

Dead Right & Dead Wrong: Notre Dame and Bishop John D'Arcy

Part IV of IV

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CHRIST THE TEACHER, WORD OF LIFE
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Teach them to obey all that I have commanded you, and know that I am with you all days, even, until the end of time (MT 28:20).

Notre Dame, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the Catholic Church—indeed most Christian Churches—are organizational structures that have taught and motivated people to do truly Christlike good in this world, and to do it with a Christlike Spirit. This should never be overlooked nor dismissed, when reflecting on the Churches' and/or Notre Dame's refusal to teach what Jesus explicitly taught regarding violence and enmity and/or on their institutional refusal to adhere operationally to the logical implications of His teaching.

No amount of Christlike activity in one area—done by a Christian or motivated and supported by Christian institutional structures—can, however, serve as justification for doing, in another area, what is contrary to Jesus' teaching or for endorsing, motivating

and/or supporting such a choice by other Christians. Yesterday's or tomorrow's good can never justify doing evil today.

The Lie

If institutionalized Christianity is to be an extension of Jesus Christ in time and space and do for humanity what Jesus intended, then it must not be an incarnational and institutional denial of a truth Jesus explicitly commissioned it to teach. Institutionalized Christianity can fail and fail terribly in its efforts in teaching and applying the truth that Jesus taught. But, it cannot lie about what Jesus taught. It cannot substitute for the teaching of Jesus a teaching that directly contradicts Jesus' teaching. It is forbidden to deceive people into believing that they may choose either Jesus' teaching or the opposite

of Jesus' teaching by arguing that both are consistent with following Jesus and His Way. This is Christian doublethink. Institutional Christianity, of whatever form, is morally prohibited from being wholly or partially structured on a lie about Jesus or His teaching or His Way. It is equally morally prohibited from engaging in the intrinsic evil of lying about what Jesus and His Way are. Where Jesus and His Way are concerned, His truth is the only teaching and witnessing option open to the Christian Church, regardless of loss of face or favor among the moneyed, the powerful or the general populace that may be incurred.

Institutional Christianity cannot substitute for the teaching of Jesus a teaching that directly contradicts Jesus' teaching.

If a Church or a bishop and/or a Christian educational institution is not teaching what Jesus taught, nor teaching what He taught His disciples to teach, indeed, if they are teaching the opposite of what Jesus taught, e.g., giving pro-capital punishment justices a platform, honoring pro-abortion politicians and/or teaching or approving of the teaching of homicidal violence on campus (ROTC), then what is the purpose of having a highly visible piece of art depicting *Christ the Teacher* displayed so prominently? Is this profound work of art there to try to deceive people into believing that the opposite of what Jesus taught is actually what Jesus taught? Or, perhaps it is meant to try to morally and spiritually boondoggle people by suggesting that the mind of Christ is a mind open to doublethink—suggesting that God is a God of internal contradictions—and hence, what would follow from this: the truth of the Word (*Logos*) of God *through whom all things were made* being able to contradict, by way of Christian Natural Law Morality, the truth of the Word (*Logos*) of God Incarnate, Jesus?

Violence flourishes in lies, and needs lies. It seeks to gain respectability in the eyes of the world by pretexts that have nothing to do with its reality and are often contradictory...

—John Paul II

Failure and Success

For a Christian or a Christian institution, “failure” while being faithful to truthfully teaching, living and implementing what is the Way and Will of God as revealed by Jesus is infinitely superior to “success”

in teaching, living and implementing that which is clearly not the truth of Jesus. Herein lies the hidden spring of the Notre Dame-Obama-D’Arcy (USCCB) confrontation and conflict.

Remember that Barack Obama, before and infinitely beyond being President of the United States, is Baptized into Christ and is therefore not merely a neutral observer of the grave issues involved in this Notre Dame-D’Arcy conflict. All three—Notre Dame, Bishop D’Arcy and President Obama—have chosen to intentionally abandon the unequivocal teaching of Jesus regarding violence, in the pursuit of success as defined by something other than the Way, the Means and the Ends of Jesus. And, all three have done it while still publicly saying they are committed to Him as their Lord and Savior.

The anticipated cost of failure—by secular standards—for fidelity to the truth of Jesus and His Way is, however, just too high for any of the three to risk. So, they enter into a public “Larry, Moe and Curley” kind of double-thinking theological, diversionary, pseudo-controversy over whose patent infidelity to the self-evident teaching of Jesus is in reality fidelity to His teaching. And so once again, as it has been for the last 1700 years of Christianity, we have intelligent Christians passionately fighting with each other about whose barefaced infidelity to the teaching of Jesus is the type of infidelity that is actually in conformity with Jesus’ teaching. In other words, whose untruth is the untruth, that should be accepted, honored and applied as truth?

