



# FCPO - CANADA

## The Peacemaker



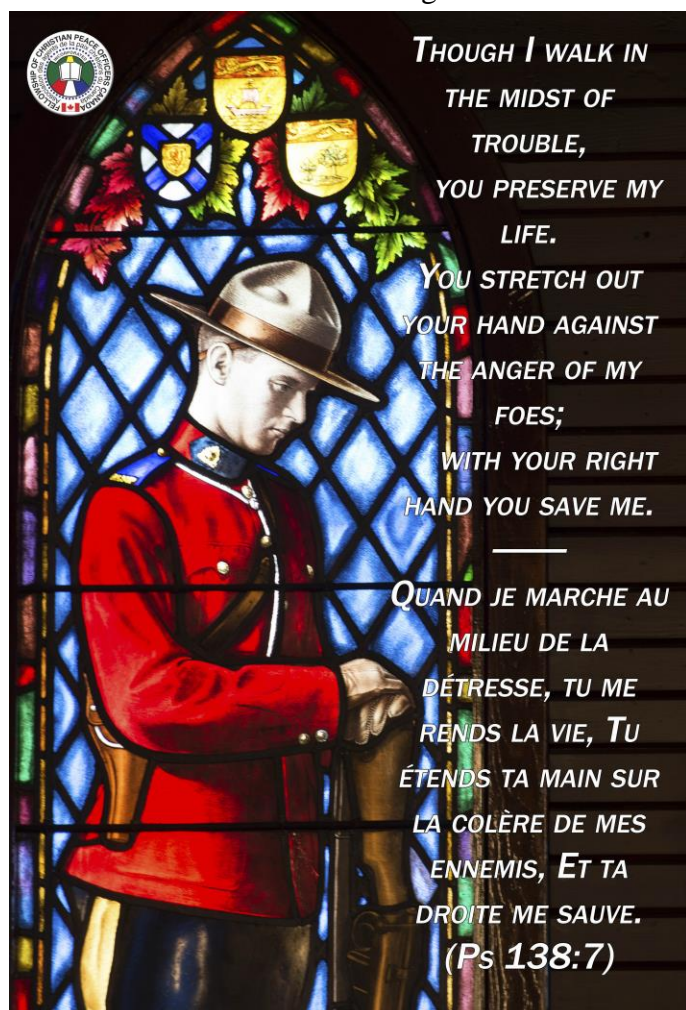
November, 2020

### From the President's Desk



If I was to describe 2020, I think I would call it “the year that wasn’t”. Well at least it wasn’t what everyone was expecting. Starting with a devastating pandemic it was then followed with extreme civil unrest and lawlessness. Then along came the “Defund the Police” movement! It’s hard to find the “silver lining” in this year. However, as Bruce Ewanyshyn points out in this issue, scripture tells us to: ***Fix your thoughts on what is true and good and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for and be glad about.***

Indeed we do have a lot of things to focus on that are true and good. I hope you will find this “extra thick” Peacemaker one of those things you can dwell on.



THOUGH I WALK IN  
THE MIDST OF  
TROUBLE,  
YOU PRESERVE MY  
LIFE.  
YOU STRETCH OUT  
YOUR HAND AGAINST  
THE ANGER OF MY  
FOES;  
WITH YOUR RIGHT  
HAND YOU SAVE ME.

QUAND JE MARCHE AU  
MILIEU DE LA  
DÉTRESSE, TU ME  
REND LA VIE, TU  
ÉTENDS TA MAIN SUR  
LA COLÈRE DE MES  
ENNEMIS, ET TA  
DROITE ME SAUVE.  
(Ps 138:7)

In this issue, I am particularly pleased with the contributions made by a wide variety of our readers. As always, I am grateful for those who take the time to create an article for us, and **I encourage everyone to consider writing something for us.**

Could you please pay particular attention to my “clarion call” (page 6). Our [Project Sword](#) is one of the most important and challenging initiatives that we have ever undertaken. We are very pleased that this project has been so well received within the law enforcement community. We now need your help to complete our goal of making available the special law enforcement Peacemaker New Testament to every Canadian Peace Officer. Please continue to pray for this project and help us distribute these books as you are able.

God bless,

Ron

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# Responsibility of a Leader

## Cornelius a Centurion Captain of the Italian Roman Regiment

By: Dino Doria, Ontario Director



Sgt. Dino Doria (Ret'd)

I wrote this devotional a few years ago and I believe it is relevant today.

Today's devotional is focusing on a devout man who lived in Caesarea whose name was "Cornelius." Acts 10: 1-8"

Before we examine the type of faith that Cornelius's had - I would like to give you a brief glimpse of the contextual historical background and responsibilities a Roman Centurion had in Rome.

In ancient Rome the "centurion" meant "captain of 100", and the Roman centurion was captain over 100 foot soldiers in a legion.

The centurion was loyal and courageous, beginning as a soldier in the army and working their way up the ranks. They were noticed by the general for their skill and courage in battle, and thus were made Roman Centurions.

### The Roman Army

The Army of Rome consisted of three types of soldiers: The Praetorian Guard (Caesar's bodyguard), The Legionaries (infantry soldiers and officers made up of citizens), and The Auxiliaries (non-citizen troops).

### The Centurion

The backbone of the Roman army were the centurions. The centurions were legionaries and they were clearly noticed because they wore a special helmet, and a more ornate harness of much better quality.

They carried a short vinewood staff as a symbol of rank. They worked their way up the ranks as soldiers, and were promoted for their dedication and courage. They were the veteran soldiers who commanded 100 men each, within a legion of 6,000. There were 60 centuries in a legion, each under the command of a centurion. During the time of Augustus there were 28 legions.

During the time of Jesus the headquarters of the Roman army in Judea was located at Caesarea, on the Mediterranean coast.

### Definition of a Centurion in the [International Standard Bible Encyclopedia](#) (ISBE)

**sen-tu'-ri-un:** *As the name implies, hekatontarches or hekatontarchos, kenturion, Latin centurio, was the commander of a hundred men, more or less, in a Roman legion. Matthew and Luke use the Greek word while Mark prefers the Latin form, as he does in the case of other words, seeing that he wrote primarily for Roman readers.*

*The ordinary duties of the centurion were to drill his men, inspect their arms, food and clothing, and to command them in the camp and in the field. Centurions were sometimes employed on detached service the conditions of which in the provinces are somewhat obscure.*

*Men like Cornelius and Julius (Acts 10:1; 27:1) may have been separated from the legion to which they properly belonged for the discharge of special duties. They and other centurions mentioned in the Gospels and the Acts (Mt 8:5; Mk 15:39, 44, 45; Lk 23:47) are represented by the sacred writers in a favorable light.*

### Centurion in [Easton's Bible Dictionary](#)

*A Roman officer in command of a hundred men (Mark 15:39, 44, 45). Cornelius, the first Gentile convert, was a centurion (Acts 10:1, 22). Other centurions are mentioned in Matt. 8:5, 8, 13; Luke 7:2, 6; Acts 21:32; 22:25, 26; 23:17, 23; 24:23; 27:1, 6, 11, 31, 43; 28:16. A centurion watched the crucifixion of our Lord (Matt. 27:54; Luke 23:47), and when he saw the wonders attending it, exclaimed, "Truly this man was the Son of God." "The centurions mentioned in the New Testament are uniformly spoken of in terms of praise, whether in the Gospels or in the Acts. It is interesting to compare this with the statement of Polybius, that the centurions were chosen by merit, and so were men remarkable not so much for their daring courage as for their deliberation, constancy, and strength of mind." Dr. Maclear's N. T. Hist.*

### Reviewing some of the Centurion attributes:

The Centurion was the backbone to the Roman Army; They were Men of Courage who took their position in leadership very seriously by supporting their troops in a variety of ways; The Centurions were praised by citizens of Rome for their remarkable leadership and courage.

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***As a Centurion leader he recognized that All power positions and authority are given by God (Romans 13) to leaders to do good and uphold their position with honour.***

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Cornelius, a centurion who was a captain in the Roman Regiment not only had all the required skills as a Roman Centurion but we clearly see that Cornelius faithful alliance and strength of mind was not only to Rome's army Generals but to the one who he esteemed, and revered to be above All Generals - the Lord His God.

