



# CORAM DEO

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*a vision for Italy*





**What comes to mind when you think of Italy?** Great food? Rich history? Marvelous architecture? Nice people? Top fashion? Hot cars?

These are all part of the Italian reality, but is there another less-visible side to Italy?

### Italy's dark side

During New Testament times, Rome had a vibrant Christian witness and many early believers in Rome gave their life for the sake of the gospel. Soon, however, Christianity became institutionalized and was to a large extent suffocated by tradition and superstition. The Roman Catholic church quickly distanced itself from the authority of Scripture. Italy was in great need of a spiritual reformation.



Today, the situation in Italy is much the same. More than 80% of Italians identify themselves as Christian (as opposed to other religions). But a quick look into any Roman Catholic church today will reveal a spiritual emptiness which is usually accompanied by pointless traditions such as processions, candles, relics, indulgences and pilgrimages. The clergy do not encourage members to read the Bible and their teachings do not include the doctrine of salvation in Christ alone, through faith alone, by grace alone. No national spiritual reformation has ever spread through the country. The Protestant Reformation stopped at the Alps.

**Italy is in great need of a spiritual reformation.**



Bible-believing, Gospel-living Christians account for far less than 1% of the population. Over 70% of Italian townships still have no Evangelical witness whatsoever – let alone vibrant, gospel communities.

On top of this, the Evangelical church itself struggles with internal fragmentation and an impoverished theology. Italy has been referred to as the 'graveyard of missionaries' – many good workers come from abroad but the vast majority leave the mission field within three years due to depression, lack of results, difficulties with the Italian culture, bureaucracy and corruption.

## What is Coram Deo?

Coram Deo is a ministry founded in 2008 and linked to Italian and international churches and to pastors of different nationalities. *Coram Deo* is Latin for "before God" – to live your whole life in the presence of God, under the authority of God and for the Glory of God.

Coram Deo's core objects are:

1. Church planting
2. Biblical training conferences
3. Publishing of Christian literature

Evangelical Christians account for less than 1% of the population.



LEARN MORE



# CORAM DEO'S OBJECTIVES

## 1

### Church Planting

Mantova is a beautiful, historic town with about 250,000 people but with very few believers. Chiesa Sola Grazia (Grace Alone) began in 2007 as a church planting effort by two families. Believers initially met in homes – worshiping, praying and preaching the Word of God – with a keen awareness of the city's need for the Gospel and for biblical ministries.

The Sola Grazia Church currently gathers about 50 people and enjoys the fellowship of a wide variety of churches, pastors and brothers. The church is part of the FIRE FELLOWSHIP (Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals in USA).

The Lord has been so faithful during the past years. The church is growing and there is a sweet sense of harmony and love among the believers. Chiesa Sola Grazia has a fantastic staff that loves the Lord, and a great group of people who are eager to serve with sacrifice.

Teaching and discipleship are key components within the church. Preaching and teaching have often involved systematically working through books of the Bible. Our recent series on Acts and Exodus have been incredibly valuable in connecting us as believers in our daily walk with the Lord. We are learning the importance of faith and trust in God, even when God's ways seems impossible for us to humanly comprehend.



**MARK  
DEVER**

*"Italy has been a source of great blessing to the church through the ages. It was the church in Rome that called forth the Apostle Paul's greatest letter. But now Italy is in great need spiritually. I'm thankful for the work of Andrea Artioli and Coram Deo Ministries. I heartily commend them and their work to your prayers and support. Let's work to make sure that the great truths of Romans are once again known in Rome, and throughout Italy."*

**Mark Dever**  
Pastor, Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC  
President, 9Marks





## 2 Biblical Conferences

We love good, sound, deep and biblical teaching because we desire to see believers grow in love and grace. Two times a year we organize national conferences for members, students and pastors. In the past we have hosted pastors/speakers from USA and UK including: Alistair Begg, Mark Dever, James White, Hywel R. Jones, Joel Beeke, Jim Elliff, Jerry Marcellino, Larry McCall, John Blanchard, Paul Washer (HeartCry Mission), Carey Hardy.



We want to see believers grow in love and grace.



**JERRY  
MARCELLINO**

*"I have known Andrea Artioli personally and of his ministry Coram Deo for over twelve years through: preaching at many of their conferences, serving on their advisory board for many years, promoting their outstanding book publishing ministry, and observing the impact of their church planting and outreach ministries upon the Italian people. And it has been joyous! Yes, Italy is a dark place, but its door is wide-open for the gospel. Please join us in our effort to testify to Italy, '... of the gospel of the grace of God' (Acts 20:24)!"*

**Jerry Marcellino**

Pastor of Audubon Drive Bible Church in Laurel, Mississippi  
Co-Founder of FIRE (The Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals)

## Coram Deo Publishing

Books for individual believers, pastors, churches and students are plentiful in the UK and the USA because of the number of English speaking believers and publishing houses. Here in Italy the situation is desperate as there are only a handful of publishing houses and very few good books in Italian.

