued listening to the radio program while parked in the in the parking lot of the Evangelical church. They wrote down the phone number of our church that we always give at the end of each radio program. Immediately they contacted our office and requested the free literature which we happily send to all who inquire. Two weeks after receiving our literature they began visiting our church in West Palm Beach, FL. We began giving them Bible studies and they accepted the Three Angels' Messages. Seven months later they made the decision to get baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist faith.

For God's glory brother Jose and Maria now want to share the beautiful truths that God has for this end time with their family, friends, and former Evangelical brethren. Praise God! We are reminded of the words of Jesus: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matt. 28:19-20.

Cases like these are what motivates us to keep moving forward with this solemn work. I plead with all of you to keep us in your prayers. At present, we are sending the message out across the world and **funds are needed** so that we can continue until the Lord allows. Souls are hungry like this couple. Many are starving for lack of present truth. Together we'll prepare them for heaven.

## Letters

Dear Eternal Gospel Ministry, I am very interested in the end time prophecies and in their fulfillment as described in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. Please subscribe me to your monthly newsletter. Thank you, Wesley Ramkissoon, California.

Dear Pastor Perez, Words cannot express my appreciation for all that you do in the precious name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May God continue to bless you richly and preserve you blameless for His coming. Sincerely, Bernadette Ottley, New Jersey.

Dear Friends at the Eternal Gospel, Praise God and hallelujah! I'm going home after 10 years of incarceration. Thank you for lifting me up in spirit and for giving me a greater understanding of the truth. May we continue to spread the Eternal Gospel and the Three Angels' Messages to all who will listen and to prepare a people for the soon coming of our Lord and Savior. Thank you, Gary Pruett, Georgia.

### Was Peter the First Pope?

1 to 25 ..... \$2.00 each  
26 to 50 ..... \$1.75 each  
51 to 99 ..... \$1.50 each  
100 or more.....\$1.25 each  
\* This suggested donation includes shipping.



—continued from page 1 “Call to Repeal 1961 Sunday Laws”

indirectly creating a financial burden to the Jews and even though it was more expensive financially to keep Saturday than Sunday, the US Supreme Court explained that Sunday laws didn't forbid the Jews from observing their own Sabbath—aside from the inconveniences and hardships of Sunday laws. Thus Sunday laws were upheld and the discrimination continued. By now, you might be asking yourselves, “Where were Seventh-day Adventists during this time? Were there no Seventh-day Adventist who owned any businesses? Where were the so-called religious liberty department of the SDA Church?”

“We as a people have not accomplished the work which God has committed to us. We are not ready for the issue to which the enforcement of the Sunday law will bring us. It is our duty, as we see the signs of approaching peril, to arouse to action. Let none sit in calm expectation of the evil, comforting themselves with the belief that this work must go on because prophecy has foretold it, and that the Lord will shelter His people. We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience.” Testimonies, Vol. 5, pp. 713, 714.

The discrimination continued for the next three years until the US Congress passed a landmark piece of legislation called **The Civil Rights Act of 1964**. This law came about not to directly help the Saturday-keeping Jews, but rather to stop the blatant discrimination against African-Americans throughout the country. This new legislation outlaws all discrimination in the United States that is based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. This law means that businesses, including the federal government, by law, have to accommodate peoples' religious beliefs—including their day of worship.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 should have instantly repealed the Sunday law question; *but for some reason it didn't and nobody perused it*. These laws are still on the books and at any moment they can be revived and come back to persecute and discriminate against the religious faith of American citizens.

Sunday laws were originally founded and instituted to force people to go to church on Sunday. Emperor Constantine, who wrote the first Sunday law in 321 A.D., made Sunday the official day of rest in the Roman Empire. This law caused church attendance to explode and was meant to benefit the Roman Catholic Church.

Dr. Rev. Samuel Peters, a Puritan descendant, historian, and graduate from Yale University, wrote about the origin of the old Sunday laws in early 1630s colonial America in his historical book called *A General History of Connecticut* (1781). He explains what was the ultimate objective of these Sunday laws on page 220: “The law prescribes whipping, stocks and fines, for such as do not attend public worship on the Sabbath [Sunday].”

This is the origin of Sunday laws! They are meant to compel people to attend church on Sunday. As long as these decisions go unchallenged, they will remain being the law of the land and can be used at any time by any state or by a national act to discriminate against religious minorities in the future. The precedence has been established for many years and should we wait for a National Sunday Law before we asked for this precedence to be repealed. It's time to ask our lawmakers to repeal these measures once and for all.

Who is actually pushing for Sunday laws? There are several religious and secular groups who are working to restore Sunday as the national day of rest.

1. Protestant Churches – The Protestant Churches have led a militant-style campaign to preserve Sunday as the day rest and worship since the very founding of our nation.

2- Israel - Just recently Israel has made a remarkable change with regards to work-free days of rest. They are pushing for Sunday closing laws and at the same time relaxing the laws that require all stores to be closed on the Sabbath, the seventh-day [See Gospel Herald Volume 9 No. 2 page 1].

