

# The Biblical Examiner

*Since 1985, seeking first the Kingdom of God and its Advancement*

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## THE PIED PIPER

### THE DISTURBING TRUE STORY OF THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN (C. 1300 AD.)



*When, lo! as they reached the mountain-side,  
A wondrous portal opened wide,  
As if a cavern was suddenly hollowed;  
And the Piper advanced and the children followed,  
And when all were in to the very last,  
The door in the mountain-side shut fast.*

(Robert Browning, The Pied Piper of Hamelin: A Child's Story)

**The Pied Piper of Hamelin is set in 1284** in the town of Hamelin, Lower Saxony, Germany. The earliest known record of this story is from the town of Hamelin itself. It is depicted in a stained-glass window created for the church of Hamelin, which dates to around 1300 AD. Although it was destroyed in 1660, several written accounts have survived. The oldest comes from the Lueneburg manuscript (c 1440 – 50), which stated: “In the year of 1284, on the day of Saints John and Paul on June 26, by a piper, clothed in many kinds of colours,

130 children born in Hamelin were seduced, and lost at the place of execution near the koppen.” A 1384 entry in Hamelin’s town records also grimly states “It is 100 years since our children left.”

(<https://www.ancient-origins.net/myths-legends/pied-piper-hamelin-001969>)

**The Pied Piper is not a Fairy Tale**, for the written record of this very real event is dated c. 1440 – 50. The written record tells us that the children never came back. It seems the term “They did not pay the piper,” or “It’s time to pay the piper” came from this event.

### Modern Pipers

*For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. (Rev 22:15)*

Those who reject The Truth love a lie; **they love a tune that appeals to their baser nature**, and will follow it to its sure destruction. A lie told often enough becomes truth in the mind of the hearer. Play the same tune enough, and the simple will believe it. My youngest daughter used to say, “I have this tune stuck in my head.”

Proverbs 14:15 *The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.*

**Simple:** Weak in intellect; not wise or sagacious; silly. (1828 Webster)

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## Rejection Means Deception

Proverbs 1 talks of simple ones who love their simplicity; they reject godly knowledge, instruction and wisdom, so it leaves them ready victims of lies and deceptions. That is, *The simple believeth every word* without considering the truth.

**Propaganda, i. e. lies, works like a pleasing tune that appeals to the baser nature of man.**

### Tuth By Repetition (TBR)

**Truth-by-repetition: No matter how outrageous, repeated lies become the truth** [that people will follow to their own destruction.]

**It doesn't matter how ridiculous a lie is.** As long as it is repeated often enough, some people will believe it.

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

Research has shown that repeating a claim increases that claim's perceived truth value. However, for a long time, it was assumed that this so-called truth-by-repetition (TBR) effect only applied to claims whose truth value was unambiguous. A new study confirms what politicians and advertisers knew all along: that TBR works on virtually any kind of claim, even highly implausible ones.

<https://bigthink.com/neuropsych/repetition-lie-truth-propaganda/>

In other words, **play the same tune enough**, and the lie becomes true which will lead to the destruction of those who do not know or who reject **The Truth**. Knowing **The Truth** is more than the truth about salvation, Ephesians 1:12. John 3:32 is a common passage used to raise money to "expose" conspiracies; That is, "Ye shall know the truth about the conspiracies, and you will be free from their power over you, so send us your money so we can expose conspiracies." (Satan himself started forming his army for his conspiracy; that is, his all-out assault against the law-word of God in his effort to overthrow everything God pronounced to be good in God's created order in every area, Psalms 2.)

*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.* (John 8:32)

The promise is not all about knowing the factual truth behind various facts. The promise of freedom is freedom from the bondage to lies, sin and propaganda. The promise is for those who know the truth, *i.e.*, salvation through faith in Christ Jesus and who know His law-word which alone defines truth.

*Ye shall know **the truth** and the truth will set you free* from the lying propaganda. A sound, discerning mind is impossible without knowing *the truth*. The unsound

mind is subject to whichever way the wind is blowing, and it is blowing massive fear in our day.

Ezekiel 44, one of the duties of the Levites was to teach the law to enable the people to discern between the *unclean and clean*, *e.g.*, lies and truth. Discernment comes from exercising the senses, Hebrews 5:4.

Even if the propaganda is a lie, it seems the average hearer cannot think for himself and sort out the lie. The reality is that the natural man is attracted to and loves lies.

Nietzsche expressed the idea that people need their illusions, and that when all is considered, they live in a lie. He couldn't have been more correct. Besides the defense mechanisms employed with frightening regularity, we have grown into a culture that, despite proclaiming a desire for the truth, would actually prefer to be lied to....

often people prefer illusion to the truth. The truth hurts, and as a species that avoids pain and seeks pleasure, the preference is a lie. Even when people hear the truth, their defenses kick in and protect the ego against it. This keeps the illusion, which is viewed as more pleasant, alive. ... Donna Flagg claims this is so common it is leading to a cowardly workplace (2011). She also points out the cost; there is no forward movement when the truth is withheld. If you are honest with yourself, you'll likely admit that there are a good number of times you lie to protect others' feelings. ... As Anaïs Nin said, "We don't see the world as it is, we see it as we are". There is much evidence to support this view.

