"Phantoms of Lost Liberty" Still Haunting Post-9/11 America

"He who is not with me is against me; he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." Jesus

"Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists." George W. Bush

In announcing the global war on terrorism in his speech to a joint session of Congress on September 20, 2001, President George W. Bush put the world on notice: "Every nation in every region now has a decision to make: Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists." Bush, who claims to be a born-again Christian and who had named Jesus Christ as his favorite "philosopher," might have noticed the similarity between his words and those of Jesus in the New Testament: "He who is not with me is against me; he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad" (Mathew 12:30) In declaring a war that "will not end until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped and defeated, Bush appeared to be holding himself and his nation up as the world's new Savior. Many of his speeches following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, bore Messianic overtones. "We will rid the world of evildoers," the president