3. Secular governments - Many governments have Sunday restrictions. France, England, Croatia, Germany, Australia, Canada, and even the United states have some form of Sunday restriction, some more stringent than others.

4. Labor Unions - Labor unions have been joining religious institutions to secure Sunday as the day of rest throughout Europe. In fact, trade unions in Europe are members of the European Sunday Alliance, an organization committed to enforcing Sunday as the day of rest throughout Europe. Here in America labor unions have also been working to keep Sunday work-free.

5. Roman Catholics - Pope Francis is an ardent proponent of Sunday sacredness. He is pushing for Sunday rest for both the religious community and for the secular public. The Catholic church was responsible for the recent closing of all stores in Germany.

6. Temperance/Social Groups – There are many organizations such as the Lord's Day Alliance, KeepSundaySpecial.org, and Save Our Sundays that are advocating for keeping Sunday sacred and work-free.

7. The media – Every week there are more and more daily newspaper editorials and magazine publications that are calling for a return to the old Sunday laws. We document these new drives by the media in our publication The Eternal Gospel Herald. For those of you who have missed our past issues go to [www.eternalgospel.com](http://www.eternalgospel.com)

These are the forces that will not stop working until there are stricter enforce-

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2, 2014 and was sentenced to 30 years without any parole. The suit alleges that staff members knew that the student was being taken out of regular class time for personal “Bible studies” and nothing was said or done.

2. On July 24, 2014, a former Seventh-day Adventist deacon from Nampa, ID was sentenced to 20 years with parole eligibility. He used his position of trust to lure a 12 year old girl into a church storage room where he sexually molested her.

3. On August 26, 2014 two men filed a \$15 million lawsuit against the Seventh-day Adventist Church because they were sexually abused in the 1970s by a youth pastor who had previously been convicted of child molestation. The suit alleges that church leaders knew about his previous child abuse convictions, but placed him in charge of a youth camp anyways. After being placed in this new position more charges of sexual abuse surfaced and the three-time offender was simply transferred again to a different church location the suit alleges.

What, if anything, is the church going to do about how it handles these cases involving children? As parents, fellow church members, and friends, we all need to open our eyes to the ugly fact that the evils of sexual child abuse also exists within Seventh-day Adventism. The sexual abuse of children knows no boundaries. Any child is at risk if we don't open our eyes and realize that we are living in the last days. There are important facts about sexual child abuse that everyone must know about. According to all the statistics available the facts are as follows:

1. 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused before the age of 18.
2. Abuse affects any child, regardless of age, gender, family income, race, culture, and religion.
3. 85% of sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone from within the child's social structure: a relative, family friend, teacher, youth worker, religious leader, or neighbor.
4. The majority of children never report the abuse.

May God help us to be vigilant and to not only train our little ones in the way of the Lord; but also, to protect them as the Lord also protects us. "Lo, children are an heritage [gift] of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Palms 127:3.

—The Editors

We are planning to petition the US Supreme Court to repeal these 1961 Sunday rulings. We are looking for help to move forward with this. Please support us with this effort — Pastor Raphael Perez

ments of the current existing Sunday laws. In places where Sunday laws are present, stricter calls are made to increase them. In places where Sunday laws are non-existent, calls to return to Sunday-keeping are pushed. With all the Sunday rest measures being agitated throughout the world, we believe that Sunday laws will once again come under the national spotlight here in America in the very near future. That is why our friends and supporters and all those who love religious liberty need to join us as we file an online petition urging our Congressional leaders to repeal the unconstitutionality of these four Supreme Court rulings once and for all. Historically, Sunday laws have caused significant distress in the lives of millions of people throughout the generations. We have a tremendous opportunity to ACT and to proceed with actions. We have started an online petition asking the President, the U.S. Senate, and the U.S. House of Representatives to repeal the 1961 Supreme Court decisions upholding Sunday laws. Please sign and share our petition. For every person that signs our online petition an email is automatically sent to each of our lawmakers in Washington D.C. There is nothing to write because the petition is already written. You just have to add your name to our petition at: [www.change.org/u/sundaylaws](http://www.change.org/u/sundaylaws)

Someone has to take the initiative and work to preserve liberty of freedom and worship. Someone has to raise the voice of warning and arouse to action. Seventh-day Adventist have always been at the forefront in the fight against these discriminatory Sunday laws. Back in 1888 our pioneers lobbied to restrain the forces intent on passing a National Sunday Law. In 1961 our people missed a golden opportunity to stand up for religious liberty and for the truth about the Seventh-day Sabbath. Look at what inspiration tells us:

“If they do nothing to disabuse the minds of the people, and through ignorance of the truth our legislators should abjure the principles of Protestantism, and give countenance and support to the Roman fallacy, the spurious Sabbath, God will hold His people, who have had great light, responsible for their lack of diligence and faithfulness. But if the subject of religious legislation is judiciously and intelligently laid before the people, and they see that through Sunday enforcement the Roman apostasy would be reenacted by the Christian world, and that the tyranny of past ages would be repeated, then whatever comes, we shall have done our duty.” 1888 Materials, p. 503.