(<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-second-noble-truth/201403/the-big-lie>)

#### Points to Ponder

**1. We have grown into a culture that hates God;** therefore, we love lies and death. (*They that hate me love death.* Ps 8:36. The opposite of love is hate. Those who do not love his law, hate him. Ps 119. Hating God is defined by rejecting the authority of his law over us, John 14.)

**2. The truth hurts, so lies are preferred** over a hurtful truth, especially from the apostate church.

**3. Pleasure is preferred over truth.**

**4. We not only have a cowardly workplace,** but cowardly religious leaders.

**5. Without truth in the workplace** and in Christianity, there can be no forward movement for a culture, only stagnation and death.

**6. Our natural inclination is not to see the world as it is,** but see it as we want to see it. The natural inclina-

tion is to follow the most charismatic leaders who tell us what we want to hear.

**thy law is the truth.** (Ps. 119:142) **That is, without knowing and following the truth** as revealed in the Word of God, people have no defense against the many lies coming from every direction. In addition, many would rather hear and believe a lie rather than the Truth from God's law. God's law means responsibility and accountability.

### The Pied Piper

We need to say a word about the propaganda machine that now controls all education outside of home; that machine controls all national news media outlets except maybe Newsmax which is freely available on streaming media. Like the Pied Piper, the deceivers are leading the world down the broad path to destruction, and the world, including the religious world, willingly follows for they have rejected Truth.

I realize we did something in the Examiner not long ago concerning fear. But we see that the wicked are exalting fear again because they have seen the great advantages to themselves of fear. (Amazing timing, for it is just in time for the Mid-Term election.) Fear about nuclear missile strikes against multiple US cities.

#### • NYC Releases Instructions on How to Survive a Nuclear Attack

[https://thenewamerican.com/nyc-releases-instructions-on-how-to-survive-a-nuclear-attack/?mc\\_cid=eee04cd300](https://thenewamerican.com/nyc-releases-instructions-on-how-to-survive-a-nuclear-attack/?mc_cid=eee04cd300)

**The Biden administration is “poking the bear,”** evidently in hopes of making the bear attack. The deep state loves war, for it is an excellent opportunity to increase their control. (From the “War of Northern Aggression” to the present, the obvious purpose of war has been and is to increase totalitarianism upon a helpless people.) It is obvious from the Biden administration on down through Congress that the goal of this administration is to destroy America by any means possible: voter fraud, the convenient destruction of food and fuel production facilities, the deadly vaccine people have received because of the created fear, emasculating men—which must be done for Statism to survive and grow, &c. We can be confident that those who are determined on the destruction, *e.g.*, George Soros, Zuckerberg, have a safe place to avoid what they are putting the rest of Americans through.

Propaganda is accomplishing what it has been sent forth to do; that is, to **make people fearful**, so they will

believe and follow a lie. Fear works very well in “fleeing the flock” as well as driving the flock in a desired direction.

#### Fear, noun

1. A painful emotion or passion excited by an expectation of evil, or the apprehension of impending danger. fear expresses less apprehension than dread, and dread less than terror and fright. The force of this passion, beginning with the most moderate degree, may be thus expressed, fear dread, terror, fright. fear is accompanied with a desire to avoid or ward off the expected evil. fear is an uneasiness of mind, upon the thought of future evil likely to befall us....

Slavish fear is the effect or consequence of guilt; it is the painful apprehension of merited punishment. Romans 8:15.

#### Fear, verb

1. To feel a painful apprehension of some impending evil; to be afraid of; to consider or expect with emotions of alarm or solicitude. We fear the approach of an enemy or of a storm. We have reason to fear the punishment of our sins.

1828 Webster See the Examiner: The Destructive Force of Guilt and of Fear, <https://www.biblicalexaminer.org/PDF/TBE%202020%2008.pdf>

*For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (2 Tim 1:7) And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. (Heb 2:15) There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. (1 John 4:18)*

**An excellent example of TBR is the “Green Dream.”**

**The Green Dream is a faith that believes that if man can imagine something, he can bring it to pass;**



his word is reality regardless of the Creator's physical laws. How can one imagine that the brilliant engi-

neers behind these dreams do not understand natural law? However, not believing in God they are convinced they can rewrite those laws in order to accomplish their “Utopia,” or “hell” for those of us who do not follow the antichrist utopian dream.

The real ‘green’ in green energy is all the government money involved, for there is no money in “green energy.”