The Big Lie

The deceitfulness of the Constantinian-Orwellian Churches and their subsidiary institutions in teaching and nurturing people into believing—that what Jesus taught and its logical opposite are both ways of following Jesus and that either may be followed as the Way of Jesus—is the *big lie* of Catholic, Orthodox,

God acts with logos. Logos means both reason and word... Not to act reasonably (with logos) is contrary to the nature of God.

—Benedict XVI

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Protestant and Evangelical Christianity. The *big lie* in the languages of Western Civilization today means more than simply an untruth or a statement that is in no way consistent with the facts of the matter. Since 1925 it has meant a lie so *colossal* that no one would believe that *someone could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously*.

We have intelligent Christians passionately fighting with each other about whose barefaced infidelity to the teaching of Jesus is the type of infidelity that is in conformity with Jesus' teaching.

It receives this meaning from the following paragraph of Adolph Hitler's autobiography *Mein Kampf*:

...in the big lie there is always a certain force of credibility; because the broad masses of a nation [or a Church] are always more easily corrupted in the deep-

er strata of their emotional nature, than consciously or voluntarily; and thus in the primitive simplicity of their minds they more readily fall victims to the big lie than the small lie, since they themselves often tell small lies in little matters but would be ashamed to resort to large-scale falsehoods. It would never come into their heads to fabricate colossal untruths, and they would not believe that others could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously. Even though the facts, which prove this lie to be a lie, be brought clearly to their minds, they will still doubt and waver and will continue to think that there may be some other explanation. For the grossly impudent lie always leaves traces behind it, even after it has been nailed down as a lie, a fact which is known to all expert liars in this world and to all who conspire together in the art of lying.

Saying that what Jesus taught and its logical opposite are both ways of following Jesus and that either may be followed as the Way of Jesus, is the big lie of Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant and Evangelical Christianity.

Notre Dame, Obama and D'Arcy (USCCB) are, by their words and deeds, all propagating the big lie, the colossal untruth, that a Christian can be following Jesus and His teaching by killing other infinitely loved sons and daughters of the Father of all—

whether such killing be by war, by capital punishment or by abortion. It is an untruth as far removed from reality and as catastrophic for the Church and humanity as was Hitler's big lie of a "master race." For 1700 years the institutional Churches have been employing it as the foundation stone on which they

have built much of what has become known as Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant and/or Evangelical Christianity.

Time, Freedom and the Holy Spirit

There is no time limit set, other than the end of time itself, on how long a Christian in his or her freedom, or a Christian institution, can refuse the truth of Jesus, can refuse to cooperate with the work of Holy Spirit and instead cooperate with that spirit who Jesus says *was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him; for whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies* (JN 8:44).

Contradictory things cannot be means to salvation.

—Pope Benedict XVI

The Holy Inquisition went on non-stop for nearly 600 years before Catholics and the institutional Church finally cooperated with the Holy Spirit and "changed their minds," accepted the grace of *metanoia*, and rejected the Inquisition as a way of following Jesus. Likewise, buying, selling and owning human beings as slaves was accepted as a morally proper way to follow Jesus in imprimated Catholic moral manuals as late as 1954. Pope Pius IX (c.1870) was the last pope to own slaves. Not until Pope John Paul II was slavery officially condemned as an intrinsically grave evil in which Catholics could never participate. It took the Holy Spirit almost two millennia to break through the morally corrupted and corrupting institutionalized Church process of nurturing consciousnesses and consciences into tacitly accepting and acting according to a putative Christian just slavery theory.

At what point after a truth—that has been held from the cradle—becomes questionable does a Christian have the moral obligation to search to find out if it is indeed the truth, or if it is a falsehood?

The notions of Christian just war theories and just capital punishment theories have been around for only 1700 years. Judging from the present web of political and monetary entanglements of the institutional Churches with various states and those who control the wealth of states, it seems likely that Christian just violence theories will break the longevity record of Christian just slavery theories for obdurately refusing to work with the Holy Spirit,

the Spirit of Truth, in Her efforts to make the Institutional Church into a truthful extension in time

To promote truth as the power of peace means that we ourselves must make a constant effort not to use the weapons of falsehood, even for a good purpose.

and space of Jesus and His teaching. Christian justified abortion theories are clearly making a comeback. Killing the child in the womb is now seen in many Christian Churches as morally acceptable collateral damage in the pursuit and preservation of personal and/or national interests. Telling the truth about

Jesus' teaching concerning violence is not even on the list of priorities of the overwhelming majority of Churches. And yet...

