

## 6 Things you probably didn't know about Guy Fawkes Night

1 This song is over 400 years old:

*"Remember, remember the fifth of November  
The gunpowder treason and plot  
I see no reason  
why gunpowder treason  
should ever be forgot.*

*Guy Fawkes, twas his intent  
To blow up King and Parliament.  
Three score barrels were laid below  
To prove old England's overthrow.*

*By God's mercy he was caught  
With a dark lantern & lighted match.  
Holler boys, (x2) let the bells ring  
Holler boys, (x2) God save the King."*

<https://lyricsplayground.com/alpha/songs/gguyfawkes.html>

Guy Fawkes Song (2min.22sec.)  
[youtube.com/watch?v=Csova3DQEyM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Csova3DQEyM)



BONFIRE NIGHT (2min.24sec.)  
[youtube.com/watch?v=EP684NBM2zw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EP684NBM2zw)

### 2 Religious terrorists attempt to stop the Bible

In 1604 Guy Fawkes became involved with a small group of English Roman Catholics, led by Robert Catesby, whose religiously motivated terrorist plans were to blow up the English Parliament assassinating the politicians, key members of the Royal Family and England's King James the First (1566-1625). The plan was to stop the English translation of the King James Bible, (something that has now become one of the most published and most influential pieces of English literature), kidnap James' daughter Elizabeth (third in the line of succession), [1][2] install her as a puppet queen and eventually marry her off to a Catholic, ensuring a Catholic monarch would rule Great Britain. <https://www.history.com/news/guy-fawkes-day-a-brief-history>

Fawkes was described by the Jesuit priest and former school friend Oswald Tesimond as "a man highly skilled in matters of war", and that it was this mixture of piety and professionalism that endeared him to his fellow conspirators.[3]

14th January 1604, at the famous Hampton Court (a 3 day conference), King James ordered and sponsored an English translation of the Bible [4] that became known as the Authorised King James Version. This would mean that the Bible could be read by everyone, in the common language of the day. The translation project began. [4][5][6]

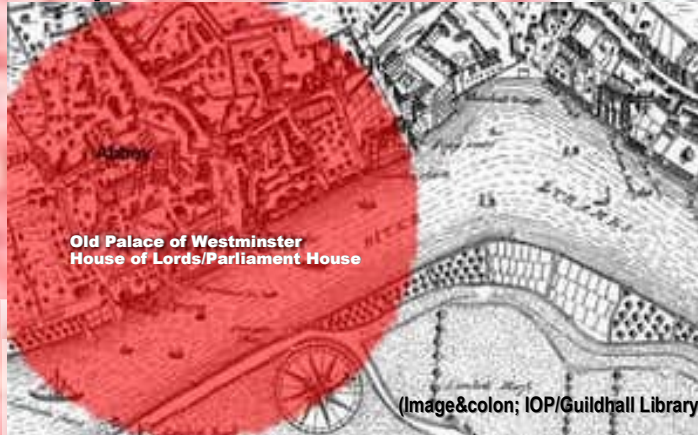
But by Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 1604 the first meeting of the five central conspirators took place at an inn called the Duck and Drake, in the fashionable Strand district of London.[7] A mass produced English Bible easily accessible to the population would expose the anti-Biblical/un-Christian beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic church - thus threatening their control and wealth. Catesby, Fawkes and the handful of other Roman Catholic plotters rented a cellar that extended under the House of Lords building, and Fawkes planted the gunpowder there. However, as the November 5<sup>th</sup> opening meeting of Parliament approached, Lord Monteagle (1575-1622), the brother-in-law of one of the conspirators, received an anonymous letter warning him not to attend Parliament on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Monteagle alerted the government.

At about midnight on the night of November 4-5, Sir Thomas Knyvet,[8] a justice of the peace, found Guy Fawkes lurking in a cellar under the Parliament building and ordered the premises searched. Thirty-six barrels of gunpowder were found, and

Fawkes was taken into custody. Soon after, his co-conspirators were likewise arrested, except for four, including Catesby, who died in a shootout with English troops.