[https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2021/12/\\_the\\_real\\_green\\_in\\_green\\_energy\\_is\\_all\\_the\\_money\\_involved.html](https://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2021/12/_the_real_green_in_green_energy_is_all_the_money_involved.html)

**Example of the power of TBR** such as “Green Energy.” It seems that the whole world, except China and Russia have swallowed that poison pill. The largest steel mill in the world located in Germany, has had to shut down because of energy shortage. Of course, the world will have to purchase steel from China, as China builds more coal-fired energy sources.

God has provided America with energy independence, as well as enough food to sell to the nations. The Communists in power have shut down energy, and are in the process of destroying food production by planting glass over tens of thousands of acres of food producing farm land.

A local farmer sold over 3,000 acers that had been passed down to him through many generations for the government to plant solar panels on. Another massive farm on down SR 138 toward Cincinnati has been planted with solar panels. Astounding amounts of good crop land is being consumed and being presently being destroyed by the “Green Dream,” *i.e.*, nightmare.

Believing the “Pied Piper” and his appealing melodious “green” song, California bought the Green lie big time, and covered the hillsides with glass. The life span of a panel is about 10 years, and now they are confronted with the vast disposal problem of both the panels and the wind turbine blades when the turbines fail. We saw on Mt Storm on WV, that even newer ones fail.

Believing the propaganda, California and several other states are planning to ban the sale of non -electric cars by 2035, all with bipartisan support.

Weeks After Issuing Electric Car Mandate, Cali Faces Potential ‘Stage 3 Energy Emergency,’ Rolling Blackouts During Heat Wave. (In other words, Californian’s faith in the **Green Dream** is a total failure.

[https://www.westernjournal.com/ap-weeks-issuing-electric-car-mandate-cali-faces-potential-stage-3-energy-emergency-rolling-blackouts-heat-wave/?utm\\_source=Email&utm\\_medium=WJBreaking&utm\\_campaign=breaking&utm\\_content=western-journal&ats\\_es=76c8869964](https://www.westernjournal.com/ap-weeks-issuing-electric-car-mandate-cali-faces-potential-stage-3-energy-emergency-rolling-blackouts-heat-wave/?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=WJBreaking&utm_campaign=breaking&utm_content=western-journal&ats_es=76c8869964)

Consider the mask mandate. Though the CDC has admitted masks are useless, people are still living in fear, wearing their mask in the most unreasonable places, *e.g.*, parking lots. CDC now tells us the mask and shots were and are useless, yet they are still being enforced.

The Pied Piper has done his job well with his **TBR** as a vast majority has believed his repeated tune and have followed him off into oblivion.

I suppose the shutdown of churches during the **plandemic** revealed the truth about modern Christianity.

Only the Truth as found in the Word can put an end to the endless lies coming from the propagandist.

Ezekiel 44, one of the duties of the Levites was to teach the law to enable the people to discern between the *unclean and clean*, *e.g.*, lies and truth. A major qualification for the “Levite” under the new covenant is the ability to explain the Law-Word of God so the hearers can understand and apply it in their realms of authority.

**Profound learning must be accompanied by talent for teaching**

*Able to teach.* In the epistle to Titus, doctrine is expressly mentioned; here he only speaks briefly about skill in communicating instruction. It is not enough to have profound learning, if it be not accompanied by talent for teaching. There are many who, either because their utterance is defective, or because they have not good mental abilities, or because they do not employ that familiar language which is adapted to the common people, keep within their own minds the knowledge which they possess. Such persons, as the phrase is, ought to Sing to themselves and to the muses. {8 } They who have the charge of governing the people, ought to be qualified for teaching. And here he does not demand volubility of tongue, for we see many persons whose fluent talk is not fitted for edification; but he rather commends wisdom in applying the word of God judiciously to the advantage of the people. (Calvin)

There can be no hope of a return to national sanity without a return to sound exposition of The Truth from America’s pulpits.

Lord, heal our nation.

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## O My God

Psalms 42:6 **O my God**, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee.

“**MY God.**” Astonishing expression! Who shall dare to say to the Creator of the ends of the earth, the Majesty in the heavens, “My God”? Only by the right of *the covenant*, we can say of the Creator of the ends of the earth, *MY God.* (Henry March. Treasury of David. CHS)

**O my God!** is a common slang **OMG! God! My God!**—second hand slang, e.g., **Gosh!**—has become a very common, and blasphemous expression in the past 40 years. I only saw a very few episodes of *Seinfeld* (1980-1998), for it was a total waste of time. It was 30 minutes of totally silly nothings, but was very popular. The producers understood that the average viewer’s attention span was very short, so they switched scenes every 15 seconds. What I remember most about the series was the very common and frequent use of **O my God!** by one of the female characters. Since then, the blasphemous saying, **O My God!** has become inculcated into the common language. Children learn to blaspheme God from the earliest age: home, TV, movies, public schools, &c.:

*O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever? Psalms 74:10*

*Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called? James 2:7*

**O my God!** is a terrible blasphemy against the Creator of the ends of the earth.

**BLASPHEME**, verb transitive [Gr. The first syllable is the same as in blame, blasme, denoting injury; Latin loedo, loesus; The last syllable is the Gr., to speak.]

