

Out of Hell and Purgatory

The Testimony of Former Roman Catholic Priest
Peter Alphonsus Seguin



I was born at Rigand County in the province of Vaudreuil, Quebec, Canada. My parents were French Roman Catholics. I was the ninth child of ten children; there being eight boys and two girls. My parents were exceedingly devout Roman Catholics; they were good, moral, sober, industrious people who did their best to raise their children for God and country, but, oh, how ignorant they were. All they knew was how to count their beads, go to confession, attend Mass, and do the will and bidding of their priests.

I do not blame the Roman Catholic individual, but the Roman Catholic system and the men who run it. The day after I was born I was brought along to the local church to be baptized. At the age of seven I was forced to go and confess my sins to the priest. The priests asked me such filthy questions that I cannot mention them in writing. Then I had my first communion and was duly confirmed by the Bishop of Montreal.

Having spent some ten years at Bourget College I was told by Canon Charles Edouard, then an advisor of the old Bishop Bourget, that I was called by God and him, to become a priest. I decided to obey my superior and made my way to the grand seminary of Montreal. I was there for four long years from 1862 to 1866. During this time I had no contact with the real world at all. Day after day I studied the theologies of Liguori and Perrone. I was very exact in my studies and very attentive of my duties as a seminarist. Then on December 22nd, 1866, I was ordained a priest by Bishop Bourget surrounded by sixty priests.

After fourteen years in the priesthood I had seen a great many things that disturbed me. In the end I became so disturbed by the sin and wickedness which I encountered in the parishes of Montreal, New Brunswick, Massachusetts, New York and Minnesota, that I compiled a 150 page document which I sent to Pope Leo XIII, in which I informed him how truly sick were his representatives on the continent of America.

Finally I came out of the Roman Catholic Church, that Mother of Harlots. It was during a week long

visit I was making to Detroit, Michigan. There I spoke out against Romanism for the first time at a French Baptist Church. My sermon was about the new dogma of 1870 claiming that the Pope was infallible. At this time I was still unsaved. At this time I also learned about Charles Chiniquy, who had been the means by God of bringing many lost souls out of the Roman Catholic Church to Christ. I learned that Charles Chiniquy had a home for priests, who like myself, were beginning to see the light, and whose shoulders could no longer bear the heavy yoke of the Pope of Rome.

I wrote Charles Chiniquy a letter asking him for the hospitality of his home and the wealth of his experience in dealing with the perplexities that I now faced. Charles Chiniquy had been a Roman Priest for 25 years. His answer to my letter was, "Come along my dear brother Seguin, I will care for you." He did too, and nobly, as always befits a true minister of Christ. I found that I was there with two other priests, who like myself, were seeking for that peace which passeth all understanding.

The old man Chiniquy, oh, how he prayed to God to send into my heart the conviction that I was a lost man unless I would repent and surrender to Him that came to save the lost. One day after dinner we read as usual a chapter from the Bible and then we had prayer.

For the first time in my life I was able to see how my sins made me ugly and filthy in the sight of God. On my knees and with tears in my eyes I cried out to God, "What must I do?"

For the rest of the afternoon I entreated God on my knees, to show me in the name of His dear Son, the way to go to Him. I opened my New Testament and read, *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast*" (Ephesians 2:8,9). Suddenly I saw that salvation was a gift from God, and I looked to the Lord Jesus Christ, and God saved me.

In that solemn hour of my conversion to God, when the cloud had gone away, and the sun was shining on me, I wept many tears, though like the women of the Gospel, not of bitterness, but Joy. I ran and told my friend Chiniquy, and calling together friends and neighbors, I said to them, "Rejoice with me for this day I have found the peace; the gem, the pearl that I had lost; I have found the gift." There was rejoicing all over the home.

Peter Alphonsus Seguin, born in 1842, was a Roman Catholic for thirty-eight years, and a priest of Rome for fourteen years. After his conversion to Christ he wrote *Out of Hell and Purgatory*, which was published in 1912.

The Gospel means the glad tidings, or good news; and truly, the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is "good tidings of great joy" (Luke 2:10), the greatest news ever heard on earth: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"! (1 Timothy 1:15). And "He is able to save them to the *uttermost* that come unto God by Him"! (Hebrews 7:25).

All men and women are sinners, and sin is a terrible thing: it is the transgression of the perfect and holy law of God, and it has separated all mankind from God. Those who die in their sins suffer the torments of eternal fire. Jesus said, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13,14). The Lord Jesus Christ Himself is that strait gate, and narrow way, that leads to life! "I am the way, the truth, and the life," Jesus said; "no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

If you, then, are asking, "What must I do to be saved from my sins?" here is the answer: "*Repent*"! (Acts 2:38); and, "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved*" (Acts 16:31). Forsake your sin, repent of it, turn from it, and believe, with all your heart, in Jesus Christ! To believe in Him is *to cast yourself upon Him, by faith, for salvation*. He is the Son of the living God, holy, harmless, undefiled, sinless, the *only* Lord and Saviour. He died on a cross, He was crucified, not for His own sins - for He had none of His own - but for the sins of His chosen people, those given to Him by His heavenly Father to save, paying the penalty for sin in *their* place, shedding His blood to redeem them. And after dying in their place, the wrath of God being poured out upon Him, having satisfied the justice

of God and having put away the sins of those He died for by the sacrifice of Himself, He rose from the dead, victorious over death, sin, and Satan; and He gives eternal life to as many as the Father has given Him. *Eternal life cannot be earned, and it cannot be bought; it is the gift of God through Jesus Christ the Lord.* He alone is the One who can save the soul and set the spiritual captive free! Forsake your sin, forsake the false religion of Rome and all other false religion, turn to the Lord by faith, and be saved!

*Shaun Willcock
Bible Based Ministries*

If you have repented of your sins and believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, or if you would like to know more about Him, His Gospel, and the true Christian life, please contact us.

Bible Based Ministries

info@biblebasedministries.co.uk

www.biblebasedministries.co.uk

Bible Based Ministries' Worldwide Contact for Orders:

Contending for the Faith Ministries

42055 Crestland Drive Lancaster, CA 93536 USA

BBMOrders@aol.com