## SAINT JOHN BOSCO, MARIAN PROPHET, PRECURSOR OF THE FATIMA MESSAGE AND THE TRIUMPH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

By: Professor Américo Pablo López-Ortiz

International President of the World Apostolate of Fatima

Saint John Bosco is one of the most charismatic saints in history, receiving some of the most marvelous graces from Heaven and performing great quantity of miracles on behalf of the children of God. But it is his prophecies that are unparallel in history and today are perfectly culminated or in its way to be culminated. Miracles and prophecies came out of Dom Bosco as if something trivial and usual, as if "supernatural things seemed natural in him" (Pope Pius XI).

## Saint John Bosco's prophecies are:

- 1. Ecclesial: Through his famous dreams Our Lady showed him the future of the Church and of the world. He was very conscious of the great responsibility bestowed on him for such tremendous graces granted from the Lord of History!
- 2. Comminatory: The authentic prophecies coming from the Lord always provide the opportunity to convert, to amend life, by been alert to the signs of our times. We must be prepared at all times as the Gospel requests of us.

The authentic prophecies are not fatalistic, they always give the opportunity to come back to the Good Lord to save souls from damnation. Even when the prophecy establishes that "it is late" it provides the necessary alarm, an invitation to come to God at once and prevent the loss of souls.

3. Expressive and appealing: As the biblical prophets, Saint John Bosco comes back and forth in time, avoiding the chronological precision and temporal security, as it is divine education to bring urgent calls to humanity "where there is still time"; to bring us to conversion, to "metanoia". We must not loose peace. Dom Bosco first hears, sees and then writes, without clear distinctions, as he only reports what is communicated to him

In the "Book of Dreams" by Saint John Bosco (Editorial Don Bosco, Mexico, 1977) we find some of the great prophecies that make Dom Bosco the Marian Prophet, precursor of the Message of Fatima, as we can look to him for more details and insights clarifying that Message from the Cova da Iria.

## Dream # 37: Summary of the New Triumphal Marian Lepanto

This dream occurred in 1862, for two consecutive nights as Our Lady announced to St. John Bosco a great Marian triumph at the end of the twentieth century.

A great naval battle, similar to the First Lepanto, occurred between the Pope's forces and those of the enemies of the Church. The enemies of the Church were much more stronger and powerful. They "bombarded the Pope's naval fleet with missiles made of books and publications, incendiary and explosive." The captains of the Pope's fleet are adjourned two times to resist the offensive by the enemies of the Church. The Pope is seriously wounded. But he is able to stand again. Wounded for a second time, the Pope fells down and dies. The enemies of the Church celebrate what they think is their victory but their happiness turns into despair as the enemies see that immediately a new Pope occupies the place of the martyr Pope. This new Pope, as his predecessor is an Eucharistic and Marian Pope. The new Pope continues the legacy of his predecessor, continuing to bring the Church fleet into the safe cove where two great columns serve, as the pillars of Hercules in Gibraltar served sailors in ancient times, to mark the safe small harbor where the fleet is secured from her enemies. The two columns are symbolic in strength and mighty. One column ends in a magnificent statue of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, Helper of Christians, Mother of the Church and Mother of the Pope. The other column is even greater and ends in a Custody with the Eucharistic Host. These two are the two pillars that support our Catholic Faith: The Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The new Pope finally takes the fleet to the cove passing the two columns as they take refuge from their terrible enemies. Then, as in the First Lepanto, the fleet of the enemies of the Church is destroyed by a terrible storm. This world tempest destroys all ships that have not taken refuge inside the cove marked by the two columns.

The enemy fleet is confused, they crash and benumb each other and sink. Some "undecided ships" that do not pertain to the Pope's fleet at the last moment join the Pope's ships as they enter the safe cove and are saved as well.

Interpretation of Dream # 37.