1. To speak of the Supreme Being in terms of impious irreverence; to revile or speak reproachfully of God, or the Holy Spirit. 1 Kings 21:10. Mark 3:28.

2. To speak evil of; to utter abuse or calumny against; to speak reproachfully of.

1689 Webster

**O My God** is blasphemy, and a form of profanity, swearing or cursing in God’s name. It is a serious violation of the third commandment. Blasphemy is more than taking God’s name profanely. It is defamatory, wicked and rebellious language directed against “the Creator of the ends of the earth, the Majesty in the heavens.”

**What Saith the Law?**

Exodus 20:7 *Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that*



*taketh his name in vain.*

The Westminster Larger Catechism:

**Q. 111. Which is the third commandment?**

A. The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

**Q. 112. What is required in the third commandment?**

A. The third commandment requires, that the name of God, his titles, attributes, ordinances, the word, sacraments, prayer, oaths, vows, lots, his works, and whatsoever else there is whereby he makes himself known, be holily and reverently used in thought, meditation, word, and writing; by an holy profession, and answerable conversation, to the glory of God, and the good of ourselves, and others.

**Q. 113. What are the sins forbidden in the third commandment?**

A. The sins forbidden in the third commandment are, the not using of God’s name as is required; and the abuse of it in an ignorant, vain, irreverent, profane, superstitious, or wicked mentioning or otherwise using his titles, attributes, ordinances, or works, by blasphemy, perjury; all sinful cursings, oaths, vows, and lots; violating of our oaths and vows, if lawful; and fulfilling them, if of things unlawful; murmuring and quarreling at, **curious prying into, and misapplying of God’s decrees and providences**; misinterpreting, misapplying, or any way perverting the word, or any part of it, to profane jests, curious or unprofitable questions, vain janglings, or the maintaining of false doctrines; abusing it, the creatures, or anything contained under the name of God, to charms, or sinful lusts and practices; the maligning, scorning, reviling, or any wise opposing of God’s truth, grace, and ways; making profession of religion in hypocrisy, or for sinister ends; being ashamed of it, or a shame to it, by unconformable, unwise, unfruitful, and offensive walking, or backsliding from it.

**Q. 114. What reasons are annexed to the third commandment?**

A. The reasons annexed to the third commandment, in these words, *The Lord thy God, and, For the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain*, are, because he is the Lord and our God, therefore his name is not to be profaned, or any way abused by us; especially because he will be so far from acquitting and sparing the transgressors of this commandment, as that he will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment, albeit many such escape the censures and punishments of men.

For a lengthy commentary on the 3<sup>rd</sup> see <https://www.biblicalexaminer.org/Com/Various%20Studies/10%20commandments/3Com.html>

This commandment is much broader than we normally think. (*thy commandment is exceeding broad.* Ps 119:96)

Attempts to *prove* God is blasphemy. Hebrews 3:9. **Prove** – put his patience on trial; God’s people in the wilderness were not content with God’s promise, but demanded objective proof of God.

Profane, from the Latin *pro*–before and *fanum* –temple. (Webster, 1828). Thus, before or outside the temple.

**1. Irreverent** to any thing sacred; applied to persons. A man is profane when he takes the name of God in vain, or treats sacred things with abuse and irreverence. ...

As with all the commandments, this commandment is quite broad. **It prohibits all speech, action and living that is outside of God.** It not only forbids filthy speech, false swearing and cursing, it also forbids polite and courteous speech and actions which are outside of God – that which does not recognize God as ultimate, or sovereign. That is, any speech that lowers God to man’s level.

“Oh My God, O God,” &c. is the profane and blasphemous use of God’s name. **O My God** is profanity.

Profane language seeks to be forceful, and that force is from below. It invokes, not God, but the world of the illicit, obscene and the perverted, the world of the enemy of our souls.

**Verbal profanity is a barometer** – it is an oral witness to social profanity. The third commandment is the basis of an orderly society. As verbal standards fall, so do social standards. Where God is excluded from the any institution, education, civil government, &c., profanity is encouraged. **As God is removed, profanity fills the void.**

One year during a layoff season from construction, I worked as an undercover investigator for Pinkertons. I remember one factory, Otis Elevator in Bloomington IN, I went into that had a lot of female employees. I was shocked to hear the profane and wicked language used by those women, and that was in the 60s!

