

**Yankee Steve's Column**  
**for the Week of July 17, 2011**

**Worthwhile Movie for a Change**

Political correctness is a disease.

When someone has the disease they let people go unchallenged even when they spout off humbug. For example, idiots, with smaller brains than squirrels, display bumper stickers that tell us that we should learn to co-exist with Hindus and Muslims whose ideas, if they were put into action, would bring democracy as we know it to an end.

I must tell you, I respect the Health Minister of India who just the other day said that homosexuality is a disease. I am sure that Obama must be up in arms. We need guys like that in America who know that it is better to be correct than politically correct.

**Islam, A Fearful Religion**

The politically correct, who are legion, shriek in horror when we try to convince them that the world would have been a better place if Islam, the religion of Mohammed, had not cast its long shadow over the Arabian Peninsula and then the rest of the world. They look at us as if we had beaten a puppy with a crowbar when told that it can be proven that Islam is a bad religion haphazardly pasted together by an evil man.

If you need proof of this assertion you only have to watch the 2008 film, *The Stoning of Soraya M.* I will never forget this movie. That says a lot because I think that with very few exceptions most movies are forgettable. I also believe that the ancient Greek Solon was on to something when he criticized the Greek theatre for its preoccupation with fiction.

But this film is not fiction.

It is a social commentary, a story about a woman in Iran who suffered in the same way Jesus did when the legal system was used to get rid of Him.

The people that put this film together are no amateurs. They are the same well-intentioned folk who produced *The Passion of the Christ*. Their work will convince you that the people who called for blood in the Roman Coliseum are still with us because the events recorded in this story took place as recently as 1984.

The film goes like this: Soraya is a good Muslim wife and mother of four children. Unfortunately she has married a playboy, a wife beater who has tired of her. He becomes furious

when he discovers that under no conditions will she grant him a divorce. Soon he hatches a diabolical scheme in his sordid mind - he will rid himself of Soraya the Muslim way.

Accuse a woman of adultery in Islam, and it is all but settled. The verdict will be guilty, and the sentence will be death by stoning, not lethal injection or even a firing squad, but by a method so bloody and cruel that on seeing the movie depiction you will understand why Jesus said to those who were prepared to stone an adulterous woman, "He that is without sin cast the first stone." Needless to say, had that been Muhammad and not Jesus, events would have turned out differently for the fallen woman. The producers of this movie tell us that in the first 15 years in which the Ayatollah Khomeini ruled in Iran in the name of Mohammed that no less than 1,000 women were put to death by stoning.

The accused woman in the film has a brave and noble aunt (played by a distinguished Iranian, Academy award nominee Shohreh Aghdashloo) who does her best to protect her niece but to no avail. A day later the aunt relates the events to a journalist (James Caviezel, the same actor who had the role of Jesus in *The Passion of the Christ*). He audiotapes her story, and later writes the 1994 bestseller which is the basis for the film.

### **Hypocrisy in Islam**

The village's holy man, Sheik Hassan, is a most interesting character. While trying to coerce the woman to grant her husband a divorce, the scoundrel propositions her. He tells her that if she consents to the divorce that she and her children won't starve because he will make her his "temporary wife," and he can make such arrangement because it is legal in Islam. In other words, the religion of Mohammed, which requires women cover their hair and faces so that no man except family members will see their beauty, and so that women will feel the property of men, makes prisoners and also prostitutes out of them. In Islam a woman is nothing but an object.

The death scene is haunting.

The accused has her hands tied to her sides. She stands comfortless and pitiable in a ditch buried up to the waist. She is unable to protect herself or move away from the rocks being hurled at her. The hot sun is blazing down while nothing dissuades the merciless crowd not even the words of an old woman who thinks that Allah has sent a sign of her innocence. Beginning with her father, her resolute husband, and heartbreakingly, her young sons, she is pelted over and over again until she is a bloody, unrecognizable heap of flesh, bones, and hair. Like Antigone's brother, she is refused a burial. All in the name of Allah, her broken body becomes food for the dogs that devour her remains.

## **Hypocrisy in Rome**

A few years ago Pope Benedict visited the Blue Mosque in Istanbul. When there he should have asked why Muslims in Turkey covertly or openly still persecute Christians. As far as we know he said nothing. **From what I can see Benedict put his seal of approval on political correctness, for unlike Jesus who offended more people than He won to His cause, Benedict tip-toed around the issues of the day lest he offend.**

Standing in a mosque dedicated to a religion that says that Christ never died on the cross, a religion that spurns the truth about Jesus whom Christians say is the only redeemer of mankind, this pathetic man turned himself in the direction of Mecca to pray! He should have faced Jerusalem that will witness the return of Jesus whose feet at that time will touch the Mount of Olives.

Now if he prayed toward Mecca to whom did he pray?

It was as if he was saying that there is no real difference between Allah and the God of the Holy Bible. But there is a difference and the difference came forcibly home to me this last week when I saw the film *The Stoning of Soraya M.*

See it and weep for the women of Islam. See it and if you're a Muslim leave Islam for the Christ, or if you are a nominal Christian believe in the way the Bible says you should believe, "For with the heart man believes . . ." [Romans 10:10]

Ever yours,

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