Fawkes and the other surviving chief conspirators were all found guilty and were sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered (the legal requirement at the time designed to deter acts of high treason). Moments before the start of his execution, on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1606, Fawkes jumped from a ladder while climbing to the gallows, breaking his neck and dying. [9]

### 3 Gunpowder Plot would have devastated London



The area potentially affected by the blast covers a large area of contemporary London

NewScientist reports: "A new analysis by physicists shows that if the 1605 Gunpowder Plot to destroy the English parliament and kill the King had succeeded, it would have taken a large part of central London with it. Experts from the Centre for Explosion Studies, at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, used modern methods to estimate that severe structural damage would have been sustained by buildings up to half a kilometre away. The explosion would have destroyed Westminster Abbey and undermined buildings as far away as Whitehall, the site of Downing Street today.

#### Blast zone

They found that within a radius of about 40 metres, everything would have been razed to the ground. Within 110 metres, buildings would have been at least partially destroyed. And some windows would have been blown out even as far as 900 metres away." [10]

If successful, the blast would have instantly killed hundreds of people, left a huge crater in the heart of London and set the city on fire—where untold thousands could have perished.

#### Legacy

In 1606, an Act of Parliament established November 5th as a day of public thanksgiving by lighting bonfires for "the joyful day of deliverance", to celebrate the King's escape from assassination. Guy Fawkes Night (also referred to as Guy Fawkes Day and Bonfire/Cracker Night) is now celebrated annually across Great Britain (and many of it's colonies) on November 5th in remembrance of the Gunpowder Plot. As dusk falls, villagers and city dwellers light bonfires, set off fireworks and burn effigies of Fawkes, a "guy" normally created by children from old clothes, newspapers, and a mask. <https://www.history.com/topics/british-history/gunpowder-plot>



Kids preparing for Guy Fawkes bonfire (1954)

### 4 The Guy Fawkes mask is a stylised depiction of Guy Fawkes.

Illustrator David Lloyd stylised a smiling face with red cheeks, a wide moustache upturned at both ends, and a thin vertical pointed beard. Lloyd said it was a deliberate decision to base the look of the mask on Guy Fawkes. [11]

The mask has come to represent protest after it was used as a major plot element in the graphic novel V for Vendetta (1982-1989) and its 2005 film adaptation. After appearing in Web forums it became a well-known symbol for the online hacktivist group Anonymous, used in Project Chanology, the Occupy movement, Anonymous for the Voiceless, and other anti-establishment protests around the world. This has led to the popular name Anonymous mask. [12]

According to historian Lewis Call, Fawkes is now "a major icon in modern political culture" whose face has become "a potentially powerful instrument for the articulation of postmodern anarchism" [13] Guy Fawkes himself, meanwhile, has undergone something of a makeover.

Once known as a notorious traitor who planned a cold blooded mass murder, he is now portrayed in some circles as a revolutionary hero, largely due to the influence of the 1980s "V for Vendetta" and the 2005 movie of the same name, which depicted a protagonist who wore a Guy Fawkes mask while battling a future fascist government in Britain. "Every generation reinvents Guy Fawkes to suit their needs," explained historian William B. Robison of Southeastern Louisiana University. "But Fawkes was just one of the flunkies. It really should be Robert Catesby Day." <https://www.history.com/news/guy-fawkes-day-a-brief-history>

### 5 THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS BOOK

The 5th of November is a good time to remember the brutal lengths that some will go to stop people from being able to read the Bible for themselves.

One of the great slogans of the sixteenth-century Christian Protestant Reformation was the Latin phrase sola scriptura, meaning the "Bible (scripture) alone". <https://au.thegospelcoalition.org/article/the-real-meaning-of-sola-scriptura/> Sola scriptura meant Scripture was the supreme authority (not the Pope/tradition/man-made, anti-Biblical, counterfeit religion) and that people should have the freedom to read and follow the Scriptures without the interference or control of man. The Catholic gunpowder plot was a brutal attempt to stop this back then. However, in an alarmingly growing number of countries today, severe restrictions and persecution occur to those who desire to read and follow the Bible.