As a Centurion leader he recognized that All power positions and authority are given by God (Romans 13) to leaders to do good and uphold their position with honour. He encouraged the men who were under his command, and by doing this, his men respected his leadership abilities. His actions reassured the citizens of Rome that the Centurions were truly the backbone of the Roman Army.

### The question that we see answered in Acts 10: 1-8

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***No matter what type of leadership position you have been given - never forget that it is but for a season - never ever forget who placed you in that position of authority. Also, give reverence and thanks to the Lord for giving you the opportunity and authority to help people who are under your command.***

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Cornelius not only knew the chain of command, but respected each rank. He also never forgot his roots and how he was favored not only by the Roman Generals but he remembered how great the faithfulness of the Lord to have placed him in special position of leadership "A Roman Centurion". Because of this he knew in his heart where his strength, wisdom and generosity came from. He not only was obedient to his Roman Generals but he displayed obedience to the Lord in verse 7.



No matter what type of leadership position you have been given - never forget that it is but for a season - never ever forget who placed you in that position of authority. Also, give reverence and thanks to the Lord for giving you the opportunity and authority to help people who are under your command.

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***No matter what type of leadership position you have been given - never forget that it is but for a season - never ever forget who placed you in that position of authority.***

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Never abandon the thought of helping people in need as The Roman Centurion Cornelius so eloquently demonstrated during his season in leadership. God has entrusted us to hold the line when all seems futile. Leadership qualities begin in our heart by asking ourselves who or what are we following - who is leading us?

When we look at the character of Cornelius and meditate on his commitment to God we see a number of traits that bode well for leadership. He was respected because he promotes respect towards others. A good example of this is when Cornelius showed humility, and grace and was not prideful as he knelt before the apostle Peter.

*When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am a man." Acts 10:25*

Cornelius led his people by following God's example of leadership with compassion, mercy and grace towards all people. Be encouraged!

Romans 5:3-5 reminds us: *Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*

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***So let us be guided by His sweet and gentle Holy Spirit.***

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Let us reflect on these ancient principles that still apply today. The Lord's principles have not changed - the same power that was revealed in the heart of

the Roman Centurion who witnessed the crucifixion - is the same power Cornelius experienced and it is the same power that is in our hearts today. So let us be guided by His sweet and gentle Holy Spirit.

*"Because I listen to and obey God's voice, He will be my God and I will be one of His people." Jeremiah 7:23*

*"I do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive myself. I do what it says..." James 1:22-25.*

God bless,

Dino

# Glimpses of Chaplaincy

By: Chaplain Bobby Payne



Bobby Payne

My chaplain badge number is Angel 6. So you are reading an article written by an Angel (lol!)

I have been a volunteer law enforcement chaplain for over 25 years. I have the Basic, the Senior, and the Master Level certificates from the [International Conference of Police Chaplains](#).

My primary responsibility as a chaplain is officer support. My primary dispatched call is death notification; I go with officers to tell families that someone they love is dead. I have had the privilege of leading trainings across Nebraska and in other states, including start-up training for new chaplain corps. I have even taught death notification at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center.

In May, 2019 I was part of the FCPO team that worked at Police Week in Washington, D.C. That is where I met Dino Doria (Lucky me!). I don't remember where or how I was introduced to "Project Sword", but I was immediately impressed with the goal: to put a Peacemakers New Testament in the hands of every cop in Canada. I liked the size of the goal - bold and challenging! I also liked your unwavering commitment to see it through to completion. I knew I had to be a part of that effort. AND you are getting closer to that goal all of the time! And the fact that you have not cut back on the goal, and have not put a time limit in place to reach the goal underscores your commitment to reaching cops for Jesus.

***I LIKED THE SIZE OF THE GOAL -  
BOLD AND CHALLENGING!***

Backup. We don't just "blanket assign" every one. Then I enlist someone for a one year commitment to pray on a regular basis for an officer or officers. That is all we ask of Backups, although some backups send cards throughout the year. It has been great for officer support. Folks see it as a privilege to pray for an officer. The cost is minimal, and the morale boost is significant. Public support is high. In fact, because of the efforts of a grade school boy, our volunteer fire department has the equivalent to Unseen Backup for the firefighters. It is called Second Due (A Firefighter term, meaning the Cavalry/help is on the way.)

I coordinate a prayer support effort for the officers in my two departments (Kearney Police Department and Buffalo County Sheriff's Office). It is called Unseen Backup. (Unseen because of the spiritual side; Backup because it is a term cops understand). Here is how it works. Officers have to request a

I hope some time to come to Canada and enjoy fellowship with you. **Keep on keeping on... don't quit on your goal. Keep looking up. Finish the race.**

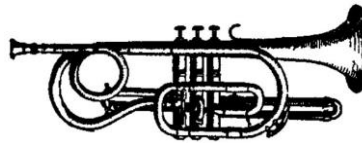
Yours in Him,

Bobby Payne

Editor's note – We thank Chaplain Bobby for his very strong support and encouragement for "Project Sword".

# A COVID Clarion Call

By: Ronald Mostrey, President, FCPO-Canada



Many years ago I asked my Auntie Caroline what her earliest childhood memory was. Given she was born in 1912, I thought she would tell me of her memories of the end of World War I. Instead she told me about the [1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic](#). It was sometimes referred to as the “forgotten pandemic”, so-named because its spread was overshadowed by the deadliness of WWI and covered up by news blackouts and poor record-keeping.



Seattle police officers wearing masks in 1918

Until that time, I had heard of it, but never really knew of its impact and devastation. My aunt told me how people were all wearing handkerchiefs over their faces, and their noses were bleeding – many were dying. My grandfather, who was a farmer, was seconded to make coffins.

Worldwide, it is estimated that the Spanish Flu infected five hundred million people, with between twenty and fifty million people succumbing to it! As I listened intently to her recollections, I thought of how that could never happen again with our modern medicines. I thought that was then and this

is now. I think like most of us, I thought “we” had that all under control. Then came 2020!

The COVID-19 Pandemic of our time has now shocked us all. If there is any silver lining, it is that it is causing people to reflect on the things that really matter, and the frailty of life. As a police officer I saw the reality of life and death firsthand. Most don’t see that on a regular basis. In a sense it was a benefit to always be reminded of the frailty of life and how at any moment it can be taken away. It was a constant reminder of the eventuality of “meeting our maker,” and the need to have a close relationship with the Lord.

In August 2019, following a plague of police suicides, we launched [Project Sword](#) - a project to bring “Help & Hope” to peace officers across Canada. Little did we know then that because of the COVID pandemic all peace officers would soon desperately also need answers and the help and hope that is provided in the Scriptures. To do such a project we needed an unprecedented influx of donations. Folks have generously responded. At this point we are very near our funding goal of \$30K. This is allowing us to purchase 10,000 books. As of this writing we have distributed 3,544 books. That’s 3,544 officers who have the Gospel in their hands! I suspect for some, it may be the only Bible they have.

Unfortunately, this COVID mess halted some of our mass distribution plans. However, as Chaplain Bobby Payne pointed out in his article we have an “*unwavering commitment*” to see Project Sword through to its completion. COVID should not stop us – it should impress on us even more the urgent need to get these valuable books into the hands of every officer who will accept one.

Chaplain Bobby described the project as “*bold and challenging*”, which indeed it is. There are many services and agencies that we have not yet reached. These are challenging times - the status quo is not good enough! At this point, I would like to challenge all our fellowship members with a “clarion call”. While the ignorant shout “Defund the Police,” let us support them by giving them Help & Hope! **Please consider a bold move to be a distributor within your sphere of influence.** We will get the books to you. Please let us know if you can help. [fcpo.aapc@gmail.com](mailto:fcpo.aapc@gmail.com).