**Profanity is associated with religion, and its common use is a sign of religious and social deterioration.** It is a major tool to move a society away from God, and down the broad road to destruction. It is out-

side of God and against God. It is a dishonest use of God’s name. It is a means of subversion against a society—The ungodly state defends “free **profane** speech” but not free godly speech, *i.e.*, prayer.

**Profanity** is quite common when there is no fear of God. As the *fear of God* departs from the pulpits and from religion, a profane society will develop, for the natural man loves profane language and thoughts. He loves a profane life: *For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.* (Rom 7:19)

**Blasphemy**, however, is more than taking the name of God in vain—profanity. It is **rebellious language** directed against God. Taking the Lord’s name in vain is a serious violation of the law, and was punishable by death. (Ex 20:7, Lev 24:16)

Exodus 20:7 *Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain;*

God’s name is profaned whenever any detraction is made from His supreme wisdom, infinite power, justice, truth, clemency, and rectitude [morally correct behavior]. If a shorter definition be preferred, let us say that His name is what Paul calls to τὸ γινώσθον, “that which may be known” of Him. (Ro 1:19). ... (Calvin)

We shall soon see that to swear by God’s name is a species or part of religious worship, and this is manifest too from the words of #Isa 45:23 for when he predicts that all nations shall devote themselves to pure religion, he thus speaks, “As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall swear by me.” ... (Calvin)

Swearing, or using the Lord’s name honestly, is closely related to true worship.

When his “supreme wisdom, infinite power, justice, truth, clemency, and rectitude” are compromised, there can be no worship of the Christian God—it is *vain*. This *vain* worship denies the Christian faith; it denies the reality of the one true God; it is an empty profession of Christ; it is nothing but blasphemy — *the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.*

The vast majority of so-called Hymns as well as “Christian Music” of our day is blaspheme, for it is far from presenting the Biblical truth of the Christian God. How much preaching of our day presents the Biblical truth of the Holy Tri-une God of Scripture?

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## A NATION RUINED BY RIGHTS

Dr. H. Rondel Rumburg

Today people talk ad nauseam about their rights,

also known as entitlements. One does not hear much about responsibilities or duties toward God, but there is a great deal said about one's own privileges or rights. Rights may be described, in the present context, as powers of free action. Such freedom of action is nothing but licentiousness. The rights that are now in force, or are in vogue, may be defined as one person's innate interests controlling another's actions, goods, or position. Thus, a certain person, by law, is said to have the legal right or entitlement to have, do or receive from others. So his right is what he as a person should have or receive from others. This idea of rights is another means of theft. Therefore, his right becomes a claim by which he would dispossess someone else. Such views are not Biblical and were never a part of the Constitution which was the legacy bequeathed to us by the Founders of the Republic.

“God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions” (Eccl. 7:29). Originally man was in an upright state, but he sought out many devices. Fallen man in his natural reasonings neglects God's wisdom for the vain speculations and ideas of his own heart. One of those inventions is the so called “human rights.”

Man was not created, nor does he exist, for himself; but he was made for God's purpose. Everything that exists, including man, was created for God's pleasure (Rev. 4:11). Man was created to do God's will and give all glory to Him. However, man outside of God seeks to change the creation mandate. So instead of man being God-centered he is self-centered. Therefore, his reference point becomes self, and although he may make reference to a higher being as the transcendentalists do, man becomes god. Thus, to such a man, the higher law is himself and not the Bible. Man in some form or other creates a doctrine of rights whereby even anarchy may become law. True Christianity believes that God's law takes precedence over all other kinds of law. Thus, the higher duty is to God rather than to man because the State as well as the Church must answer to God. Man's duty is obedience to God.

The Bible does not speak of rights, but it does reveal God's requirements for man His creation. Man deserves eternal punishment for disobeying God. For example, peace is not a right, but it is a state of being. Peace comes through a former violator of God's law being reconciled to God through the redemptive work of Christ the Prince of peace.

Those emphasizing human rights demand the rejection of Divine Revelation in favor of human legislation. Man thinks he is capable of legislating rights. Human legislation seeks to supplant God and make statutes in areas that only God can regulate. The rule of iniquity is framed into law as is evident today with the legalizing of moral perversions. The actual trade that is made in this deal is the exchange of true freedom for human bondage. This bondage is then called freedom, and freedom from God is considered the greatest achievement, but the ends thereof are the ways of suffering and death. Man's fiat law is then made into an instrument of rights. Man is presumed to be sovereign instead of God in this doctrine of rights. Human rights are a false doctrine that seeks to make man the lord of all. The end result is the rule of rights rather than the rule of law and ultimate anarchy.

