

### Nero, Hitler, & the American Decline

Paul has the same pressures bearing down upon him and he therefore suspects that Timothy is wavering. But every believer has a commission to be a good soldier for Christ. All believers find themselves engaged in the hostilities of the Angelic Conflict.

In a day and age when going to the church of one's choice is not only encouraged but practiced by a vast majority of the people, there is no need for fear. Fear begins to assault the soul whenever it becomes unpopular to be a Christian and whenever it becomes politically incorrect to discuss the particulars of the faith.

Intimidation, persecution, incarceration, and execution were Nero's methods of dealing with the problem. Adolf Hitler had a more subtle approach.

Marge Schott, embattled owner of the Cincinnati Reds Baseball Club, apparently doesn't know squat about baseball but does seem to understand some history.

By contrast, sportswriters apparently seem to understand some baseball but don't know squat about history.

Marge Schott was kicked out of baseball because a comment she made on ESPN was deemed anti-Semitic, "*Hitler was OK at first but went too far in the end.*"

Insensitive, crude, anti-Semitic? Marge may or may not be all of these things, but her comment was historically accurate. If she is anti-Semitic for that remark then so are Winston Churchill and Carl Jung.

Here is some documentation of Hitler's "OK" beginnings from:

**Lutzer, Erwin W. "Waiting for Hitler." In Hitler's Cross. Chicago: Moody Press, 1995, pp. 15-19.**

How things will transpire as the decline of America continues remains to be seen but the indications are they will resemble the duplicitous nature of Hitler's Third Reich—sweetness and light serving as the visual rhetorical veils to introduce persecution and tyranny.

We are in a period of our own history where the proponents of radical individualism and radical egalitarianism are redefining the Zeitgeist. Again, it becomes necessary to quote Judge Robert H. Bork yet not as extensively as before. Nevertheless, his explanation of the forces changing today's Zeitgeist are important to understand.

Nero was a tyrant but he didn't start out that way. As we have just noted, neither did Hitler, nor does the emerging political philosophy of our Client Nation.