## A clarion call:

**a strong request for  
something to happen.**

Dictionary, Merriam-Webster

# Policing (and Hope) in the "Last Days"

*"When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with Me where I am." (John 14:3)*

By: Police Lt. (Ret'd) & Chaplain MC Williams



Lt. MC Williams (Ret'd) & Chaplain

For most of us, we've never seen things like they are now. Yes, we've dealt with rioting in the past, but never with the demonic level of hate and overall lack of support we're seeing today. Morale is in the pits and many officers are making the decision to retire or otherwise leave the profession. That said, if you actually believe this is just about what happened in Minneapolis, we need to have a conversation (like NOW).

Here in my latest study in a series (building on our last study), I want to share God's direction for us in **law enforcement** in the midst of current events, and the **HOPE** He has for us as we approach the "**last days**" before He comes to take us home.

Now if you're new to the faith, or have never placed your hope in Christ as Lord and Savior (or you've not been taught properly), you are probably asking, "Last days"? or "What 'hope'"? And "What does this have to do with what we do in law enforcement (policing)?" Let me break it down for you!

First, what do I mean by the "last days" or the "end times"? Let's start by sharing the seventeen verses of [2 Timothy Chapter 3](#) from the New Living Translation (NLT):

*You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that! They are the kind who work their way into people's homes and win the confidence of vulnerable women who are burdened with the guilt of sin and controlled by various desires. (Such women are forever following new teachings, but they are never able to understand the truth.) These teachers oppose the truth just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses. They have depraved minds and a counterfeit faith. But they won't get away with this for long. Someday everyone will recognize what fools they are, just as with Jannes and Jambres.*

*But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and how I live, and what my purpose in life is. You know my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance. You know how much persecution and suffering I have endured. You know all about how I was persecuted in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra—but the Lord rescued me from all of it. Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived.*

*But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught*



*you. You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus.*

*All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.*

Are we not seeing these things played out before us? With the understanding that [we must NOT be "predictors"](#) (putting a date on Christ's return). God is clear that we should in fact be living every day as though it were. So are you? And are you ready [if the Rapture](#) were to happen TODAY?

Second, we need to understand the times we're living in, and that none of this is a "surprise" to God. In addition, for those of us who have been "born again" (**John 3:1-21**) ["in Christ,"](#) the predictors of the **end times** should bring us great **hope** that is not unlike the promise God gave to Israel in **Jeremiah 29:10-11** during their captivity in Babylon (again, this passage was specifically for Israel -- and would not come true until some seventy-years later when almost all of those who first heard it were dead):

*"For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."*

I truly believe that just as Israel's repeated sin as a nation brought them just consequences, the United States - like other nations' before us (Germany after the World Wars, for example) - will reap the consequences of our national sin short of collective repentance and turning back to Him in faith. That said, for us as Christians, [this is NOT our permanent "home" or final destination.](#) Rather, our [citizenship is ultimately in heaven,](#) and we are to remain **occupied** with the work God has

called us to here (**Luke 19**) until we pass away (death) or Christ comes to get us (Rapture).

Now for those of us **called** to our very unique, God-ordained (**Romans 13:1-4**) profession of law enforcement, our job is to "hold the line" and protect and serve biblically. To be beacons of light and hope for the law abiding and a literal *"terror against evil"* (sadly, even wickedly, part of national sin is that our authority to be a terror against evil is being stripped from us). And as Christian officers, our call is an even higher one.

To illustrate this further, let's look closely at [Luke 19:12-26.](#) This shows us that there are two types of people: those believers who **occupy** themselves with God's work and those unbelievers and Christian "backsliders" who do not. Which one are you? Are you taking advantage of every opportunity to witness for Christ? To live boldly for Him? If you are an officer - to police biblically? Are you being faithful with God's blessings and resources? Are you serving God with all of your heart and soul? Or are you like the servant who kept his resources to himself?

Like the hard-working servants who were rewarded, we will also receive our rewards in heaven. Now understand, we can't buy or work our way into heaven ([Ephesians 2:8-9.](#) Rather, our salvation is only through Christ alone. However, what we do here on earth for God's kingdom will determine our [rewards in heaven.](#)

Paul explains further, *"For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames"* -- 1 Corinthians 3:11-15.



During this life we will be refined with fire that will test us: are we laying a foundation of material wealth or of eternal blessings? Are we working for our own glory and comfort, or for the furthering of God's kingdom?

When we pass through the [Refiner's fire](#), still seeking to honor God and bring Him glory, that work and dedication is going to shine like the sun. But if we only focus on what we can gain for ourselves in this life, our efforts will be nothing but smoldering ashes.



What does God want us to do until He returns? As Christians we are called to serve Him willingly and obediently to whatever He calls us to do (including what we do

as cops).

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***We are to witness to those who do not follow Christ. To warn them of the coming judgment and joyfully share of God's love and plan of salvation.***

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We are to witness to those who do not follow Christ. To warn them of the coming judgment and joyfully share of God's love and plan of salvation. And we are to boldly equip and

encourage our fellow believers so that they may also go forth and further God's kingdom (thus my call to serve and encourage you through this ministry). And we are called to warn the non-Christian of what awaits them unless they "*repent and believe*" (**Mark 1:15**).

More? Our friends with **Got Questions Ministries** have a great article (and series of articles that goes with it) that will provide you with further direction from God (via His Word, the Bible) on this topic: [Surviving the End Times](#).

**Additional RESOURCE:** [Are We Living in the Last Days](#) by Greg Laurie.

Finally, there is the **HOPE** we have as born again believers. Do you have that? Understand that without Christ, we are utterly **hopeless** (without hope). Praise God, you can have that eternal hope NOW -- today (and **ONLY** whilst you live).

Friends, my prayer is that you will be encouraged by this message - the hope we have in Christ - even in the midst of these excruciatingly hard times. There is true **LIGHT** at the end of the tunnel. Stay "front sight focused" on the Light ([John 8:12](#)) who gives us "**strength for the street.**"

MC

The Centurion Law Enforcement Ministry

Note: "Strength for the Street" image -- the cover of their special Bible -- courtesy of the American Bible Society and the Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers - USA.



Put on the full armor of God  
Ephesians 6

[The Centurion Law Enforcement Ministry](#) is a non-denominational, evangelical Christian outreach by, for and about law enforcement (police, deputies, investigators, probation/parole, corrections, etc.) and military personnel. TCLEM is affiliated with the Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers (FCPO) and provides Bible-based support, fellowship and accountability for officers worldwide. We also seek to infuse Christian servant-leadership into our profession and equip the Christian officer to boldly share and live the Gospel.

# Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

MC Williams recently shared this USA law enforcement officer *Code of Ethics*. He noted this code was developed and written by legendary California police leader Gene Muehleisen in 1957 when he was with the San Diego Police Department. MC said *“There was a time in our God-ordained profession when reciting and even memorizing the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics was part of every academy curriculum and many graduation ceremonies.”* He further noted *“It is (or should be) foundational for every officer and every police agency.”*

- ***As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality, and justice.***
- ***I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others.***
- ***Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.***
- ***I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.***
- ***I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession... law enforcement.***



# You Raise Me Up

As we continue to make our way through this historic pandemic, I recommend you take a moment to relax and watch this beautiful instrumental rendition of *You Raise Me Up*<sup>1</sup> and reflect on how God is in control and is with us always.



*When I am down and, oh my soul, so weary  
When troubles come and my heart burdened be  
Then, I am still and wait here in the silence  
Until you come and sit awhile with me*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders  
You raise me up... To more than I can be*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders  
You raise me up... To more than I can be*

*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
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*You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains  
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas  
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders  
You raise me up... To more than I can be*

*You raise me up... To more than I can be*

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<sup>1</sup> You Raise Me Up music was written by the Norwegian composer and lyricist Rolf Løvland. The lyrics were written by Irish novelist Brendan Graham. [Here is another video of this song](#). It has almost 17M views!



# Social Media Sensationalism

By: [Cst. Bruce Ewanyshyn, Brandon Police Service Chaplain](#)



Cst. Bruce Ewanyshyn

***“Fix your thoughts on what is true and good and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for and be glad about. Keep putting into practice all you learned from me and saw me doing, and the God of peace will be with you”*** Philippians 4:8 - 9 TLB.