Truth

John Paul II writes with great passion in *Fides et Ratio* that *although each individual has the right to be respected in his or her own journey in search of truth, there exists a prior moral obligation, and a grave one at that, to seek the truth and to adhere to it once known.* At what point—after a truth held from the cradle becomes questionable—does a Christian have the moral obligation to search to find out if it is indeed the truth, or if it is a nurtured falsehood?

The renowned Catholic moral theologian Reverend Bernard Häring, in his famous text, *The Law of Christ, Volume I* (Imprimatur, 1960), answers the question in this way: *The effort one is obliged to make in order to acquire certainty (regarding the truth of a matter) is to be measured by the importance of the action itself and the consequences which are anticipated.*

Truth and nothing but the truth is the issue here, as it always is when so-called justified violence and enmity theories are substituted by Christians for the explicit teaching of Jesus.

At the root of the Notre Dame-Obama-D'Arcy event (Bishop John D'Arcy being the corporate personality representing the USCCB and the Vatican) is a fact: The officers of the Catholic Church, and most other Constantinian-Orwellian Churches, as well as, the officers of the University of Notre Dame and most other Constantinian-Orwellian

institutions have ceased to act in accordance with this *prior moral obligation, to seek the truth*, regarding the Nonviolent Jesus of the Gospel and His Way of Nonviolent Love of friends and enemies. This is

also true of Barak Obama. This is the source of the cacophonous Christian moral breakdown that is made evident in the Notre Dame-Obama-D'Arcy imbroglio.

Truth and the Nonviolent Jesus

Truth—and nothing but the truth—is *the* issue here, as it *always* is when so-called justified violence and enmity theories are substituted by Christians for the explicit teaching of Jesus. Specifically, this means being truthful about what is incontestable, namely, that the Jesus of the Gospels—the only Jesus there is—is nonviolent and teaches by word and deed a Way of Nonviolent Love of friends and enemies. He did not teach an anti-abortion, pro-choice war and pro-choice capital punishment teaching. Nor, does He teach an anti-war, anti-capital punishment, pro-choice abortion teaching. And of course, he did not teach a pro-choice abortion, pro-choice war, and pro-choice capital punishment teaching. Each party involved in this fiasco has become a moral and intellectual Christian contortionist before the world, “standing tall” defending his or her own particular obvious falsehood concerning Jesus-justified violence as the will of Father for those who believe in Jesus.



Contortionist “standing tall”

Christians, Church Nurturing and Truth

Mahatma Gandhi once noted that *the only people who do not see Jesus as nonviolent are Christians.* He raises the right question: Why do Christians not see Jesus as nonviolent when the indisputable evidence for this is right in front of them to see on the pages of the Gospels?

Even if a person were brought-up in and neurologically hardwired into hardcore, erotic Constantinian-Orwellian Nationalistic Christianity, as I was during World War II and for twenty years thereafter, he or she would surely by 2009 have to have some serious questions about whether that nurturing by

the institutional Church was a nurturing in truth. Explicitly, was it nurturing in the truth of Jesus, the truth of God incarnate?

When one is a child one thinks like a child, speaks like a child and acts like a child, or more accurately, one thinks and speaks and acts as he or she is mimetically nurtured to think and speak and act in imitation of the generations that come before him or her. But, there does arrive a time when one is called upon, by that universal intrinsic *prior moral obligation*, of which John Paul II speaks, *to seek the truth*, to become an adult and put aside all childish ways (1 Co 13).

A person's parents and grandparents, indeed all his or her relatives, friends and neighbors, may have embedded, in the very neurological architecture of a

child's brain they helped to form, such reputed truths as "the earth is flat" or "burning Jews and heretics at the stake is in conformity with the teaching of Jesus and/or Christian Natural Law." But, as one grows into adulthood one's cognition and awareness develop. Now, if it enters the mind that past-nurtured and taken-for-granted understandings of the earth's shape, or of Jesus' teaching

or of Natural Law are not necessarily unerringly true, what is one to do? Ignore the *prior human obligation to search for truth*? What if there is overwhelming evidence that these culturally-embedded truths from the past—whether implanted by secular or ecclesiastical nurturing—are transparently erroneous? Then what?