Coram Deo is trying to address this situation by translating and publishing as many sound theological books as possible.

This is long, labor-intensive work but one in which we truly believe. We sell our books directly through our website to many Italian-speakers in Italy and throughout Europe

Some recent titles include:

- Preaching the Centrality of the Scriptures (Al Mohler)
- Don't waste your life (John Piper)
- Grace Alone (CH Spurgeon)
- Finally Free (H. Lambert)
- What is the gospel, (G. Gilbert)
- Pray! (J C Ryle)
- Rediscovering Family Worship (J Marcellino)

Coram Deo has a long list of excellent titles waiting to be published, including *Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones.



**JOEL  
BEEKE**

*"I am excited about the resurgence of Reformed truth in Italy as spearheaded by such publishing houses as Coram Deo. Andrea Artioli and his team are doing a fine work that is worthy of your prayer and support. As Luther said long ago, 'We must throw the ink pot at the devil' if we want to see real and lasting reformation and revival in the church. Let us storm the mercy seat that God will continue to use Coram Deo for this noble purpose, so that His name will be glorified, sinners be saved, and believers be matured."*

**Dr. Joel R. Beeke**  
President, Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary,  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

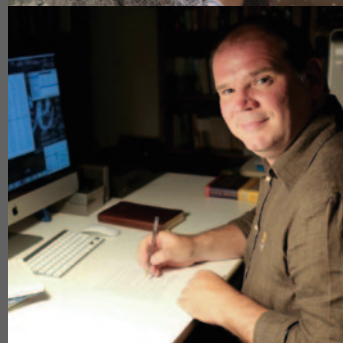
# ANDREA AND EMANUELA ARTIOLI

**Andrea Artioli** is an Italian and a former Roman Catholic. He is a missionary supported by Heartcry Missionary Society ([www.heartcrymissionary.com](http://www.heartcrymissionary.com)). He trained at London Theological Seminary in the early 90s. Ever since then, he has had a passion for publishing good biblical books into Italian.

In 2008 he and his wife started a church plant in his own town and the Lord continues to bless this ministry at Sola Grazia Church. ([www.chiesasolagrazia.it](http://www.chiesasolagrazia.it)).

In 1993, Andrea married **Emanuela** – also a former Roman Catholic. Emanuela trained for 4 years at a Wycliffe Bible School for missionaries & Translators and is also a qualified nurse. She is currently focused on being a full time mother to her three children: Lisa, Tommaso and Eva. Emanuela does interpretation work within the church. She loves to teach the women's church Bible study group as well as speak at woman's conferences and meetings.

Andrea serves as a church planter in Mantova, Italy. Along with the work in the local church, he is also a leader in the ministry of Coram Deo.



GET INVOLVED



**BOB  
KAUFLIN**

*I'm grateful for the ministry of Andrea Artioli and Coram Deo as they seek to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to Italy through church planting, conferences, resources, the Porto United sports ministry, and Sola Grazia church. I pray God raises up many more to co-labor with them for the sake of the gospel and the Savior's glory!*

**Bob Kauflin**  
Director of Sovereign Grace Music

## Italy's needs:

- Of Italy's 8000 cities/towns, 85% have no Evangelical church
- 75% of Italians are Catholic but less than 25% of them are practicing.
- Evangelical/Protestant make up only 0.6-0.8% (4500 churches)
- In certain areas of Italy there is 1 Evangelical church for every 45,000 people!
- 0.004% (about 50 churches) would identify themselves theologically as reformed Evangelicals
- Few Italian pastors have theological training or are full-time pastors
- Few churches have well-defined vision for church-planting

## Pray for a spiritual revival in Italy



## How to pray

- Pray for a spiritual revival
- Church planting work
- Greater evangelistic efforts
- For a new generation of passionate believers for Christ
- For strong biblical preaching from the pulpits
- Churches that support local national Italian ministries, pastors and missionaries

## GET INVOLVED

- ✓ **BECOME A PRAYER PARTNER.** Italy is a mission field and you can be a part of what God is doing to reach Italians with the gospel.
- ✓ **GIVE.** Donations can be made through Entrusted Word Ministry ([www.entrustedword.org](http://www.entrustedword.org)) using the following fund number:

### **Coram Deo Ministries (Fund #4600)**

7050 South Tucson Way | Centennial, CO 80112

☎ 720-641-9414 ✉ [ewmsupport@entrustedword.org](mailto:ewmsupport@entrustedword.org)

## LEARN MORE ABOUT CORAM DEO

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We are partners with **HeartCry Missionary Society**  
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