1. Northcote Parkinson, C. (1976). *Gunpowder Treason and Plot*. Weidenfeld & Nicolson, ISBN 0-297-72224-4, pg.46  
2. (&) Fraser, Antonia (2005) [1996]. *The Gunpowder Plot*. Phoenix, ISBN 0-7538-1401-3, pg.140-142, pg.117-119  
3. Nicholls, Mark (2004). "Fawkes, Guy". *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (online ed.). doi:10.1093/ref:odnb/9230.  
4. (& 5.) <https://www.history.com/topics/british-history/gunpowder-plot>  
5. <https://www.born-again-christian.org/news/guy-fawkes-bonfire-night-nov-5-gunpowder-plot-catholic-coup-against-king-james/>  
6. [https://www.oxforddnb.com/view/10.1093/ref:odnb/9780198614128.001.0001/odnb/9780198614128-e-92779#:-:text=12%20April%202018-,Hampton%20Court%20conference%20\(act.,about%20the%20Church%20of%20England.](https://www.oxforddnb.com/view/10.1093/ref:odnb/9780198614128.001.0001/odnb/9780198614128-e-92779#:-:text=12%20April%202018-,Hampton%20Court%20conference%20(act.,about%20the%20Church%20of%20England.)  
10. <https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn4338-gunpowder-plot-would-have-devastated-london/> 5 November 2003  
11. <https://www.chroniclive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/bonfire-toffee-penny-guy-7-12129998>  
12. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guy\\_Fawkes\\_mask](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guy_Fawkes_mask)  
13. Call, Lewis (July 2008). "A Is for Anarchy, V is for Vendetta: Images of Guy Fawkes and the Creation of Postmodern Anarchism". *Anarchist Studies*, 16 (2): 154

## THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS BOOK

If the Bible is just a book of fairy tales, then why is it banned in at least 52 countries? **No one goes to jail for reading Aesop's fables.**

Perhaps you should read it for yourself while you still can.

The 2019 World Watch List (WWL) report by the international organisation **Open Doors** is based on comprehensive and investigative research of 150 countries where Christians are persecuted for their faith. Each year, their research reveals telling numbers and statistics that give us a glimpse at the depth, prevalence and widespread reach of the persecution believers endure.

**This is a quick glance at the numbers during the 2019 reporting period** (from Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017, to November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018). But by no means do the numbers tell the full story. Each fact and figure represent real people with real lives, families, jobs—fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, sons, daughters—who every day make the dangerous choice to believe in and trust Jesus.

### The most persecuted people group on the planet by the numbers:

**245 Million:** Christians experienced high levels of persecution in 2019 for their choice to follow Christ in the top 50 WWL countries alone.

**1 in 9:** Christians worldwide experience high levels of persecution for their faith. Of the 150 countries surveyed in the 2019 World Watch List, 73 countries showed "high", "very high" or "extreme" levels of persecution. Persecution is increasing. In 2018, it was the equivalent of just 1 in 12.

**14%:** The rise in the number of Christians who experience high levels of persecution in the top 50 countries since 2018.

**4,136:** Christians killed for faith-related reasons in the top 50 WWL countries.

**2,625:** Christians detained without trial, arrested, sentenced and imprisoned in the top 50 WWL countries.

**1,266:** Christian buildings attacked in the top 50 WWL countries.

**11:** countries scoring in the "extreme" level for their persecution of Christians. Five years ago, North Korea was the only one.

**18:** Consecutive years North Korea has ranked No. 1 as the world's most dangerous place for Christians.

### Every Month

**105:** church buildings attacked, burned or vandalized each month, in the top 50 WWL countries

### Every Day

**11:** Christians killed every day for their faith, in the top 50 WWL countries.

<https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/stories/christian-persecution-by-the-numbers/>

<https://www.opendoors.org.au/persecuted-christians/blog/2019-world-watch-list-1-in-9-christians-persecuted-for-their-faith/>

### So what is in the world's most dangerous book? Are you open minded enough to check it out for yourself?

Why not start by reading Dr. Luke's accounts of Christ and the early Church found in the New Testament books called **Luke** (24 chapters) and **Acts** (28 chapters) - humbly asking the Almighty to confirm Himself and the truth of His word to you.