The enemies of the Church are numerous and persistent. They are obsessed with destroying the Church of Christ and they seem to be successful but they fail at the end. The Modern crisis pretending to take the faith of Christian believers could not succeed before First Vatican Council and Saint Pius X, Pope. Theological neomodernism and progressivism as well as the materialism and atheistic Marxism could not prevail before Second Vatican Council and Popes John XXIII and Paul VI. Pope John Paul I died in a surprisingly way after 33 days of his pontificate. Pope John Paul II survived an assassination attempt on the 13th of May, 1981, as he said because of a supernatural intervention of Our Lady of Fatima, that spare his

life to serve the Church and the world. It came out to be one of the most prolific and successful pontificates of all times: He presided the Church when the collapse of the atheistic Soviet Union occurred, the countries of Eastern Europe were opened to the Gospel and religious freedom, beginning with Poland; the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany as well.

The great changes occurred in Russia marked the fulfillment of the great prophecy of Our Lady of Fatima: "At the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she will be converted and the world will be granted a period of peace." It was Pope John Paul II, a Polish, that entrusted his pontificate to Mother Mary: "Totus Tuus". Consequently, he entrusted the world and Russia, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, as per the request of Our Lady of Fatima, in union with all the bishops of the Catholic world, and those of the Orthodox Church that united in the collegial consecration, on the 25th of March, 1984. The countries in most need of God's mercy and of that consecration were entrusted for their conversion and the conversion of the world.

As Bishop of Leiria-Fatima at that time, Don Alberto Cosme do Amaral declared in his welcome address to Pope John Paul II to the Fatima Shrine on the 12th of May, 1982: "This assassination attempt marked a change in the course of history, marking the Holy Father himself with the shed of blood of martyrdom, as he offered his life with Christ as a victim for the salvation of the world at the time he better understood his personal vocation and mission on earth: Totus tuus" (All yours, Blessed Mother.).

In his autobiography, "Crossing the threshold of Hope", the Servant of God, John Paul II, the Great, wrote that at the moment of the assassination attempt that he felt spiritually carried to the shrine of Fatima where Our Lady covered him in her mantle as he felt protected and saved by Divine Providence. A maternal hand deviate the bullet. It was a true miracle the saving of his life to serve the see of Peter for many years to come.

The great achievements of the Pope's crusade: The fall of atheistic communism in Eastern Europe, beginning with his motherland, Poland;

the collapse of the Soviet Union and its atheistic regime, without bloodshed;

the openness of Eastern Europe to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and religious freedom; the prevention of a disastrous nuclear war that could have happened between 1985 and 1986, according to some disclosed documents of the intelligence agencies of the East and West; the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany; and end to the old Cold War; the opening of a new era of collaboration and better understanding between nations, especially in Europe. The contributions of Pope John Paul II to these historical achievements are of the greatest magnitude. These changes can be labeled as "the Great Miracle of the twentieth century", indeed the new Great Marian Lepanto at the end of the twentieth century,

announced by St. John Bosco, Marian Prophet and Precursor of the Message of Fatima.

John Paul II felt summoned by the Message of Fatima and its third part of the secret, which he read and meditated while still recovering at the Gemelli Clinic in Rome. As you know, the third part of the secret deals with the great century of martyrdom, the twentieth century and the millions of innocent people killed in the wars and conflicts of the century. Penance is prescribed to bring peace and life to a world where the culture of death is superabundant. The Pope is killed by the enemies of the Church when he arrives to the Calvary and prays before the Crucified. The joy of the enemies of the Church celebrating the triumph is interrupted by the immediate election of the successor of Peter, as in the prophesy by St. John Bosco. The blood of the Pope-Martyr joins that of the martyrs of the Century and through the act of the Angels of God of sprinkling blood to His people, that is, to the Church, the Church is purified and strengthened, obtaining a decisive triumph over the enemies of Christ.