Refusing Truth

Then what, in terms of John Paul II's dictum that *there exists a prior moral obligation, and a grave one at that, to seek the truth*? Can I refuse to re-search the basis of what was once for me rock-solid truth but which now appears to be an idea, the truth of which is sustained only by gossamer logic and more than likely not even by that? Can I refuse *to seek the truth* because I sense that I will not find what I want to find, namely, I will not find the truth I presently hold validated? Can I refuse to seek the truth because if it turns out that the truth in which I was nurtured is not actually truth, I will have to die to

everything in myself that has been built on this now seen untruth, that is, everything which is not logically compatible with awareness of a new truth?

One may define the human being, says John Paul II, as the one who seeks truth...All human beings desire to know, and truth is the proper object of this desire. Everyday life shows how concerned each of us is to discover for ourselves, beyond mere opinions, to know how things really are. People cannot be genuinely indifferent to the question of whether what they know is truth or not. It is this that St. Augustine teaches when he writes: "I have met many who wanted to deceive, but none who wanted to be deceived." Each of us has both the desire and the duty to know the truth of our own destiny. The thirst for truth is so rooted in the human heart that to be obliged to ignore it would cast our existence into jeopardy.

Can I refuse to seek the truth because I sense that I will not find what I want to find, namely, I will not find the truth I presently hold validated?

Hitler Was Nonviolent

"Jeopardy" here means that if membership in or promotion within a group obliged one to say, *Hitler was nonviolent and taught a nonviolent way*, then one's entire human existence would be in peril, if for him or her this is not the truth. Why? St. Thomas Aquinas defines truth as "the conformity of mind to reality." The reality of Hitler is that he was not nonviolent and did not teach a way of nonviolence. To conform one's mind to a nonviolent Hitler is to choose to use one's life and one's life's time, talents and resources in support of an illusion, a non-reality, a fantasy, an untruth.

Torture must be called by its proper name.

—John Paul II

This amounts to living one's life on the basis of intentionally misplacing the word "is." It is saying that something "is" when one knows in reality it "is not," and saying "is not" to what one knows "is." It would be a life of logically creating, analyzing, arguing about, fighting over, valuing and spending time, mind and money on pursuing, propagating, justifying and even killing for personal and communal mirages. It may result in an enjoyable or miserable life. But, it would be a life of "the sound and the fury signifying nothing." And, for a human being created with a powerful intrinsic desire to seek and know truth and

to adhere to it once found, it would be life in the schizoid lane, even if that lane seemed as normal as cherry pie. It would be tantamount to a life of being obliged

[Do not] enter into the murderous logic of falsehood.

—John Paul II

was a violent, hate-filled Jew who followed the way of the violent and hateful Jew, Jesus, to his death.

Holiness and Truth

We are told in the New Testament that those called to salvation through faith in Jesus Christ are made holy by “obedience to the truth” (1 PET 1:22). Ultimately where is this truth to be found that Christians are to obey and by which they will be made holy? And, what is the content of this truth?

The Christian, the institutional Church and all its subsidiary institutions are supposed to be and are

I invite all Christians to bring to the common task the specific contribution of the Gospel which leads to the ultimate source of truth, to the Incarnate Word of God.

—John Paul II

supposed to aspire to be nothing more and nothing less than little incarnations and small extensions in their particular fleck of time and speck of space of the Nonviolent Jesus of the Gospels and the Apostolic Tradition, who proclaimed a Way of Nonviolent Love of friends and enemies—and Who explicitly said to those who had been given the gift of

Christ the Teacher

faith in Him as the Word (*Logos*) of God incarnate, *I am the truth*.
The large mural of *Christ the Teacher* which adorns the façade of the library at the University of Notre Dame says it all for the institutional Churches, for Notre Dame, for all Christian institutions and for all Christians—regardless of ecclesiastical status or lack thereof. All are to be micro-witnesses to and micro-extensions of the Nonviolent Jesus of the Gospel who conferred on His Church the commission and gave His Church the command to *Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you*.

to speak on behalf of and to adhere to—for the sake of membership or promotion in a Christian group—the illusion, the fantasy, the untruth that Saint Stephen

was a violent, hate-filled Jew who followed the way of the violent and hateful Jew, Jesus, to his death.

supposed to aspire to be nothing more and nothing less than little incarnations and small extensions in their particular fleck of time and speck of space of the Nonviolent Jesus of the Gospels and the Apostolic Tradition, who proclaimed a Way of Nonviolent Love of friends and enemies—and Who explicitly said to those who had been given the gift of

A teacher is a communicator and an educator who leads people out (*educere*: to lead out) of darkness into light, out of ignorance into knowledge, out of falsehood into truth. It is possible to be a communicator, a great communicator, and to lead people into deeper darkness, ignorance and falsehood. Jesus is *the* great communicator who is also *the* great educator leading humanity into light, knowledge truth and holiness. He is not a *faux* teacher, or a great con-artist communicator, ensnaring human beings ever more persuasively into a spiral of evil-called-good, into a black-hole of untruth-called-truth, into the unholy cosmetically hidden behind the artifacts and adornments of the holy.