God promises: **"If you seek Me, and seek Me with all your heart - I will reveal Myself to you!"**

*Jeremiah 29:13-14*

See also: *Deuteronomy 4:29; Proverbs 8:17; Matthew 7:7; Luke 11:9; Acts 17:24-28*

The Bible has the power not only to inform,  
but reform and to transform lives.

Through its influence countless people have been given a new  
strength, an unerring purpose and a sure hope in life.

To the dying it has brought peace and assurance of eternal life.

It has brought blessings to billions in every land and age.

It is supernatural in origin, eternal in duration, divine in authorship,  
infallible in authority, inexhaustible in meaning, universal in  
readership, unique in revelation, personal in application and  
powerful in effect.

Come to it with awe, read it with reverence,  
frequently, slowly and prayerfully.

To request a FREE Bible see the details box at the bottom of the next panel.

## 6 An uncomfortable truth: The Bible's key message

After we die we all have to face what is called "the law of sin & death."  
(Romans 8:2) That Law is known as "The 10 Commandments." So, let's  
look at that Law & see how you will do when you face it on Judgment day:

(1) **How many times have you told a lie?** Be honest. Revelation 21:8 says,  
"All liars will have their part in the lake of fire (hell)."

(2) **Have you ever stolen anything?** (the value is irrelevant) 1 Corinthians 6:9  
-10 says, "No thief will enter heaven."

(3) **Have you looked with lust toward anybody?** Jesus said in His most  
famous Sermon on the Mount, that if you look with lust you commit adultery in  
your heart (Matt. 5:27-28).

(4) **Have you hated anyone?** God counts this as murder (Matt. 5:21-22).

(5) **Finally, have you put other things before God?**

If you answered **yes** to any of the questions above, then you are not a good,  
innocent person. The Almighty Creator God sees you as a lying, thieving, adulterer,  
a murderer and you'd also be guilty of breaking the first and greatest  
commandment. (& we've only looked at 5 of the 10 Commandments, see Exodus 20  
&/or Deuteronomy 5 & Matthew 5)

**If you are honest, you know you will be guilty on the Day of Judgment.**

The Bible warns that the punishment is death, eternal separation in hell from God and all  
that is good. That's not God's desire for you.

### So, how can you escape God's righteous judgement?

God provided a way for you to be forgiven and your punishment paid.  
Our Creator God in His great mercy came down, took on flesh as Jesus, who lived a  
**100% pure sinless life**, then gave Himself as a payment for your sin when He  
"laid down His life" and died on the Cross. He went to hell in your place,  
**so you could go free!**

Then He rose from the grave and defeated death, so you can have a relationship with  
Him **now and eternally.**

### That's how much God loves you.

You broke God's Law (the 10 Commandments), and Jesus paid your fine.  
It was a legal transaction. This means that, God can legally dismiss your case.  
You can leave the courtroom on the day of judgement because Jesus paid your fine.

So, **"What should we do?"** (Acts 2:37)

### The Right Response Required :

**Repent** - turn right back round 180 degrees (U) from your sinful, selfish  
way to God's way - know and do His will.

**Believe** - trust that Jesus has paid for and can forgive your sin by taking  
your death penalty on the cross.

**Be Baptised** - this sacred dipping is your bath (to clean you up Acts 22:16),  
burial (to lay to rest your mess Rom. 6:4) & a  
re-clothing (dressing you in your new "adult faith wardrobe" Gal. 3:27)

**Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit** - He empowers and leads you  
into actually living this new abundant life of deep peace, joy & free-  
dom that you could never do in your own strength! (see Acts 2:37-38)

If you do this, God will forgive you of every sin that you have committed  
and grant you everlasting life.

The day I did this:

Please find a Bible believing, Jesus following, disciple-maker to help you grow.  
(see Matt. 28: 18-20)

**I pray you have a very wonderful life and an even better Eternity!**

To receive a FREE Bible please contact:

[www.NeedGod.com](http://www.NeedGod.com) [www.MeetGodatHome.com](http://www.MeetGodatHome.com)

# Bonfire Night

Remember, remember  
the 5th of November...



the forgotten history of  
**Guy Fawkes**  
night