*Whether or not this campaign is successful in overturning the Supreme Court's decisions is not the issue. We must warn the leaders of this nation of the dangers of Sunday laws and the mark of the beast.* Let the world know that they are not guiltless or ignorant to the real issues that are before us. Let us have clean hands and a clean conscience in the day of judgment that we did all we could to avert the coming danger [Read Eze. 3:17-21; Eze. 33:1-10].

—The Editors

# The End Time Prophetic Events

“And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.” Luke 21:28



New York Post, Sept. 10, 2014—Homeland Security officials warned Wednesday they don't have a full picture of the Americans and Europeans heading to Syria to train with ISIS and therefore can't stop them from coming into the US.



Medicalxpress.com, August 29, 2014—Cell phone addiction is an increasingly realistic possibility, study finds. Women college students spend an average of 10 hours a day on their cell phones and men college students spend nearly eight, with excessive use, posing potential risks for academic performance, according to a Baylor University study on cell phone activity published in the Journal of Behavioral Addictions.



Press TV, Sept. 11, 2014—Heavy rain has hit the Island of Hokkaido in northern Japan, forcing officials to order the evacuation of nearly one million people living near rivers.



NBC News, Sept. 10, 2014—The U.S. is hardly alone when it comes to drought. A worldwide weather phenomenon threatens the future of water and food supplies, as well as the global economy, experts say. Colombia, Pakistan, Somalia, Australia, Guatemala, China and Kenya are just a few of the others countries suffering severe drought conditions.



Huffington Post, Sept. 9, 2014—The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions has news it hopes will excite interfaith advocates and religious activists around the world. The Parliament will host its 2015 conference in Salt Lake City, the first time the Parliament has met in the United States for 22 years.



The Guardian, Sept. 11, 2014—The US government threatened to fine Yahoo \$250,000 a day if it refused to hand over user data to the National Security Agency, according to court documents unsealed Thursday.

—continued from page 1 “Sunday Law in Alabama”

ing in the city, provide Sunday sales are allowed. They say two of those are even awaiting phone calls Wednesday, after the votes are tallied.

However, not everyone supports the idea, and one group of opponents even met at the Gadsden Conventional Hall recently to discuss the idea.

Rev. Michael Rogers, a former church pastor who now teaches home school classes, says he thinks the city should concentrate on bringing in non-service jobs to the area. He also opposes the measure on moral grounds, saying it could open the door to the legalization of things like prostitution.

Rogers also says the city has a tradition of honoring the Sabbath that should be respected.

—continued from page 1 “Cayman Island Sunday Law”

number of considerations in relation to potential changes to the law, including the competitiveness of local retailers; consumer flexibility and choice; religious beliefs; and family life in the Cayman Islands.

“We want to understand the views of the general public and all key stakeholders, so that the Government has a guide for developing appropriate policy on the issue”, Minister Panton said.

The period of public consultation will end on September 30, 2014. Instructions on how to provide feedback are included in a short consultation paper, which is available here or at the Department of Commerce and Investment's Trade and Business Counter, located in General Registry on the first floor of the Government Administration Building.

—continued from page 1 “Buying Papal Blessings”

first communions, birthdays, ordinations, anniversaries, or just simply to receive and personal, individual blessing. \$32.37 may not sound like a lot of money; but with 1.2 billion vulnerable church members sincerely seeking God's blessings, this adds up to tens of millions of dollars every month. Jesus condemned these schemes that targeted the poor: “Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.” Matt. 23:14.

The good news is that we don't need certificates, candles, or saints, or expensive masses to approach God. You cannot purchase the grace and favor of God for money: “But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.” Acts 8:20.

Now, if you don't have the \$32.37 to purchase a papal blessing or to make a pilgrimage to Rome, they have a cheaper alternative. The Vatican recently announced that if you follow Pope Francis on his Twitter social media weekly, you will receive a special indulgence [papal favor] that will help lessen your time in purgatory. In a CBS News report entitled “Vatican: Get time off in purgatory by following Pope on Twitter” published July 17, 2013, the Vatican is now offering indulgences to those who follow the pope's social media account. They also state that with this social media indulgence you will expedite your “transit through purgatory, hopefully on the way to heaven.”

Again, where is this concept of “purgatory” found in the scriptures? This is a distortion of the gospel. You don't lessen your time in an “imaginary” place of purification, or purgatory, on your journey to heaven by simply following a man on his social media page. Don't fall for this invention of purgatory that was started 1000 years after the Bible was written. And never substitute the daily reading of God's word for any man's twitter account. Jesus said to “search the scriptures” (John 5:39). We don't get into heaven by following men or any church organization, regardless of the denomination religious affiliation. [See Great Controversy, p. 612]. We get into heaven by placing our entire trust and faith in the merits of God's son, Jesus, who died for us. God's blessings of grace and salvation is a free gift offered by God to all of humanity and to those who will accept it by faith. This faith will enable us to follow him and keep His commandments [Rev. 14:12], not the traditions of men, church policies, or church manuals. Man-made commandments will only end in disappointment on the great day of judgment. Only God's word can lead us to sanctification and to eternal life.

—The Editors