This scripture is an excerpt from a letter penned by the Apostle Paul to the Philippians around 62 AD. He was extolling the people to focus their thoughts on the good things which are pure and lovely for which a person can rejoice and give thanks to God. What is remarkable about his counsel is that it comes from a man who is in prison jailed not for any criminal act but for being a follower of Jesus Christ.

Paul described himself as a man in chains; yet although his body was physically bound and imprisoned, his spirit was free through his faith in Christ Jesus. In Canadian society we have a justice system that provides regulations pertaining to imprisonment and the right to a timely and fair trial. As police officers we are fully aware that anyone we arrest and detain must appear before a Justice for a remand

hearing within 24 hours of the arrest. The arrestee must be provided with an opportunity to speak with legal counsel, without delay, and they must be released if they meet certain criteria including detention that is not in the interest of public safety.

Arrest and release procedures are established through the Criminal Code of Canada and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms which came into effect in 1867, and 1982, respectively. As police officers we must be familiar with and conform to the standards established by these documents while performing in accordance with our agency mandated internal policies. Deviations will result in discipline which may include criminal and/or civil litigation against the officer.

The murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer is an example of an extreme breach of American Law, police agency internal policy, ethical standards, and morality. Despite this killing taking place on American soil, police officers around the world including Canada are suffering repercussions including being publicly spurned, assaulted, subjected to propaganda meant to incite public mistrust and suspicion, removal of public confidence through threats to defund police agencies, and in some media released cases front line officers have been victimized by an apparent lack of support by their Administrators including their premature firing despite their adherence to agency promoted and mandated Use of Force models.

The former situation can result in precipitation of a moral injury; a subject I covered last year through three devotionals. As Canadian police officers, it has been ingrained in us from our initial training as police recruits and throughout our years of service to our community, that we are mandated to serve our Canadian Judicial System with impartiality, not as judge and jury. One proof I offer that officers are conducting



themselves impartially is the continual cycle of arrests of the same offenders weekly for breaching court orders and release conditions.

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*As officers we see a “revolving door” of arrest, detention, processing, release through the Court, followed by a breach and a repeat of the entire cycle.*

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As officers we see a “revolving door” of arrest, detention, processing, release through the Court, followed by a breach and a repeat of the entire cycle. Despite the hours spent on reports, officers continue to enforce the Court Orders without prejudice or favor leaving the Court to determine the outcome from each charge laid. Frustration is a common emotion in diligent officers who desire justice to be served for the victim. However, police have a multifaceted role and protection of life includes that not only of the victim, but also the offender.

Many times, I’ve been involved with or witnessed an offender being protected from harm following the perpetration of their initial crime. Many times, officers have faced an abusive arrestee who due to the level of intoxication is unable to comprehend the degree of danger they are being removed or protected from. Impartiality is important as it clears the path for a prisoner to receive proper counsel which eventually culminates in a timely trial followed by a release for time served, or the determination of a time specific sentence.

In Canada, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the CCC, Case Law, and the overall Canadian Judicial System govern the process and persist regardless of the platform held by the current Prime Minister and his Cabinet. Conversely, Paul was at the mercy of Roman Law which was very different than Canadian Law. Paul was imprisoned at least twice for a minimum of two-year durations. His incarcerations commenced without a specified length of sentence, and without a fair trial. Thus, I marvel at Paul’s exhortation to the Philippians to dwell on what

is lovely, good and pure and to be glad and praise God.

We know from the Holy Bible that Paul was a man who put things into practice before he preached them. Paul lived a life of truth and honor glorifying God from the moment he put his trust in Jesus. He committed his life to serving Christ and loving his neighbor as

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*A couple of months ago I needed to rise above the circumstances that surround us.*

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himself. He was a man unjustly imprisoned; yet instead of focusing on the injustice and his hardship and wallowing in self-pity, he set his mind on things that were pure and lovely including the good things in others. It was his faith and trust in God that brought him to the place where he rose above his circumstances and was able to rejoice during extreme hardship and loss.

A couple of months ago I needed to rise above the circumstances that surround us. Social media can be a positive source to maintain connections with friends and family and to inform us of what is transpiring in our world. However; regarding news sources, I’m aware from personal experience, that the media is not always accurate in their reports and that some media sources exaggerate events and highlight the sensational stories in order to attract more views. This commonly results in an imbalance in reporting of tragic or traumatic accounts of human events versus stories that encourage us to see the pure, lovely, and good things in others as per Paul’s instructions to the Philippians.

Weeks of reading bleak predictions of the possible devastation to come due to the coronavirus pandemic was trumped by weeks of reports of violent protests world-wide in the wake of the killing of George Floyd. Public anger and hatred of police in general were front and center of many news stories which eventually led to a movement calling for the public defunding of police agencies. I’m not opposed to reformation if it is birthed from

mindsets of rationality and wisdom; however, I am critical of reformation that comes on the heels of emotional decisions laden from violent protests stemming from anger and hatred of a cultural group. Most probably do not consider police a cultural group, yet they would agree police are comprised of men and women appointed by a community, city, province, state, or nation to serve and protect within a geographical region. Within that region these men and women share similar attitudes towards society/cultural norms and values and ethics and will respond similar in behavior to maintain those societal values whether they are on or off duty. Culture is defined as, “the set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterizes an institution or organization” Merriam-Webster. Whatever culture is dominant in the region, so too will be the representation within the police agency.

In July 2019 I spent some time travelling throughout Eastern Ukraine in the Red Zone. I met with several police chiefs, officers of rank, and street officers. I heard stories from officers who policed prior to the formation of the Patrol Police in 2015. I witnessed that in general terms, police are looked upon by the general public with mistrust; this mistrust towards police even extends to some leaders of Christian churches. Police agencies are poorly funded and street officers make around \$400.00/month which is a large increase over the old Militsiya. Men and women passionate about serving their community and upholding the laws are compelled through financial necessity to work one or two other jobs in addition to policing. Minimal wages, lack of support and trust from the public, and what some groups are advocating for in America and Canada - defund police agencies is, in my opinion, a breeding ground for corruption within police organizations.

I heard stories from Ukraine police officers who are forced to work alongside corrupt officers. I heard how they are ostracized and alienated from their fellow officers who mistrust them because they are not willing to accept bribes and instead take the high road and work two other jobs. As I indicated I'm not against reformation.

In 2015 the Patrol Police were formed out of necessity after the rebellion in 2014. Many police officers were killed and from these ashes, Patrol Police has arisen comprised of many well-educated men and women and some veterans from the former Militsiya. Christian Faith based police chaplains are being trained up to come alongside these Patrol Police officers and possibly the National Police officers to support them regardless of the officer's faith or non-faith affiliations.

Commencing in 2020/2021, Ukraine police chaplains will be required to certify through a Law Enforcement Chaplaincy Academy.

One should not underestimate the effect public support or the lack thereof weighs upon a police officer. The media sensationalizing the individual stories of anger/hatred against police and the constant reports of city-wide violent demonstrations has impacted even the small City of Brandon, MB.

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*I was losing my peace which is why Paul encouraged his readers to dwell on the fine and good things in others not the anger and hatred.*

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I reached the point several weeks ago to purpose to stop looking at social media and reading the news stories. Emotionally they were taking a toll. I recalled Paul's direction to the Philippians “Fix your thoughts on what is true and good and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for and be glad about.” I was losing my peace which is why Paul encouraged his readers to dwell on the fine and good things in others not the anger and hatred.

Since reducing my exposure to the media and spending time in reflection of God and His Word, I have regained my peace. I know that I'm not the only officer who has felt an emotional impact from the sensationalizing of the protests.

I conclude this devotional with an account from a co-worker whose sharing of his heart resulted in the inspiration to write this devotional. A week prior to this writing, I was in conversation with a fellow officer. He is a senior constable who has teenagers. He is a good father who honors his wife and family. His children and their interests are priority to him; thus, he takes an interest in his children's friends. He shared that recently half of his teenage son's friends have defriended his son. They will no longer hang out with him and they ignore him. Some of them as recent as the previous week had hung out at his home. They had shared family meals and sleep overs. These boys had grown up with his son.

