

Missing Children Rescued

Commentary for September 15, 2020 — Dozens Rescued Out of Many Thousands

The U.S. Marshals Service issued a press release August 27, 2020: "[US Marshals Find 39 Missing Children in Georgia in 'Operation Not Forgotten'](#)"¹:

"Washington, DC – The U.S. Marshals Service Missing Child Unit, in conjunction with the agency's Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and Georgia state and local agencies, led a two-week operation in August in Atlanta and Macon, Georgia, to rescue endangered missing children.

'Operation Not Forgotten' resulted in the rescue of 26 children, the safe location of 13 children and the arrest of nine criminal associates. Additionally, investigators cleared 26 arrest warrants and filed additional charges for alleged crimes related to sex trafficking, parental kidnapping, registered sex offender violations, drugs and weapons possession, and custodial interference. The 26 warrants cleared included 19 arrest warrants for a total of nine individuals arrested, some of whom had multiple warrants.

'The U.S. Marshals Service is fully committed to assisting federal, state, and local agencies with locating and recovering endangered missing children, in addition to their primary fugitive apprehension mission,' said Director of the Marshals Service Donald Washington. 'The message to missing children and their families is that we will never stop looking for you.'

These missing children were considered to be some of the most at-risk and challenging recovery cases in the area, based on indications of high-risk factors such as victimization of child sex trafficking, child exploitation, sexual abuse, physical abuse, and medical or mental health conditions. Other children were located at the request of law enforcement to ensure their wellbeing. USMS investigators were able to confirm each child's location in person and assure their safety and welfare."

Similar abuse is widespread in religious institutions such as in the Roman Catholic Church, as I have written about several times. For printed resources see the Wikipedia page: "[Catholic Church sexual abuse cases by country](#)." Then search for the terms "Protestant Church sexual abuse" and "Jewish rabbis, sexual abuse." You will be surprised at the extent of evil.

Such abuse occurred in ancient times and continues to the present with increasing frequency. The apostle Paul wrote about such actions, "... **evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse**" (2 Timothy 3:13) being done to members of the *ekklesia* of God, not evils of the outside world. Today, personal morality declines while human depravity worsens as we near the End Time. The U.S. Marshal's report is the latest of many rescues of children and human trafficking happening with increasing frequency all over the world. All too many victims are

¹ Photos and a short video of the interagency team that worked this case are at "[Operation Not Forgotten Atlanta](#)." Those arrested were believed to be armed and dangerous. The arresting police were armed.

not rescued and those who are uncooperative are at risk of being murdered, both to remove a “problem” and to intimidate others to cooperate.

God’s Salvation and Punishments

Let me ask a question to those who do not believe in the biblical teaching of universal salvation: how could God forbid and condemn sexual abuse, torture, and human sacrifice by people He created, if the “loving God” Himself will (**supposedly**) torture human beings in a fiery hell “forever and ever” (as incorrectly translated in the King James Version)? Praise God, He does not do that. We can rejoice that God has done the opposite. He gave His son as a sacrifice for **“the world”**:

“For God so loved the world [all the world, not part of it], that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting [eonian, age-lasting] life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world [all the world] through him might be saved.”

• **John 3:16–17**

Though all human beings will be saved, Paul gave a warning:

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting [eonian].”

• **Galatians 6:7–8**

Paul is writing to believers about the evils done by them as well as those things we have done in our lives.² Evils done to them by others are to be dealt with differently:

“[A]venge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath [let go your wrath]: for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord’ [quoting Isaiah 63:4]. Therefore if your enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing you shall heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.”

• **Romans 12:19–21**

There should be punishment in this life for crimes (Romans 13:1–7). Abusers and victims will be reconciled after severe punishment for the abusers (See [“Suffer the Little Children”](#)). God and Christ’s work of reconciliation and salvation will be completed. Evil people will persecute the godly. Do not be dismayed when it occurs. In his last letter before he died Paul wrote:

**“But you have fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured:
... all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.”**

• **2 Timothy 3:10–13**

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² Paul is not referring to sins against God. We are already saved because Christ dealt with our sins since before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:3–5). Read or reread [“Forgiving God.”](#)