

The American troops met the Russian troops when they came across Germany, met them and greeted them as associates in the great victory. One group or the other invited the leaders and the others to dinner. But as the Americans were eating in the Russian Barracks they looked out the window and they saw the Russians soliders were already digging trenches in order to dig themselves in against American "treachery" which they had been taught to believe was the next thing they were to expect.

All ~~plan~~ plans were in readiness for the conquered countries and Russia seized at least seven different countries and did away with democratic in them and put their own leaders in control. Roosevelt pled that Poland be allowed to have democracy. He said we began this war to protect Poland from tyranny. But after much negotiations and clever working the communist regime was in control in Poland and the democratic leaders were imprisoned. There were in each of these countries ready to assert control, and what was the great enemy they most desired to destroy? It was Christianity. Because Lenin realized that the greatest enemy to communism is Christianity with its belief in God.

Marx and Lenin believed in materialistic forces, anti-Christian forces, and Christianity is the greatest danger they have to meet. How they behaved in one of the satellites illustrates how they behave in all of them. There is a little book here Tortured for His Faith by Harlan Popov which I wish everyone of you might read. It not only gives a wonderful picture of exactly how this tyranny was established and enforced; it gives an explanation of how Stalin was able to get these terrible "confessions" out of the leaders ~~who~~ in the previous years, and it is a wonderful picture how under terrible torture and suffering and misery this man, Haralan Popov, stood close to his faith in God and was drawn closer to Christ than ever before and was able even in the terrible situation of the prison and torture to witness and win many to the LOrd, and to leave a lasting effect upon the lives of many of his fellow-sufferers. And how after 13 years of torture he was permitted his freedom with great difficulty and yet was able to carry on a great witness for Christ. I wish that everyone might read this book by Popov, Tortured for His Faith.

When the Russians took over Popov's country, Bulgaria, the communist leaders immediately set to work to gain complete control of all the machinery of the government and during the next two and a half years there was a time when Christians had a most glorious opportunity. The government did not interfere with them and Popov ~~and~~ travelled all over the country preaching the gospel, and winning many ~~souls~~ souls to the Lord. The Protestants were in quite a minority in the country, and the result was that the several different denominations that were there had formed something of a rough organization with about 15 people (members of different denominations) occupying positions of leadership in this association that used to meet and try to give assistance to all the different groups.

After two and a half years of communist rule in which they did not interfere with the churches in Bulgaria, one day these 13 to 15 (I forget the exact number of these leaders) were called to the office of the Director of Religious Activities of the Government. A man who was declared to be an atheist, & since that was one of the foundational principles of communism, received these people in a very friendly way and said, Now you of course are citizens of Bulgaria and we expect you of course to support the nation. So, he said, I want each one of you to make a declaration