I AM

Indeed, Jesus Christ is both the teacher and the content of His teaching. As Pope Benedict states it:

Jesus did not leave behind Him a body of teaching that could be separated from His “I,” as one can collect and evaluate the ideas of great thinkers without going into the personalities of the thinkers themselves. Jesus did not perform a work that could be distinguished from His “I.” On the contrary to understand Him as the Christ means to be convinced that He has put Himself into His words. Here there is no “I” that utters words: He has identified so closely with His word that “I” and word are indistinguishable. The person Jesus is His teaching and His teaching is He Himself.

But, why is this so? Because saying *I am the truth* is not the same as merely saying *I am speaking the truth*, although the former necessarily encompasses the latter—but not vice versa. *I am the truth* is the same as “*I am by whom all things were made,*” which includes all other *I am*s. Jesus Christ is absolute *I am*, not contingent *I am*. He is the *I am* without which nothing would be. Hence, reason demands that when the Creator, *I am*, communicates,

It would be illogical and irrational to think or believe that *Christ the Teacher* wants the logical opposite of what He taught by word and deed to be taught by His disciples by word and deed.

When the will of the Creator for the creature is known, it is the creature’s imperative moral obligation to follow it.

in order to lead people of whom He is the Creator, out of darkness, ignorance, untruth and evil and into light, knowledge, truth and goodness—then the creature, should by application of unassailable logic—listen and follow. When the will of the Creator for the creature is known, it is the creature’s imperative moral task to follow the Creator’s will. He or she obeys not out of fear, threat or coercion, but simply because rationality dictates that he or she is

In the beginning was the logos, and the logos is God, says the Evangelist...God acts with logos. Logos means both reason and word—a reason which is creative and capable of self-communication, precisely as reason...Not to act reasonably (with logos) is contrary to the nature of God.

—Benedict XVI

that contradicts the Way and Truth of *I am the Way and the Truth*. This conjuring-up is what Christianity and its various institutions have been about, in relation to violence and enmity, for a millennium-and-a-half, and what Notre Dame, Bishop D’Arcy, the USCCB and President Obama are about in the present controversy.

I am Posturing as I AM

The Constantinian-Orwellian Churches have for the past 1700 years been about conjuring—in regard to violence and enmity—a way and a truth in contradiction to the Way and Truth of *I am the Way and the Truth*. They have engaged in this folly, first, so that the powerful of this world, whose power depends on violence against other human beings, could call themselves Christians without engaging in the *metanoia* needed to conform their minds and hearts and deeds to the Christian norm of norms (CCC §1970, 2822): Loving as Jesus loves. Second,

drawn out of nothingness by the Creator for the truth the Creator wishes to impart to them. There is neither reasonableness nor sanity in the clay not following the Potter’s Will and Way.*

If *I am the Truth* communicates that *I am the Way*, then those created I am, the structure of whose very being demands that they *seek the truth and adhere to it once known*, should with gratitude embrace the Truth revealed by grace to them and unreservedly follow this Way. Above all, they certainly should not start conjuring-up a way and a truth

they have done this so that those whose power depends on the use of violence would always have available to them a host of the “nobodies” of this world, the *anawim*, who, because of their nurturing in the institutional Churches, nurturing contrary to the expressed teaching of Jesus, believe that they can kill other human beings—even other Christians in the Body of Christ—if told to do so by the rich and powerful.

The King’s Bishop(s)

Jackson Browne sings it this way:

There’s a shadow on the faces

Of the men who fan the flames

Of the wars that are fought in places

Where we can’t even say the names...

I want to know who the men in the shadows are,

I want to hear somebody asking them why

They can be counted on to tell us who our enemies are,

But they’re never the ones to fight or to die.