Through calling all Christians to prayer, especially children and young people, the Pope began a great crusade that changed the face of earth. Christianity endorsed the agenda of Pope John Paul II of celebrating international meetings to urge the New Evangelization of our cultures and societies; as at present, when the World Apostolate of Fatima is celebrating the First European Congress on Fatima, for this, we are indebted to him; his encyclical letters offered guidelines to the Church; as the one we are studying during our encounter, "Centesimus Annus", directed to the nations of Europe on the rebuilding of the East; the Universal Catechism to clarify the doctrinal teachings of the Church to the world; the new Code of Canon Law and the pastoral plan for the third millennium of Christianity.

After his holy passing away to the Eternal Father, the beloved John Paul II was succeeded immediately by Pope Benedict XVI, who was elected in the shortest period of time and who has continued the route of his predecessor. In his recent pilgrimage to the Shrine of Fatima of May 2010, the Holy Father Benedict XVI has spoken on the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary announced at Fatima, "preparing the great celebration of the centennial year of the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima in seven more years (on the 13th of May, 2017). These coming seven years should hasten the fulfillment of the prophecy of the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to the glory of the Most Holy Trinity." The actual Pope has called all communities of the world to live the Message of Fatima to convert to God, to profess and confess an intimate love for Jesus Christ and His Gospel of salvation, for the Message of Fatima is a perfect instrument to implement the New Evangelization of the third millennium.

Speaking to the Bishops of Portugal during his visit to Fatima, the Pope addressed the issue of the situation of the Catholic Church in Europe and its main pastoral objective: To proclaim the Gospel to the continent, that is, the New Evangelization. As he said this, the Pope sensed the presence of his predecessor, the Servant of

God, John Paul II, who launched the great mission of the New Evangelization for the third millennium of Christianity.

"Do not be afraid to talk of God!" We must renew our apostolic zeal: "May the Gospel be accepted in its entirety and witnessed with passion by every disciple of Christ, so that it may show itself to be a leaven of authentic renewal for the whole of society!"

Would it be necessary the death of the Pope-Martyr? Let us pray that the Pope-Martyr was indeed Pope John Paul II who spared his life through an intervention from heaven. Since God is the Lord of History, He is free and absolutely all powerful so He can modify his own prophecies and spare the life of the Pope by the intervention of the Omnipotent Supplicant, Our Blessed Mother, who at the wedding of Cana changed the plans of her Son and prompted the first miracle of his public life out of love for a marrying couple. In this way, the Pope that shed his blood on the 13th of May, 1981 participated in the mystery of the Cross as a true martyr, as declared by the Servant of God Bishop Alberto Cosme of Leiria-Fatima: "A sorrowful mystery necessarily fruitful, like a renewal of the redemptive passion of Jesus... almost an apocalyptic sign! The Lord Jesus Christ wanted to reproduce, in a patent way, on His Vicar, the sign of the Cross and the protective glance of Mary, in that 13th of May, 1981" (Welcome address to the Holy Father, 12th of May, 1982). God's mercy is so superabundant that He can change history, even what He has already disposed in an authentic prophecy, out of love for his children, out of his infinite grace and mercy. And these are precisely the two key words that serve as slogan in Fatima: "Grace and Mercy", as in the apparition of the Most Blessed Trinity and Our Lady of Fatima to Sister Lucia at Tuy, Spain.

Dreams # 75 and # 77. The great challenge. Direct prophecy.

"The great tribulation will be short... (MB Bosco, IX, 387). After the great tribulation, the New Pentecost will come: It will be the maximum triumph of the Church in its entire history (MB, IX, 999)." At the end of dream # 75, Saint John Bosco declares: "Since the fire flames of Pentecost, it has never been seen and it will never be seen again, a more brilliant sun for all the Church...Then, we will have again a healthy youth loving good and truth." (MB Bosco, X, 233) These dreams are related to dreams # 92, 93 & 130 on "the Golden Vocational Era". In the meantime, "the only hope of the Church will be the late vocations." (MB, X, 54). These will assist the Church in time of crisis as God will be served by them. Dom Bosco calls them "the children of Mary". Please note the relationship with the Marian prophecies of Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort and his "great Marian saints of the latest times." These children of Mary, according to St. John Bosco will bring the whole world to Jesus through the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Although life will always be, until the end of time, a trial. the place to struggle between good and evil (Job: 7, 1), a spiritual fight longing for eternal life, until we

can repose in Christ's heart forever; it is also true that the influence of the evil one will be significantly reduced when the new Marian Pentecost arrives.

