By: Charles M. Hoelzer (263566)

What is a Prison? Part II

Greetings my brothers and sisters in Christ. It seems after questioning many C.O's, inmates, and staff, that none have a true correct answer to the above question. "Corrections" – to make or set right that which was wrong. Right "that which is just, legal, proper, or fitting" or "that which is due to <u>anyone</u> by law or nature". Webster makes some impressive statements. Prison – "a place of confinement for criminals" – "criminal – an act or action in violation of the law". Often I have stated this, " being sentenced to confinement and a loss of freedom in prison is our punishment. Now being in prison should not constitute another punishment, yet sad but true, it is!" How does that happen and why is it allowed? All of us, you and I, know the reason yet we evade it.

First and foremost, the D.O.C. does not operate under its own mission statement. It does not discipline, rehabilitate, teach, or "make and set right what was wrong". In very simple terms they confine/warehouse all whom they can for job security. They teach and set up staff and C.O.'s as little imperial dictators "an absolute or tyrannical ruler" and by doing so create and instill in all inmates anger, hate, disgust, evil, hopelessness, and a desire for revenge! I ask all of you, is that correction? Most C.O.'s engage in writing petty C.D.V.s, which in one-sided supposed hearings, the inmates are found guilty 99+% of the time and punished in asinine ways. The hearings in all and every way violate justice (6th and 14th amendments), promote hate and disrespect. If you don't know prisoners rights read (Morrissey vs. Brewer 408US471-92SCT, 2593, 33 Led, 2d 484) and learn the truth. The right to confront and cross examine all witnesses against him/her is not only for criminal cases but also every administrative and regulatory type hearing.! This is now being done in several states in their prisons with a positive benefit for all. C.O.'s are people and inmates are people, both due respect as such. Once again, I must sadly say that the vast majority of prisoners fail in this area, much to their own failure and detriment.

In the majority of our prisons, the policies, rules, regulations, our Constitution, and laws are not followed or enforced. Medical treatment is a sham. Here is a simple example. I went to our prison's dentist, he stated that I had a tooth that needed to be capped. I said, 'let's do it". He said I can't – all I can do is pull it. I still have that tooth. Another doctor reduced my roomie's dosage on a medicine he's had prescribed for over 8 years for no medical reason whatsoever.

I am aware of men/women kept in Ad Seg for years in 72 square foot rooms – with no sun light or fresh air, ability to move or walk – all for no justifiable reason. Is that corrections? Is that what a prison should be? Is that the mission of the D.O.C. or prisons? I think not!

While you read this, dysfunctional C.O.'s harass, drive, and push inmates with their taunts and dictatorial actions to create incidents. Every day I observe this charade. Most all sit on their hands and do nothing, this is including all of most courts, taxpayers, and legal experts. Blind deference to prison officials is a fraud and failure (Wolff vs. McDonnell). Right now the Mountain of Attica is shaking and

about to erupt. When it does, all you who are doing nothing will be burnt by the overflowing burning lava. Wake up and act now before the eruption!! Amen! Now I'll close by saying to our churches: read all of Matthew chapter 23 and act upon its words! Amen and Amen!!

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Scriptures to read:

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Quotes to ponder:

"Someday was today: once!".

"I'd rather have loved and lost – than not to have loved at all."

"Anger is a good emotion - when used in a positive way".

Peace to all - Love,

Brother Chuck

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Prison Checklist

- 1. Arrange to visit a level 5 prison (state one)- yourself or with a small group.
- 2. Ask both your state and federal congressmen why prisons have no oversight at all.
- 3. Search the internet for Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons and get the 2006 report titled Confronting Confinement and read expert opinions about prisons.
- 4. When visiting your level 5 prison take along your camera to record what you see. A surprise is coming.
- 5. Ask if you may speak to one or more prisoners privately and see what happens. Yourself or the group.
- 6. Ask to receive and read copies of policy, rules, regulation for that prison. Why not?
- 7. Ask what 'dry cell' status is and have them define it, what is an extraction team and what does it do, when, and why is one needed? Why does custody glorify control?
- 8. Insist on a MO D.O.C. Offender Rule Book, ask how often on page 54 "positive reinforcement for positive behavior" is used daily? Ask for copies of Missian Statements of D.O.C. and one to Offenders. Ask for copies of one (1) months disciplinary action reports or D.A.R.s and see for yourself how the 6th and 14th Amendments are ignored.

My fellow citizens, you would be very lucky to get any of what I've outlined done, and for sure no cameras. They will never let you see an inmate in a room/cell on dry cell status or in a suicide cell. All because of fear of the truth of their lies and evil ways. It is my fervent prayer all do what I have outlined, then follow the report "Confronting Confinement" and get everyone you can to SCREAM out for prison reform before it is too late.

Amen!!!