The abolitionist movement came as a result of the protest against both the theological and sociological orthodoxy of Calvinism. Calvinism during the 1800s had lost its civil power in the North, but it was thriving in the South so the transcendentalists, pietists and semi-pelagianists sought to enthrone man in God's place and make all things equal with God. The rule of revolution was instituted to destroy the rule of righteousness. This was the fruit of the importation of the ideas of the French Revolution in the form of Jacobinism. In Europe the Jacobins had fomented radical warfare seeking the utter extermination of Christianity. Dr. R. L. Dabney dealt with this imported virus which sought to exterminate orthodox Christianity in these United States and especially in the South. Dabney emphasized that “history and science show that it [the Jacobin theory] is a fatal heresy of thought, which uproots every possible foundation of just freedom, and grounds only the most ruthless despotism.” The purpose of Dabney's article *Anti-Biblical Theory of Rights* was “to point out the coming contest, and to warn the defenders of the faith of its certainty. My wish is to make all Christians face this plain question: Will you surrender the inspiration of the Scriptures to these assaults of a social science so-called?”

Are orthodox Christians to allow Robespierre to ride over all righteousness until it is dead? Will irrationality be the coin of the realm? Will the false doctrine of “all men are created equal” be allowed to level society? Is it any wonder today that so-called Christians believe that Satanists must be given rights or equality in freedom

of religion with Christ? Is atheism equal with theism? Such leveling always ends in the removal of orthodox Christianity because real Christians believe the only true God to be Jehovah, the only true savior to be Jesus Christ, the only true word to be the Word of God, and the only true worship to be the worship of the one true and living God in three persons. Real Christianity is never tolerated when all religions are tolerated for it is deemed by rebellious mankind as too rigid. True Christians cannot have any other God before them, and they will be judged for endorsing a supposed equality of other gods with the true God. Thus, Christians who believe in the freedom of all religions believe in their own termination or extermination.

Soli Deo Gloria,  
H. Rondel Rumburg

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## SNAKES

### **COLD-BLOODED: RON GOLLOBIN NEVER AFRAID TO HUNT SNAKES IN SWAMPS AND CROCODILES IN THE CITY**

By Mary Villareal, 6/13/22

In the 1950s, Ron Gollobin spent his time roaming wetlands at the edge of the Great Dismal Swamp with a boat and a motor. He spent most of his time in the swamps even though he loved the town.

Gollobin said he felt utter freedom while hunting for frogs, lizards, turtles and snakes.

In junior high, Gollobin's interest in reptiles and amphibians picked up steam. His fascination with snakes also intensified under the tutelage of a classmate named John, an amateur herpetologist with a research-oriented approach to all cold and scaly creatures.

His reptilian education jumped from small, harmless snakes to deadly pit vipers. "I clearly remember the first time John showed me how to handle a poisonous snake – a cottonmouth. I grabbed the snake behind the neck, and it instantly wrapped its body around my arm and began squeezing as if it was a constrictor. Maybe I was hooked, because even though I was scared, I started to enjoy it."

With John's help, Gollobin built snake laboratory in

his attic, which he populated with specimens in alcohol-filled jars. Essentially, he pickled the animals.

A 15-year-old in 1956, Gollobin found a get-rich-quick scheme in a newspaper article. Scientists at the time were looking for people who could bring them dried snake venom for \$400 an ounce.

"In my tender teenage years, more than one get-rich-quick scheme shook their flashy lures and hooked me on their shiny, sharp barbs," Gollobin shared. "Despite comic and cosmic serial failures, coupled with persistent pigheadedness, nothing kept me from seeking the next shortcut to wealth – least of all, learning from experiences."

Gollobin started hunting for cottonmouths with business-like efficiency as he moved down the swamps methodically until his burlap sacks grew heavy with snakes that he will milk for their venom.

Week after week over the summer, he went from milking dozens of snakes to scoring hundreds. Unfortunately, that experience was a bust – he didn't know how to purify snake venom, so four months of death-defying work went down the drain. The crash of the cottonmouth harvesting scheme was complete.

Sixty-six years later, Gollobin found he is heartened by his own audacity and teenage nerve. "I was always a risk-taker, always riding the edge, and catching cottonmouths taught me to remain calm in the rigidity of tense situations and were a good background for life in general," he said.

Coming from a middle-class family, he was usually seen comfortable running with red-necks or the more refined individuals. "I was always a guy hovering between two worlds, and it served me well later in life."

### **From snake hunter to award-winning investigative reporter**

Indeed, Gollobin found a less dangerous career – although less dangerous may be a stretch. Instead of hunting for snakes, he hunted for stories and became an investigative reporter and master in his field.

In Virginia, he revealed a National Guard commander selling stolen goods to the city of Portsmouth.





In New Jersey, he uncovered what was the largest bank fraud case in the state at the time (1972). This earned him a nomination for the Pulitzer Prize and he became a finalist for the story that sent two bank presidents to prison, essentially ending their corrupt reign.

He later moved to television and spent decades at the WCVB-TV Boston, where he won awards for investigative reporting, trial coverage, general assignments and breaking news stories. He won five Emmy Awards for his outstanding work.