Dom Bosco prophesied in 1886 that "in 150 years the Church will have her greatest evangelizers of the world in history. But before the year 2036, the great tribulation will be experienced. It will consist of a war of a duration of 400 days. Paris will be greatly affected, almost destroyed; Rome will be affected. The Pope will have to leave Rome during the last 200 days of the war. When the war ends, the Pope will come back to Rome to sing a 'Te Deum' of thanksgiving at Saint Peter's. The war will end in a month of May of two full moons. The world will be purified through suffering. But complete nations will be spared from the destruction of the war for their inhabitants did not participate of the great sins of their time. Entire pockets will have peace. At the end of this trial, the Church will shine as never before and the immense majority of humanity will recognize the Lord and will live according to divine law. This will be the definitive triumph of Christ through the Blessed Mother Mary and of His Catholic Church.

Russia and China will have been converted." (Dream # 137).

Please note the relation with some writings of Sister Lucia referring to the chastisement of the sins of our time and that "it will be late" to prevent them for they will serve to purify humanity from sin. The complete triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be accomplished after a severe trial, if the conversion of poor sinners is not as numerous as needed. If enough people will convert to God and will do penance, the trial will be spared. But, according to Sister Lucia "it will be too late". Please recall the famous letter to the Spanish Bishops by Sister Lucia where she urged them to reform the habits and customs of people but even more important to reform the habits and customs of Pastors.

As comminatory prophecies used this language on time, it is understood that the response to the pleas of Our Lady of Fatima were not enough, are not enough at present but may be enough or may not be enough in the future, "while there is still time" to save the world from the calamity of war, one of the worst consequences of sin. The culture of death with the practice of war, abortion, euthanasia, economic exploitation of the poor and the needy, destruction of family, "sex libertinage", "gay marriage" and lack of faith in God, eradicating His presence from civilization, society and culture, will produce the great trial of suffering to purify humanity! These are the great sins of our time. They will produce the terrible consequences announced by Saint John Bosco. The Universal Church, all Christians and all men and women of good will must confront these terrible sins to eradicate them from social life. We must do as much as we can. The World Apostolate of Fatima must have a leading role in this enterprise as we have received the great treasure of the Message of Fatima to illuminate the world with it!

We should not lose the gift of the Peace of Christ; that which the world can not take from us. As the biblical prophets, Saint John Bosco challenges us to a change of

lifestyles abandoning "the old creature" as Saint Paul taught and embracing "the new creature" in the image of Jesus Christ. Like in the Book of Revelation, there is no absolute certainty in the chronological order, there is no security, there is no precision of the threats launched at the people of God to move them to conversion, prayer and penance. There is only the eschatological tension of the great struggle between good and evil fighting to control human heart; disputing the control of societies and cultures as to

eradicate God from them; there is only temptation confronting grace and mercy! But grace and mercy are superabundant and so much powerful that they should prevail at the end. Only because of the hardened hearts of so many, closed to the invitations coming from the Lord Jesus and His Mother, the Mary, closed to the Holy Spirit, the spiritual and moral situation of the world are in a deep crisis. Because the Message of Fatima has not been put into practice in all communities, as Pope Benedict XVI expressed in his invitation, we may say that the Kingdom of God on earth in not prevalent yet. We may say that the new springtime for the Church is not fully established. We should reflect that the new civilization of love proposed in the New Evangelization and the pontifical documents is not a complete reality everywhere. "But do not be afraid." Christ has conquered the world; Christ has already conquered his enemies and we shall reign with Him if we live in His perfect love, in His peace and His presence.

@ All rights reserved. Prof. Américo Pablo López-Ortiz, International President of the World Apostolate of Fatima