Now because of what they have absorbed through the media and through others, they refer to police officers as "A.C.A.B.". They have told this officer's son that his dad is A.C.A.B. and refuse to hang out with him simply because of his father's profession. His father whom they used to see as "cool" because he was a cop, is now the polar opposite. The acronym A.C.A.B. stands for "all cops are bastards" and can be seen in graffiti tags and tattoos such as "1312" representing the alphabetic order of the letters. This quotation is taken from Wikipedia: *"the intent of this term [A.C.A.B] may refer to the police as an institution and does not necessarily*

*reflect upon the individual law enforcement officer."* Wikipedia obviously has not come to Brandon MB and interviewed the police officer's son I'm referring to. This officer is a

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*The Apostle Paul's words from nearly 2000 years ago are just as important and relevant today in the year 2020.*

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good cop, father, and husband who has not participated in any acts of police brutality. Yet half of his son's friends have alienated him and refer to Brandon PS officers as A.C.A.B.

I could hear the pain in this officer's voice as he shared this information then covered the hurt over protectively with some chuckles. This is the youth of today and our future tomorrow. The Apostle Paul's words from nearly 2000 years ago are just as important and relevant today in the year 2020. ***"Fix your thoughts on what is true and good and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely, and dwell on the fine, good things in others. Think about all you can praise God for and be glad about. Keep putting into practice all you learned from me and saw me doing, and the God of peace will be with you"*** Philippians 4:8&9 TLB.



**United Way**

## **REMINDER**

**We do not receive any direct funding from the United Way.**

However for those who will be participating in your local workplace United Way campaign, please remember your charitable donation can be specifically designated to FCPO – Canada by using our registered charity number on the form (120365804 RR0001) in part B or C (depending on if you are a Federal, Provincial, or Municipal employee).

Other ways to donate, including online donations can be found on our [website](#).

Thank you for your financial support for this unique ministry.

# Paying Special Attention - Finding opportunities to spread hope during challenging times through the storm

By: S/Cst. Amanda Ward, Toronto Community Housing, Community Safety Unit



S/Cst. Amanda Ward

About five years ago, in a random used bookstore in Toronto. I stumbled upon a book that I have never forgotten. It is called: *"Invisible Acts of Power"* By: Caroline Myss. In it one story stuck out to me most.

It was the story of a police sergeant. She arrived at a call with two homeless people. When she attempted to find a shelter for them, they had to be split up, so she ended up giving them a dollar and a quarter so they could drink coffee at an all-night restaurant and stay together.

Her coworkers didn't understand at the time, but months later at another call, her colleagues were dealing with one of the previous homeless people who was irate. When he saw the police sergeant again, he instantly relaxed and cooperated with Police. He thanked her for her courtesy and compassion as he has never forgotten her kindness. Her coworkers appreciated it as well.

The thing is you never know how you can affect someone's life. And you never know just where you will be, but that night she was in a position to help someone and she did. She was scared but she had the courage to do the right thing. To show compassion and help, whatever form that may be.

It takes courage to do what is right, even if it means you receive criticism from others. When you know you could have done something to help someone but didn't, that's when you fear you have let God down, for me that is much more difficult than receiving any criticism from coworkers.

Psalm 115:11 *"You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord, He is their help and their shield."*

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*It takes courage to do what is right, even if it means you receive criticism from others.*

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I often remind myself of this when I feel I am rushing and not focusing on how I can best serve others.

Hebrews 13:16 *"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."*

This made me realize that we as peace officers have so much influence, and so many opportunities to witness God in action during the course of every shift, even on the days that are not as busy.

I also think of how many times I could have missed an opportunity had I not had that still small voice tell me to say something to someone.

Exactly this happened to me during a night shift. My partner and I were doing a patrol through a building as it has been known for antisocial activity. As we finished our patrol around 02:00 hours, we noticed a woman sitting by herself in the lobby. She appeared upset. We asked generically how you are, she said "fine how are you?" And we just about carried on when my partner said, is everything okay? Is there anything we can help you with tonight? We were used to seeing people take breaks outside their apartments due to COVID-19. Families have arguments and people need space, and we understood this appeared to be the new normal.



Some people call it a hunch, luck, or intuition, but I call it God. In that moment I felt like I was exactly where I was meant to be. And I was so grateful I listened to that guidance, otherwise I may have missed my chance to help her. My

*Some people call it a hunch, luck, or intuition, but I call it God. In that moment I felt like I was exactly where I was meant to be. And I was so grateful I listened to that guidance, otherwise I may have missed my chance to help her.*

partner and I stopped and asked again if there was anything we could do and if she was sure she was okay.

She then began to cry and say that she didn't know what to do. She was getting space from her son whom she lives with, but she was scared to return as he has a problem with alcohol and has angry outbursts at her. She didn't even think to ask for help because she had lost hope. Not only have her issues with her son been ongoing, their future relationship looked so bleak she lost hope in ever fixing it.

My partner and I spoke with the woman and gave her our information to contact when she feels unsafe. We then escorted her back to her unit and met her son to ensure she was safe upon returning. We spent time with him to see if there was anything he needed and provided encouragement.



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*My hope for anyone reading this is that there is always a reason to stop, when you know there is something extra that you can do, you should always do it.*

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Although it was a very personal situation, showing that we cared and that they had options and support made all the difference. She then thanked us for taking the time with a huge smile on her face.

It takes courage to act on the guidance we received. A lot of the time we are rushed and simply don't have time, or we are with someone who wouldn't approve of us taking longer to chat to someone about how they are feeling.

As a Christian Peace officer, it's safe to say that it is by no means easy, we all face much judgement, but I am so incredibly grateful that God has positioned me in such a role as to provide hope and support to those who need it most.

My hope for anyone reading this is that there is always a reason to stop, when you know there is something extra that you can do, you should always do it. The rewards are tremendous.

There are small acts we can do. When we think maybe there isn't anything we can do, there always is if we look at each situation we have been given, no matter how big or small.

God Bless,

Amanda Ward

## What's his Duty?

Check out this heart-warming video – one of our finest!

[Click Here](#)

# Why All Lives Matter to God

By: Rev. Dr. David Schrader, National Pastor, [Congregational Christian Churches in Canada](#)

*Editor's Note: This article was shared with us by Rev. Schrader who featured this in his [national blog](#)<sup>2</sup>.*



Rev. Dr. David Schrader

North America is in the midst of a virulent unrest. The death of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25 of this year was a tragic and unnecessary death. Naturally, the peaceful protests that followed Floyd's death were completely warranted and justified. People rightly needed to express their anger over this injustice.

What was not warranted was the countless innocent people that have since died, all the businesses that have been shuttered, destroyed or burned to the ground, all the peoples' livelihoods that have suffered, and the desecration of historical statues and monuments. And, to add insult to injury, good police officers, who lay their lives on the line every day for people like you and me, have been vilified, assaulted and killed at the hands of violent protestors.

What is most troubling about these lawless revolutionaries is their extreme anti-police vitriol. They want to defund the police or abolish the police altogether. And, some actors, politicians and corporations have already been eager to acquiesce. This is a disturbing example of groupthink at its worst – a delirious and inappropriate rush to opprobrium.

All the violence, destruction and rancor of these protestors are meant to obliterate racial injustice. But let's not kid ourselves; it's also about gleeful schadenfreude and ferocious thuggery; and for others it's about political and monetary expediency. Killing innocent people, smashing private property and shutting down free speech in an attempt to justify one's cause is never acceptable. But this seems to be the expedient thing to do in this new revolution.