After he left television, he became a consultant specializing in media training, crisis communication for national publications, politicians, state and federal governmental agencies and more.

Over six decades after the 1956 summer of cottonmouth farming, Gollobin still reflects on the days of his youth. “I think about those days more and more. It was a crazy time in a young boy’s life that I can only compare to Tom Sawyer or Huck Finn. I had a charmed life in many senses, and it was a lucky way to grow up.”

<https://citizens.news/628209.html>

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### Interesting Observation

## **CAN CHRISTIAN RUSSIA SAVE THE WORLD FROM GLOBALISM?**

Scott Lively charges RINOs with co-opting church to promote ‘warmon-gering agenda’ June 13, 2022

Two little-noticed news stories capture the true picture of the state of the global culture war today. The first is from the American deep red state of Idaho, where The Satanic Temple is holding a “Pride” event that features a “Drag Dance Party” and “Unbaptisms” – a ritual in which people who were once baptized as Christians publicly renounce Jesus Christ.

The other is from Russia, where the national Duma (legislature) has just introduced legislation to expand its 2013 ban on LGBT propaganda to children to include ALL LGBT propaganda throughout the society.

To my knowledge, I am the only culture war analyst in the world who contends that the current Russia/Ukraine war started not with President Putin’s Feb. 24, 2022. “Empire of Lies” speech, nor with the Obama/Soros-orchestrated Maidan coup on Feb. 22, 2014, to replace pro-Russian Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich with their own stooge, but with Vladimir Putin’s signature on June 30, 2013, making the LGBT propaganda

ban the law of the land.

More than any other factor in the vast constellation of geopolitical rivalries and concerns, that single act declared the Russian Federation an enemy of globalism, and more importantly in the realpolitik sense, an enemy of the megalomaniac “closeted” homosexual Barack Obama who, even then, had done more to advance the global LGBT agenda than any other living man.

I also stand alone, or in extremely rarefied company, in defining the LGBT agenda as THE last-days biblical-worldview litmus test – by God’s own design – dividing the enlightened from the deceived. My book “The Petros Prophecy” explains how and why so-called “gay theology” is THE heresy of the last days the Apostle Peter warned us about in 2 Peter 2. And I have been a voice in the wilderness declaring that the LGBT-driven “sexual revolution” is THE centerpiece of the Cultural Marxist strategy for socio-political transformation of the nations of the world. My WND column of last week explained how the defilement of God’s rainbow is THE key evidence of the emergence of the Antichrist kingdom.

To most of the world, these assertions make me a “nut-case,” but I long ago stopped letting the opinion of the world influence my beliefs. My audience is thus the remnant of Bible believers willing to risk hatred and mockery to seek and speak truth. My role has been, in part, that of a prophet in the sense of Ephesians 4:11-12, and thus rejection is just part of the job.

The more difficult fork of this path has been applying these conclusions to the real-world culture war outside the United States, particularly the role of Russia, which very few Christians know much about, and where so much of the “Christian consensus” is shaped by neocon wolves in sheep’s clothing, like Mike Pence.

I never fully trusted Pence after his capitulation to the “woke” mob as Indiana governor, when the Indiana Legislature passed a religious freedom bill that strongly protected pro-family freedom of speech on “gay” issues. Pence refused to sign the bill until it had been amended (gutted) to placate the LGBTs. My WND column of that week was titled “Indiana meets the Borg.” In retrospect, I think Pence’s surrender in that fight was what qualified him to be chosen by the elites as Trump’s “Bush 41” VP (the globalists’ agent in the Trump White House just as George H.W. Bush was their agent in the Reagan White House).

In any case, backstabber Pence is a leading example of how the establishment RINOs co-opted American Christendom in service to the neocon warmongering agenda. Even otherwise honorable men like Rush Limbaugh and Dr. James Dobson got suckered into that ideology, for example, in support of the Iraq wars. It really wasn't until the Republican Party got caught neutralizing the Tea Party movement (by first competing with and then absorbing it) that many of us awakened to the political realities and realized that paleo-conservatives like Pat Buchanan had been right all along.

Regarding the Ukraine war, the conservative movement has been slowly awakening from the globalists' propaganda-driven hypnosis to realize that Russia is NOT the bad guy in this conflict, but was set up and used as a scapegoat by the very people who orchestrated the plandemic, stole our election and turned America's children into sexual anarchists and social-justice terrorists. Being forced to take preemptive military action to preserve legitimate and essential national security interests is not "unprovoked aggression." In fact, Russia's legal defense under international law to all of the globalist false accusations and propaganda is very sound. If you're not yet convinced of these things, you should spend some time reading sources not controlled by our enemy-of-the-people media. On the question of globalism, start here.