Jean-Paul Sartre states it this way: *When the rich make war, the poor die*. This is the truth, always and everywhere and at all times, although it is seldom taught in state or Christian schools. It is also incomplete truth. *When the rich make war, the poor kill and die* would be more accurate. It is known today that those who kill in war and survive, very often envy those who died and often by their own hand join the dead because life on earth—after taking life—is so full of mental pain that it is no longer worth living. They see their only possible hope for an existence without unendurable misery as existence on the other side in the mercy of God or in the “mercy” of never-ending annihilation.*

When rich and powerful Christians and non-Christians make war with the explicit or tacit approval of the “King’s Bishop(s)” *de jour*, they can count on poor Christians having long since been well catechized so as to believe that—no matter how contrary to Jesus and His teaching their killing and dying on behalf of *They* [who] *can be counted on to tell us who*

*See the CHAPTER entitled, HOW UNNATURAL IS NATURAL LAW CHRISTIAN JUST WAR THEORY?, in my book *Christian Just War Theory: The Logic of Deceit*.

our enemies are may appear to be—their killing and dying are in fact utterly consistent with faithfully following Jesus. These poor souls have been brainwashed by the Churches from the cradle onward—for the benefit of the local Church’s benefactor ruling elites—into believing a monstrous untruth about Jesus and His teaching, namely, that war—and by extension abortion and/or capital punishment—which is the intentional destruction of human beings, is in conformity with Jesus and His teaching. Said in one sentence: Constantinian-Orwellian Christianity is not only the *big lie*, it is also a savage and wicked betrayal of God’s *anawim*, the poor, the “nobodies,” those especially beloved of Jesus.

The Unity of Truth vs. Irrationality Divinized

Whether Jesus is *I am*, the Word (*Logos*) of God incarnate, is a faith question. But if the answer to this question is “Yes,” then it is irrational to dismiss, alter, contradict, bracket-out, or create a substitute for His teaching concerning the Way and Will of God. This is why His explicit commission to the Church is to *teach them to obey all that I have commanded you*. What else would *Christ the Teacher* teach than

Constantinian-Orwellian Christianity is not only the big lie, it is also a savage and wicked betrayal of God’s *anawim*, the poor, the “nobodies,” the especially beloved of Jesus.

to *teach them to obey all that I have commanded you*? What else would *I am the truth* teach and want taught other than truth as Truth incarnate made it visible in His creation and in His life, teaching, death and resurrection?

It would be illogical and irrational to think or believe that *Christ the Teacher* wants the logical opposite of what He taught by word and deed to be taught by His disciples, regardless of their rank or status or earthly self-interests. This would amount to the Word (*Logos*) of God, *I am the truth*, saying, *Teach untruth. Teach them to obey the opposite of what I have commanded you even though my words and my deeds and my being are an inseparable unity of truth*. This would be truth itself lying. Truth itself cannot contradict itself, cannot contradict its own truth. This would be Truth itself acting against its very nature. This is why Pope Benedict can say in all truth: *Contradictory things cannot be means to salvation*.

In his Encyclical *Faith and Reason* John Paul II states:

The truth, which God reveals to us in Jesus Christ, is not opposed to the truths which philosophy perceives. On the contrary, the two modes of knowledge lead to truth in all its fullness. The unity of truth is a fundamental premise of human reasoning, as the principle of non-contradiction makes clear. Revelation renders this unity certain, showing that the God of creation is also the God of salvation history. It is the one and the same God who establishes and guarantees the intelligibility and reasonableness of the natural order of things upon which scientists confidently depend, and who reveals himself as the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. This unity of truth, natural and revealed, is embodied in a living and personal way in Christ, as the Apostle reminds us: “Truth is Jesus” (CF. EPH 4:21; COL 1:15-20). He is the eternal Word (Logos) in whom all things were created, and he is the incarnate Word (Logos) who in his entire person reveals the Father (CF. JN 1:14, 18).

Success with the Sword of Violence Is Not a Substitute for Failure with the Cross of Nonviolent Love

There is then no valid principle or premise or application or interpretation of Christian Natural Law Morality that can contradict the teaching and the truth, that the Eternal Author of Natural Law, the *Logos* of God, gave to humanity by His words and deeds, when He was incarnate. The Person, the Word, who spoke the Sermon on the Mount is the Person, the Word, who brought all things out of nothingness into being. If the Sermon on the Mount “fails,” doing its opposite is not a morally permissible substitute in the teaching of Jesus. If Jesus is God, the very Word (*Logos*) of God *made flesh*, He cannot be wrong. If He is wrong about what He explicitly teaches about God and God’s will, He cannot be God. He cannot be the Word (*Logos*) of *God made flesh*. To believe in Jesus is to believe in His Way as shown by His words and deeds in the Gospels. Not to believe in His Way as taught by His words and deeds is not to believe in the Jesus of the Gospels. To believe in Him is, *ipso facto*, to believe Him. All else is Christian moral chaos and logical absurdity.