There is little constructive thought and discourse on how all of this denigrating talk is going to affect the morale of every good police officer in North America. Is it any wonder that 503 police officers in the city of New York alone have filed for retirement since George Floyd's death? Ed Mullins, president of the Sergeants Benevolent Association, said an “*exodus*” from the NYPD has begun. . . morale is “*at the lowest levels I've seen in 38 years.*”

Police Benevolent Association president Patrick Lynch said cops are “*at their breaking point, whether they have 20 years on the job or only two. We are all asking the same question: 'How can we keep doing our job in this environment?' And that is exactly what the anti-cop crowd wants. If we have no cops because no one wants to be a cop, they will have achieved their ultimate goal.*”

But if these militant activists south of our border were to achieve their goal, what would their utopia look like? And as protestors in our own nation join their calls for police departments to be defunded or closed down, what kind of conceivable paradise do they envision for Canada?

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<sup>2</sup> An updated version of this article and full citations for Rev. Schrader's references and quotations can be found on [his blog](#).



**IT'S JUST PLAIN INSANITY TO BELIEVE WE ARE  
GOING TO REACH A BETTER SOCIETY IF YOU  
DISPARAGE, DEFUND AND DISMANTLE POLICE  
FORCES ACROSS NORTH AMERICA. DO THEY  
THINK CRIME WOULD SUDDENLY DIMINISH?**

It's just plain insanity to believe we are going to reach a better society if you disparage, defund and dismantle police forces across North America. Do they think crime would suddenly diminish?

Since the calls to defund the police have been ramping up, so has the crime. There has been a recent spate of people being killed in the US that have included many children as well.

The police themselves are now targets of sadistic violence. Recently some New York Police officers joined a prayer march to City Hall that included thousands of people calling for an end to violence soaring across the city. Those gathered participated in singing after speeches encouraging people to stop the violence. They said, *"We've come to tear down the walls of injustice and social inequality. We are here to build walls and build bridges that unite people,"* said one marcher. But as the clergy, parishioners and members of NYPD began their peaceful march, Black Lives Matter protestors charged the police. A video captured someone swinging a stick-like object, possibly a cane, at cops on the bridge. Three officers were injured in that mêlée.

At a recent Back the Blue appreciation event in Denver, an anti-cop mob showed up and bloodied several people before things had to be shut down.

At the time of writing this article, the city of Portland, Oregon has been under siege for 47 straight days by a violent mob of lawless anarchists. An elderly man was brutally beaten by Antifa thugs wielding baseball bats. Another Good Samaritan who came to his defense, was cracked in the skull with a crowbar. Journalist Andy Ngo was set upon by another gang of leftist savages. He was punched in the face and pummeled by violent kicks. Others in the crowd sprayed the defenseless journalist with milkshakes laced with quick-drying cement and caustic chemicals. Is this their vision of "tolerant" utopia – intimidation, violence and mob rule?

Maybe these situations are just tragic anomalies – the result of a few bad apples. Surely other protestors are committed to tolerance and will respect your right to free speech. Right? Well, if you could ask Jessica Doty, she would beg to disagree. Jessica was a 24-year-old Indianapolis mother who tragically discovered what they thought about her free speech at the end of a gun barrel. Jessica was fatally shot. This all allegedly happened following an argument with supporters of Black Lives Matter. She apparently told the Black Lives Matter supporters that *"all lives matter."* After the two sides parted ways, witnesses claim that the perpetrator opened fire from a bridge nearby and ran away.

What ever happened to a disciplined and congenial approach to discourse and debate – you know the right to agree to disagree with someone? Well, acting US Deputy Homeland Security Secretary Ken Cuccinelli provided his take on that in a recent tweet, *"These tyrannical, left-wing anarchists hate free speech. If you do not agree with them, they believe you must be beaten down – literally."*

Violence towards anyone is never right. And violence against the police is not going to be without its consequences. I spoke with a police officer, on condition of anonymity, who said, *"If the police are called to some jurisdictions where a crime is in progress, they will be hesitant to go, knowing that any show of force on their part could be misconstrued or called unjustified – potentially resulting in a lawsuit and loss of their job."* Who can blame them for feeling this way? They simply don't feel supported by their politicians or valued in this acrimonious environment. When all others run away from a person wielding a gun, do we now want our police officers to do the same? Folks, this is not a good situation.

God instituted authority for the good of all people. In Romans 13:1-2, Paul said, *"Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. So, anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished."*

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***God gave us a great plan for a peaceful and well-ordered society. But this plan will only work when the police see their authority as being derived from God and civilians see their duty under God to respect that authority.***

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God gave us a great plan for a peaceful and well-ordered society. But this plan will only work when the police see their authority as being derived from God and civilians see their duty under God to respect that authority. But if no one respects God and his authority over their lives – then the godless anarchy you now

see will be the result. It's a harbinger of what's to come when the man of lawlessness [the Antichrist] is revealed before Jesus Christ's second coming (see: 2 Thessalonians 2:3).

God wants us to respect those who are in authority over us. Yes, police officers are not perfect. They are just like us. But God didn't ask us to respect them only if they are perfect. If that was the case, no one would ever be good enough to be a police officer.

But it is ridiculous to assume that all police officers are inherently bad and racist because of one police officer's action, any more than it would be wrong for us to assume that all doctors are bad because one doctor abuses a patient. Martin Luther King Jr. was right when he said, *"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."*

To be clear, there may be times as Christians when we will be called to obey God rather than those in authority or our governments. But this would only be true where authorities and governments want us to do something contrary to God's Word. Otherwise we are called upon to pray for those in authority over us and to respect them.

At the heart of all of these protests is the virulent problem of racism – or at least, that is what everyone in these protests would have you believe – even though these protests are killing innocent black people as well.

Now, do I think racism exists? Of course, I do. I've heard my black friends tell me about their own encounters with racism. It has been appalling that they have had to experience such appalling prejudice and injustice. But I am not quick to denigrate everyone as a racist just because their skin color happens to be white. I grew up in the city of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. As a young boy, I interacted with black people on a regular basis. I have had many friends that were black people and I have had the privilege over the years, and still do, of being a pastor to many of them. They are my friends, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I was taught that we are all created in the image of God. I also learned as a young Christian that Jesus's death abolished the hostility between Jews and Gentiles. In early biblical times, there was a lot of antisemitism, and sadly, it still exists today. But Christ's death overcome that hostility. This is what Paul meant when he said in Ephesians 2:14, *"For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us."*



Do you see a lot of hostility in these protests? I'm sure you do. Jesus never advocated the use of hostility. In fact, he came to remove hostility from our lives. It is only when Christ lives and reigns in our hearts that racial hostility will be obliterated. The late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. knew this well. He never advocated for violence either. He said, *"Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction."*

The Bible speaks of God's act of creation as monogenesis – the belief that all humans descend from a single pair of ancestors. In Acts 17:26, Paul says, *"And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth."* Simply put – we all have the same two parents and that makes us related, equal and one.



***IT'S TIME TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S  
FORGIVENESS AND TO FORGIVE OTHERS. IT'S  
TIME TO LOVE AND RESPECT EACH OTHER.***

*sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned"* (Romans 5:12). But here is the good news: for all our sin, including the ugliness of racism, there is a remedy. The Apostle Paul said, *"But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ"* (Romans 5:15). No wonder it's called **amazing grace**.

If we are going to see a cure to the hatred and hostility erupting in our world, we must deal with our sin problem. We all need God's forgiveness for the ugliness of our sin. We need a Saviour – his name is Jesus, God's Son.

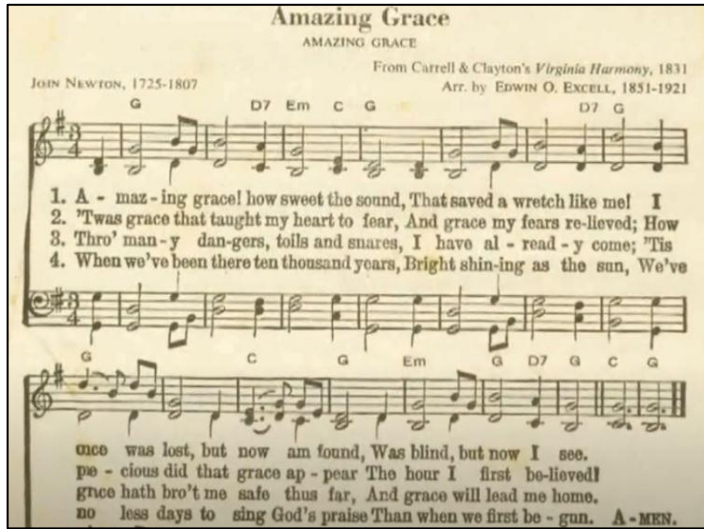
Just the other day I heard some in the media say that Christianity is a white man's religion. Well, nothing could be further from the truth. The Bible portrays heaven's inhabitants – those hate-filled sinners saved by his grace – as *"a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages"* (Revelation 7:9).



