

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies

State Archives of the Russian Federation Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv Rossiiskoy Federatsyi (GARF), f. 7021, op. 148, d. 57, ll. 1-3ob

The Holocaust in Ukraine – Christian Leaders

Translation: D09 In a Leaflet, Bishop Panteleimon (Rudyk) of the Orthodox Autonomous Church Denounces Jews as Satanic, May 1943

Against the Anarchy of the Evil Spirit

The Devil, father of sinners, violated the order in heaven, from which he was cast down like a lightning bolt into the underworld. Having lost forever fortunate eternal life with the angels in heaven, he decided to found his kingdom of chaos with people on earth.

He taught people to disobey God the Father, not to believe in God the Son and not to accept God the Holy Spirit. He deprived people of God's sanctifying grace and blessed life and bestowed on them the curse of suffering and death.

Like an evil serpent, he poisons people with the venom of pride, hatred and enmity, urging them to shed their brothers' blood from the children of Adam to the present.

The war that flared forth in heaven before time immemorial came down to earth and resisted good. The struggle between good and evil continues and does not abate, but instead continues and grows ever stronger.

Because of the evil spirit's intrigues even God's chosen people became so rebellious, stiff-necked and God-hating that it killed its own prophets and was not afraid to crucify the Son of God himself.

Disregarding God's punishment, this rebellious, stiff-necked and God-hating people demoralized the whole world in its dispersion, setting kingdom against kingdom, people against people and city against city.

All fratricidal wars, all bloody overthrows, all criminal disturbances are the work of this same people. Because instead of serving God and his truth it worships the golden calf and Mammon and furthermore decided to rule the whole world and to cast everyone into a slavery that is worse than the Egyptian.

Using criminal deceit and violence, the sons of the devil in the guise of Bolshevism seized power over our country and covered it with the blood of millions of innocent people. They threw our people into unheard-of bondage and subjected it to the cruelest terror. As we now know, during their bloody rule the Judeo-Bolshevik hangmen murdered up to three million innocent people, among them twenty-eight bishops and 42,800 clergymen of other ranks, not to mention the tens of millions who perished in civil war, famine, plagues or in exile and hard labour.

The hellish forces that took control of Eastern Europe after the Bolshevik revolution struck most forcefully at the Holy Church and its ministers, intending to destroy the Bride of Christ once and for all and disregarding the words of God that "the powers of death shall not prevail against it." The overwhelming majority of the pastors of Christ's Church observed their faith in the face of the Bolshevik hangmen and for this suffered unspeakable pain and misfortune. But there were

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies

<http://training.ehri-project.eu/d09-leaflet-bishop-panteleimon-rudyk-orthodox-autonomous-church-denounces-jews-satanic-may-1943>

some weak-willed hierarchs who, partly for fear of the Jews and partly bought off Bolshevik gold and other Bolshevik favours, recognize the authority of these atheists as legitimate, applying to it the words of the apostle that "there is no authority except from God." There is no need to explain all the hypocrisy and sinful sacrilege in this interpretation of Holy Scripture, because how can there be an authority from God that rises up against God, persecutes the holy faith, condemns pastors and the faithful to death, destroys God's churches and mocks sacred objects[?]

The crimes of the Bolsheviks exceed all counting and measure. Just recently the German authorities uncovered the graves of twelve thousand Polish officers who were taken prisoner by the Bolsheviks and were murdered by Bolshevik hangmen in the Katyn forest on the outskirts of Smolensk.

Lacking the strength to fight their opponents in honest open battle, the Bolsheviks prefer such methods as strikes from behind a corner, predatory attacks against defenceless people, terrorization of civilian populations by pirate air attacks, ruination

of civilian settlements and destruction of warehouses and cultural treasures. Just a few days ago all of Kyiv buried with great sorrow and weeping, anger and indignation innocent townspeople who had been killed by Bolshevik bombs.

The Bolsheviks try hardest to demoralize the population, which they have already frightened, by organizing predatory gangs that they clamorously call "Red partisans" and that have supposedly been summoned to "liberate" Ukraine from the German army by carrying out sabotage and murdering representatives of the government and all honest citizens who cooperate with it. Recently criminals killed Oleksii, Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church, and three of his companions while he was fulfilling his ecclesiastic duties.

Even the slightest indulgence of this criminal banditry causes our people great harm. Because what would the return of the Bolsheviks, if they were to achieve victory, mean for us? Our peasants would once again find themselves under the heavy yoke of collective-farm slavery. Our shrines would once again be ruined or turned into warehouses or places of sinful amusement. Our land would once again be covered in the blood of innocent people and the black cloud of Red terror would once again hover over us.

The great German people, led by its Führer, has taken upon itself leadership in the present-day holy war against the bloody violators and enemies of all mankind. This struggle has as its aim the liberation not only of our Ukraine, but of all of Europe from the Red serpent that is shedding the blood of innocent and defenceless people, bringing physical and spiritual slavery, injustice and death. It is our duty to help our liberators in any way that we can, above all with conscientious labour, honest observance of all of the authorities' orders and maintenance of order.

Bolshevism is the foundation of hatred, malice, ruin and disintegration; it is the foundation of anarchy. All this comes from the evil spirit, the spirit of hatred, the spirit of falsehood and all kinds of impurity. Whoever aids the spread of disorder and

anarchy with his actions is serving the evil spirit. And the evil spirit, whatever guise it may appear in to us, whatever words it may utter, however it may justify itself, always aspires only to destroy and not to save people. For it is the spirit of destruction.

I call on all faithful brothers and sisters not to listen to the harmful propaganda of godless agitators and to assist by all possible means the German army and the German authorities in destroying the authority of the devil and establishing a peaceful prosperous life for the people of Ukraine and the peoples of all of Europe and the entire world.

"May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord." (2 Peter 1:2)

Bishop Panteleimon

Administrator of the Kyiv Eparchy

Source:

*translated by Marco Carynnyk*