Again, whether Jesus is the Word (*Logos*) *made flesh* is a faith question that can only be answered in the mind and heart and spirit of each unique person. No one outside the person—except God—can judge the

truthfulness and good faith, or *mauvaise foi*, of any other person.

But, once a person says of Jesus, “*You are the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of the living God, the Word (Logos) of God made flesh, the Lord, the Savior of the world,*

The person Jesus is His teaching and His teaching is He Himself.

God,” then he or she cannot alter, contradict or ignore the teachings of Jesus because His person and His teachings are inseparable.

“You can’t have one without the other,” as the old song goes, despite the vigorous and ceaseless efforts made by the Constantinian-Orwellian Churches to say that you can. Again, as Pope Benedict has written:

Jesus did not perform a work that could be distinguished from His “I.” On the contrary to understand Him as the Christ means to be convinced that He has put Himself into His words. Here there is no “I” that utters words: He has identified so closely with His word that “I” and word are indistinguishable. The person Jesus is His teaching and His teaching is He Himself.

Recognition, Acknowledgment and Admission

Hence, the person Jesus—who lives a life, unto death on the cross, of Nonviolent Love of friends and enemies—is His teaching of Nonviolent Love of friends and enemies, and His teaching of Nonviolent Love of friends and enemies is He Himself. This is how deeply

Violence is incompatible with the nature of God and the nature of the soul. God is not pleased by blood, and not acting reasonably (“syn logo”) is contrary to God’s nature.

—*Benedict XVI*

and ineradicably the Nonviolent Jesus and His Nonviolent Way are fused, commingled and ingrained in the Gospel. Acknowledgement and admission of this incontrovertible Gospel truth—that there is and can be no Jesus, no Word (*Logos*) of God incarnate, that morally permits the opposite of His teaching to be morally authorized under His name or teaching—is essential. Indeed, recognition, that such a Jesus would be logically, ontologically and theologically impossible, is the *sine qua non* of an authentic Christian resolution of the Notre Dame-Obama-D’Arcy problem and to rectifying the *big lie* that has bedeviled post-Apostolic, Constantinian Christianity.

The person Jesus cannot be the logical opposite of His teachings and His teachings cannot be the logical opposite of His person. Until at least one of the parties to the present Notre Dame controversy acknowledges this Gospel truth, all parties will continue to run about helter-skelter in the 1700-year-old Constantinian doublethink-labyrinth of make-believe Jesus-justified war, abortion and/or capital punishment. Indeed, if only one party would speak this truth of the Gospel in this situation then at least disambiguation could be achieved on what is meant by

Institutionalized Christianity must not be an incarnational and institutional denial of a truth that it is explicitly commissioned by Jesus to teach.

the phrase *in defiance of our fundamental moral principles* which Bishop D’Arcy, the USCCB and others are employing to castigate Notre Dame and Barak Obama. Assuming that is, that *in defiance of our fundamental moral principles* means *in defiance* of the Will and Way of God as revealed by Jesus, the Word (*Logos*) of God—an

assumption that, at the moment, it is not at all clear can be made. This acknowledgment and admission is only a first step, but it is an imperative step in genuinely resolving this conflict—which is a discordance rooted in a blatant falsehood. Indeed, it is rooted in the continuance of the 1700-year-old *big lie* of institutional Christianity in which Notre Dame, Barack Obama and John D’Arcy, and legions of others, have made such an immense investment.

The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms which would suggest support for their actions, so said the USCCB in 2004 as quoted by Bishop D’Arcy in 2009 in rejecting the invitation to attend Notre Dame’s graduation exercises. But is lying not an intrinsic evil in Catholic moral theology? Is lying not always and everywhere in defiance of our fundamental moral principles? Is it not a lie—the biggest of lies, the most destructive and despicable of all lies imaginable—to say that Jesus, the Word (Logos) of God incarnate, would pour napalm on His enemies or decapitate them with halberds, suction machines, guillotines or smart bombs—and/or morally endorse such behavior for His disciples?

EMMANUEL CHARLES MCCARTHY



Teach Them to Obey All that I Have Commanded.