I learned a song in Sunday School years ago. It still shapes my life and attitude. "Red and Yellow, Black and White. They are precious in his sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world." That's God's vision of heaven. There will be some from every nation.

It's time to experience God's forgiveness and to forgive others. It's time to love and respect each other. That's God's revolution and vision of his kingdom. Are you bound for his kingdom?

# Amazing Grace



*Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.*

John Newton (1725–1807)

It is perhaps one of the most popular songs in history. It is a bagpipe standard, which is often solemnly played at officers' funerals. We all know this beautiful old hymn, but do you know the story behind the hymn?



## A Thin Blue Line

By: Rev. Jack Crans



Rev. Jack Crans

Just days ago I met with a precious, believing police leader from one of America's largest cities. This dear warrior joined with me with a sense of brokenness and desperation as only understood in realms of grief fashioned by the Holy Spirit, Himself. I truly sensed that we were two canaries in a coal mine! Were it not for grace and the mercies of God we'd have been consumed!

The "thin-blue-line" noted above is that which often describes our legitimate and sincere peace officers across the land. You may not fully understand this yet, but this 'thin-blue-line' is the very final wall of separation between civil order and civil unrest. Once corrupted or once

abandoned or once left alone to suffer unrelenting harm, the hour of unrest and costly disquiet will be irrevocable.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 ***"I exhort, therefore, that first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men, for kings, and for all that are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty, for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God, our Savior, who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."***

God's Debtor,

Jack Crans, 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

[County Corrections Gospel Mission](#)

P.O. Box 1136, Coatesville, PA 19320

Editor's note: Jack is a very good friend of FCPO-Canada. He is an active Chaplain of the Pennsylvania State Police and serves as Honorary Chaplain of the Chester County Fraternal Order of Police



# Social Injustice – The Police & Community



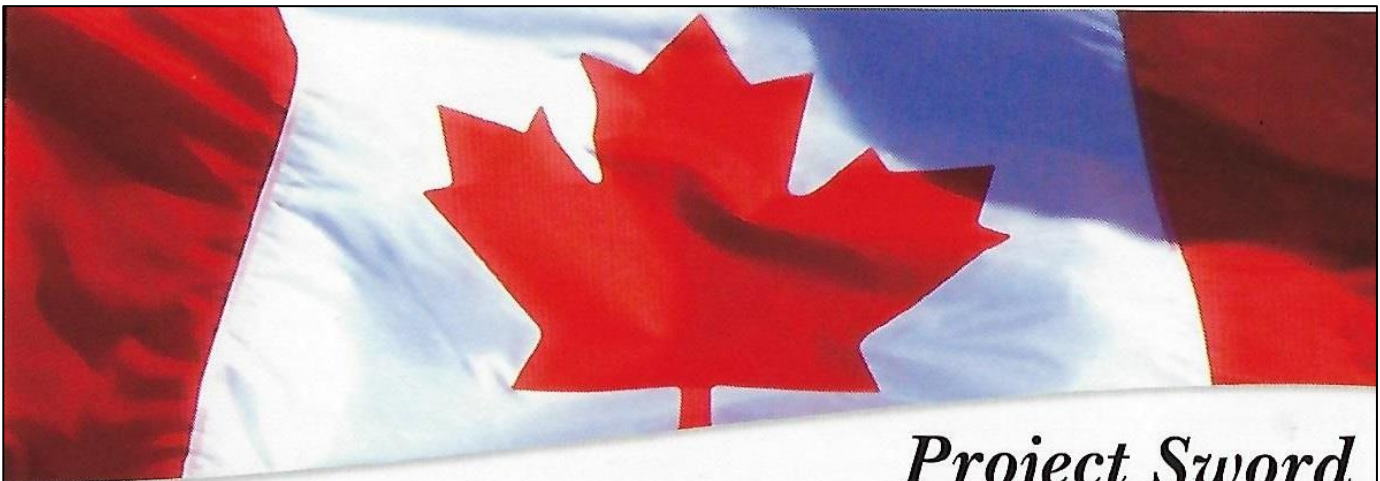
Cst. Junior Weir

These are challenging times for the police and the communities we serve. Some trust has been broken.

The path forward involves empathy, accountability and prayer.

York Regional Police Cst. Junior Weir, a Christian, husband and father shares his heart for the future.


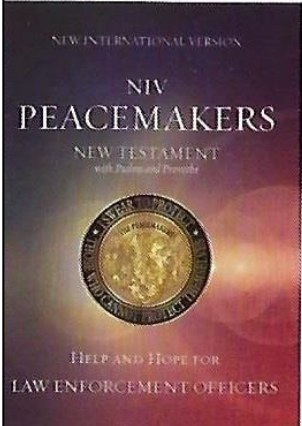
**Video - [Click here](#) to watch Junior's heart-felt message**



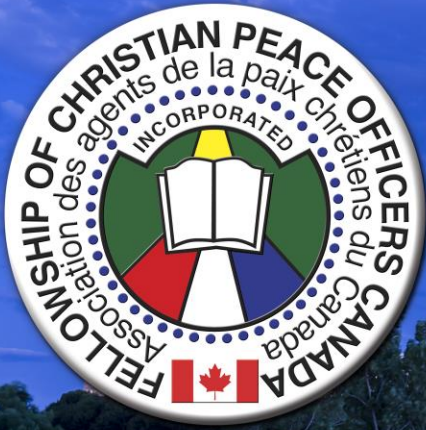
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He shall have dominion also from sea to sea  
Il dominera depuis une mer jusqu'à l'autre  
(Ps 72:8)



## From our Vault

Articles from [past Peacemakers](#) make for a great second read. And for many of you - the first read. They are timeless. We opened the vault for this issue, and hope you will be blessed again by this contribution.

### *Shift Preparation – Alabama style!*

This article is reproduced from our Peacemaker archives: [February, 2017 issue](#)

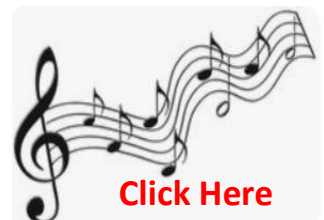


**The Blue Notes**

*From the Editor:* Given I already had a lot of good material for this Peacemaker issue, I contemplated not visiting the vault at all this time. However, I thought I would just crack the door open and see if there was a short article that I could include. As I was walking by the 2017 section I heard a joyful noise! I opened the February issue and there they were again - [The Blue Notes](#)!

They had just finished their pre-shift briefing. They had gathered up their equipment and loaded their cars preparing to hit the streets and meet the challenges of an anticipated busy Friday night shift.

Prior to hitting the road one of the guys said “Let’s head to the cell block first.” There they had a quick word of prayer asking God to offer them and their colleagues protection. They prayed that God would use them as “servants for good” as they went about their God-ordained job. Before finally heading out into the unknown, they broke out into joyful song. Please enjoy and be blessed once again by the [Blue Notes](#) as they “Thank Jesus”.





# I'll Stand by You

By: Louise Roussel



Louise Roussel

I am 63 years old, Canadian, living in Quebec City and currently getting my teeth fixed in Budapest - Just to pique your interest!

Well, Ron asked me some time ago to contribute an article to the Peacemaker, so I am giving this my best shot! (maybe not a politically correct word to use these days!)

I am the daughter of a retired RCMP Staff Sergeant who is 95 years old, who survived COVID-19 this spring. I have a brother who is a retired police officer, and I worked as a public servant with the RCMP in the past.