Epilogue

There is little-to-no chance that Notre Dame, Barack Obama, John D’Arcy, and/or the USCCB will heed what has been brought out as the truth of Jesus and His Way—and of Christian Natural Law Morality—in this four-part reflection on the irrational Constantinian-Orwellian internecine fight over whose killing is morally endorsed by Jesus. Parenthetically, we must now add Mary Ann Glendon to this group

Mary Ann Glendon believes her idea of the justified slaughter of human beings and not Obama’s is the one Jesus supports.

of squabblers over whose irrationality is in conformity with the incarnate Word (*Logos*) of God. Professor Glendon, a Harvard Law School faculty member, a Catholic just warist and anti-abortion advocate was to receive the *Laetare Medal* from Notre

Dame at the same graduation at which President Obama was to speak and receive a doctorate degree, *honoris causa*. She has recently publicly refused to attend said graduation because she believes her idea of the justified slaughter of human beings—and not Obama’s—is the one Jesus supports.

Short of a Lazarusesque super infusion of grace, none of the Constantinian-Orwellian “Notre Dame 4” will repent, “change their minds,” commit to that *metanoia* that will bring their minds and hearts into line with the mind and heart of Jesus, the Word (*Logos*). They will each continue to play Constantinian-Orwellian one-upsmanship within the to-and-fro of the

big lie which all four tenaciously cling to and propagate, namely, that there is a way to faithfully follow Jesus, and to faithfully teach what Jesus commanded His Church to teach, and to faithfully do the Will of the Father as revealed by Jesus, and still intentionally kill other human beings in war, by abortion and/or via capital punishment. They will each continue to publicly place their wildly illogical, indeed patently absurd, interpretations of Jesus’ teaching and Christian Natural Law morality over and against the explicitly commanded teaching of the Word (*Logos*) of God made flesh—the One and the Same Author of Natural Law and the Sermon on the Mount.*

And, what will be the end result for the Church, whose assigned and supreme task in this world is the most important work that is to be done on this planet—the salvation of immortal souls? The end result will be a geometric expansion and dizzying deepening within the Church of that dark, divisive, denigrating, mockingly wicked, murderous spirit that has always thrived with honor within Constantinian-Orwellian Christianity and which has driven so many out of the spiritual home Christ created for them on earth. It is the spirit scornfully manifest in the ugly comment of the Catholic League’s President Dr. William Donohue: *If Father Jenkins [President of Notre Dame] thinks it is important for President Obama to learn from Professor Glendon, then let him audit one of her classes. Alternatively, she can send him a tape.*

*See CHAPTER entitled, IS NATURAL LAW CHRISTIAN JUST WAR THEORY SPIRITUAL QUICKSAND?, in my book: *Christian Just War Theory: The Logic of Deceit*.

A Baby Step toward a Metanoic Solution

Perhaps, since Notre Dame is a Catholic Christian university, a baby step toward the first step that I mentioned above would be for it to host an educational conference under its 134-foot mural of *Christ the Teacher*, a conference where President Barack Obama, Bishop John D’Arcy, President John Jenkins and Professor Mary Ann Glendon publicly present and publicly discuss why each, as a Christian, holds the position he or she does and why he or she believes the position of one or more of the other members of the conference is an erroneous position for a Christian to hold. For such a conference to possess intellectual integrity it would have to include a voice or two that rationally rejects the Constantinian-Orwellian paradigm as a possible way for a Christian or Christian institution to exist in conformity with the teaching of Jesus, the Word (*Logos*) of God.

Ay, there’s the rub! This is why such a conference will never happen. Neither Notre Dame nor any of the “Notre Dame 4” wants to respect life as Jesus respected life, so neither Notre Dame, nor Bishop D’Arcy, nor President Obama, nor Professor Glendon wants to personally and publicly cross swords with that *two-edged sword* (HEB 4:12) that is the Word of God *made flesh* in the Nonviolent Jesus of the Gospel. Nevertheless, such a conference is what a Catholic educational institution dedicated to truth within the Source of all truth, Jesus, the Word (*Logos*) of God incarnate, should be about. It is certain, *Christ the Teacher* desires and deserves this, because the *status quo* in the institutional Church is neither logically nor factually in conformity with the teaching of Jesus or the Apostolic Tradition. Therefore, the existing theology and practice are spiritually perilous for all, especially for those *to whom much has been given, and from whom much will be required* (LK 12:48).



*Corruptio optimi pessima.**



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**The Corruption of the best is the worst. See Part III, Pages 1 & 2.*