In March, 2019, I learned of the FCPO and immediately joined as an associate member. I enjoy reading the Peacemaker and praying for the various officers and needs that I read about therein.

I, like many citizens am concerned about the growing lack of respect for police, and in fact hatred in some quarters. Many officers must be wondering who is standing with them. I am grateful for the police and pray that all would find the peace that only God can provide.

PEACE is really a state of mind, a special blessing that I have had the good fortune of experiencing. I am talking about God's peace - supernatural peace, the peace that surpasses all human understanding. Really a gift from God. This is the same PEACE which helps leaders make wise decisions.

That peace came to me in the 90s when I was 33 years old and working as a public servant at Customs and Excise in Ottawa. Weird things were going on then. The new age movement (Satanism in disguise) was proliferating, and one of my colleagues attempted to lead me down the garden path to a false spirituality. I almost got entrapped by it, as it really does affect your mind, your soul, your spirit. But my Aunt who was a Notre Dame nun referred me to [Father Bob Bedard](#), from St Mary's Church in Ottawa, and through his prayers and the grace of God, I was set free by the power of the Holy

Spirit and developed such a strong desire to know God better.

In October 1991, I left my government job and went to France to do volunteer work with the intellectually disabled (Down's Syndrome adults mainly). There, I got married - to the wrong person. However, out of that relationship came my beautiful daughter.

I almost lost my daughter when I was not quite 5 months pregnant. I was experiencing contractions and was rushed to a hospital in France. The chance for a viable birth was not good. But I prayed and I prayed and I cried and I prayed and I cried some more until a song came to my heart in the hospital bed and it was "*He's got the itty bitty babies in his hands, ....[He's got the whole world in his hands](#),*" and I knew then that God had heard my prayer and I had that PEACE. I did not know what the outcome would be, but I knew that God had heard my prayer.

She entered the world through an emergency Caesarian at 7 months, 10 days and she survived and thrived. The doctors were impressed. I said matter of factly, "*God told me everything was going to be*

ok". They answered "Nice that you believe that, but we're not convinced" – **I was!**

I am very proud of her. She is currently finishing up her doctoral work in neurosciences. She has also experienced the grace of God in her life.

Living in France was an interesting experience. I joined a choir and sang publicly at a war memorial event, began and completed a Master's Degree in Law and Economics at the Sorbonne, and taught both at the high school and university levels in Paris. However, while living there I experienced a devastating seven year harassment campaign begun by certain corrupt French authorities. But there again, God's grace and two good lawyers (who are both in Heaven now) got me out of that trouble. There is a lot more I could say about that,

but trust me, it was a very hard time for me, and I thank God that He saw me through all that.

Today I know a lot of those who "serve and protect" are likewise going through hard times, as it seems the public does not have their backs. This is not true, I and millions of other Canadians love and appreciate officers who serve daily with honour and courage. Moreover, what I want to share with my testimony is that God, whom I recognize as Jesus, **is all powerful**. He is always there to assist us in overcoming our trials and tribulations. God is indeed ALMIGHTY and we must pray and trust Him while doing our work as best as we humanly can and know that GOOD will prevail. When we speak words of TRUTH our words become POWERFUL; always believe GOD will lift you up when you are doing the RIGHT THING. And He will stand

by you. This is what we call DIVINE INTERVENTION and I can assure you it happens every day. Just trust in HIM.

Finally, I would like to share a video with a rendition of a song popularized by The Pretenders in the mid-90s<sup>3</sup>. I pray it will speak to you and let you know that besides me and millions of Canadians, **Jesus** is also saying to you "I'll Stand by You".



God Bless you and yours,

Louise Roussel  
A friend in Christ

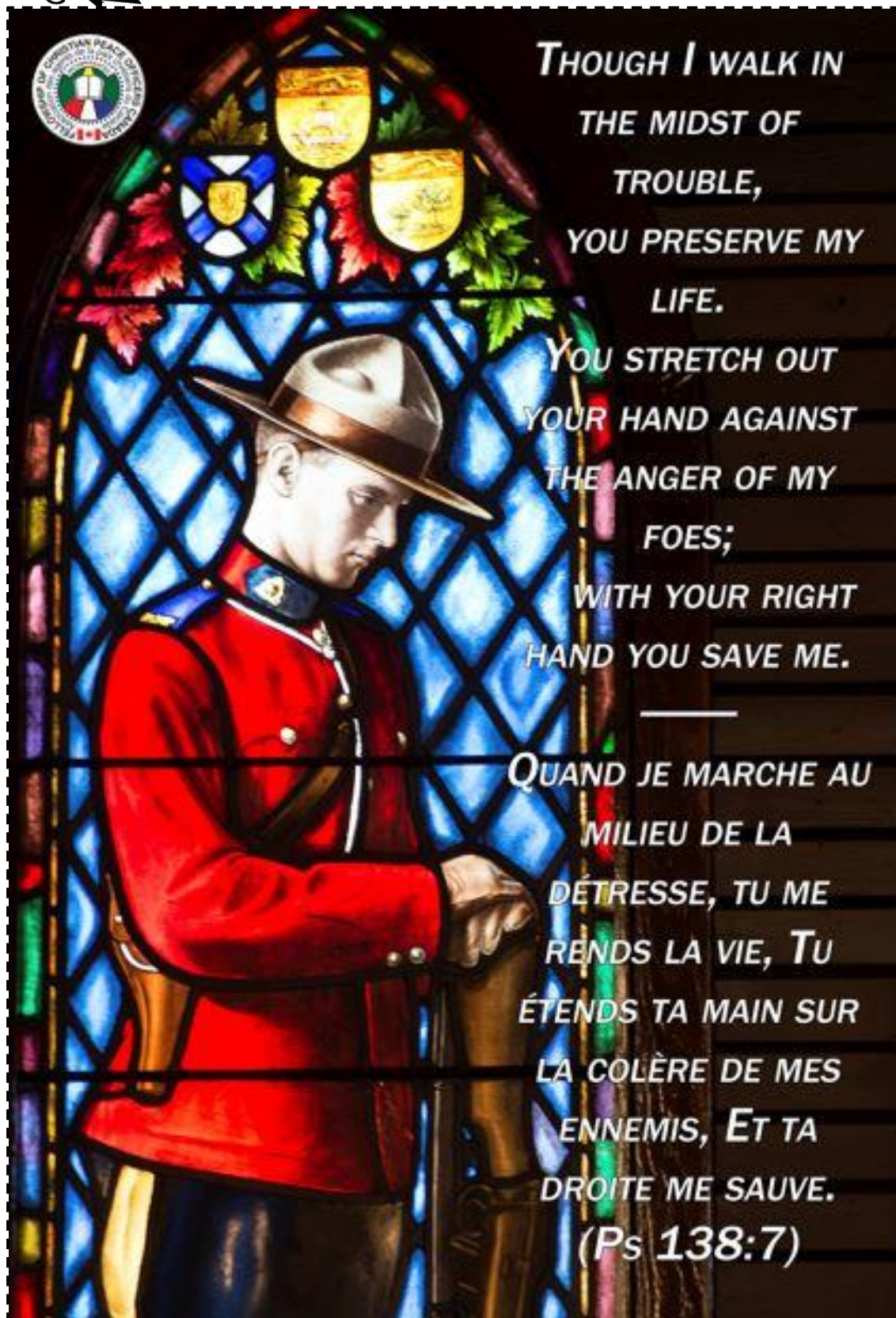
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**Membership is free! Members receive this quarterly newsletter.** We have 2 types of membership: Regular Membership (voting) is for current or retired peace officers, while Associate Membership (non-voting) is for any Christian who agrees with our [Statement of Faith](#).

**Join online at: [www.fcpcanada.com](http://www.fcpcanada.com)**

<sup>3</sup> [The Pretenders' version](#)

# Psalm 138:7



This photo of one of the beautiful stained glass windows from the Chapel at "Depot" (the RCMP's Training Academy), was recently featured with this scripture on our Facebook site. It was shared and re-shared over 8,000 times!

This would make a great addition to a workstation, or perhaps a detachment or station exit door! A great reminder for officers as they depart the building and hit the streets!