However, if you are among the remnant of the remnant who appreciate just how close our nation has come to triggering the wrath of God, and that Russia is now actually far closer as a nation to honoring the biblical worldview than we are, you will recognize that IF the Lord tarries, and IF He intends humanity to have a reprieve from globalist tyranny, it just might be that Russia, not America, will be responsible to stop the evil elites from enslaving us all. Or perhaps (best case scenario), we MAGA millions might retake our country in 2022 and 2024 and partner with Russia against the globalists (as Trump strongly implied we would in his 2016 campaign)!

Frankly, I think it is much more likely that we have reached the end of the line and are watching the final scenes of prophecy unfold. Yet, that is all the more reason to speak the truth about all things. And the truth is that Russia is now a more Christian nation than we are, and the evil people ushering in the Antichrist kingdom are based here, not there.

<https://www.wnd.com/2022/06/can-christian-russia-save-world->

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## IS VLADIMIR PUTIN A CHRISTIAN?

Russia's leader has been demonized more than any national leader since Adolf Hitler. Does he deserve it? Is he the monster the mainstream media paints him to be, or is he actually a devout Christian man trying to save his country from a corrupt, decadent West?

From Russian-Faith.com

Putin continuously makes it clear that he envisions Russia as a Christian country.

In 2014, Putin called for the restoration of Kremlin's historic Chudov ("of the Miracle") and Voznesensky (Ascension) monasteries both of which were destroyed by the Bolsheviks. He also wants another church destroyed by the Bolsheviks in the Kremlin to be rebuilt.

The Kremlin is both the political and historic center not just of Moscow but of Russia. By calling for the restoration of these Christian buildings Putin repudiated the Soviet legacy with its atheist ideology and its record of anti-Christianity and reaffirms Orthodoxy as the heart of Russian culture.

A key element of Putin's worldview is not just his commitment to the Russian Orthodox Church as an institution, but also his admiration for three 19th and 20th century Russian Christian philosophers—Nikolai Berdyaev, Vladimir Solovyov and Ivan Ilyin, all of whom he often quotes in his speeches. Russia's regional governors were even instructed to read the works of these philosophers during their 2014 winter holidays.

Studying the causes of Russia's 20th century tragedy, Ilyin wrote:

"The Russian revolution is a reflection of the religious crisis we are living through now, an attempt to establish an anti-Christian public and state system thought up by Friedrich Nietzsche and economically and politically realized by Karl Marx. This anti-Christian virus was exported to Russia from the West....

Losing our bond with God and the Christian tradition, mankind has become morally blind and gripped by materialism, irrationalism and nihilism."

In Ilyin's view, the way to overcome this global moral crisis is for people to return to "eternal moral values", which he defined as "faith, love, freedom, conscience, family, motherland and nation" but above all "faith and

love”.

“To make Russia great again the Russian people should believe in God. This faith will strengthen their minds and willpower. It will make them strong enough to overcome themselves.”

It’s difficult to really know the truth about Putin. I must confess that the more I hear the man speak, the more impressed I am with him. And, no, I haven’t forgotten that words are often cheap.

What I do know is the man who is now identified as America’s president is one of the most corrupt, duplicitous, tyrannical and evil world leaders to ever draw a breath. With a totally warped, wicked, warmongering idiot sitting in the Oval Office, it gives Americans very little room to criticize anyone else’s leader.

Chuck Baldwin’s Syndicated Column <Newsletter@ChuckBaldwinLive.com>

Russia was a Christian Nation until the 1915 Marxist’s (Bolshevik) revelation and their murder of Tsar Nicholas II and his family.

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## STONEWALL JACKSON’S WAY

Mark W. Evans, Past Chaplain-in-Chief

**General Stonewall Jackson was more than a military genius and hero -- he was a serious and devout Christian.** He believed what the Bible taught and put its instructions into practice. For example, in a conversation with a friend about the verse, “pray without ceasing,” he explained how he obeyed this command: “When we take our meals there is the grace. When I take a draught of water I always pause, as my palate receives the refreshment, to lift up my heart to God in thanks and prayer for the water of life. Whenever I drop a letter into the box at the post-office I send a petition along with it for God’s blessing upon its mission and upon the person to whom it is sent. When I break the seal of a letter just received I stop to pray to God that He may prepare me for its contents and make it a messenger of good. When I go to my classroom and await the arrangement of the cadets in their places, that is my time to intercede with God for them. And so of every other familiar act of the day.” [Christ in the Camp, pp. 89, 90.]



No matter how hard you work,  
No matter how right you are,  
Sometimes the dragon wins.

The General had a practical way of praying. One day, the Rev. Dr. William Brown, an editor of the Central Presbyterian, was informed that Stonewall Jackson had a mental deficiency. A friend informed him: “The truth is, sir, that ‘old Jack’ is crazy. I can account for his conduct no other way. Why, I frequently meet him out in the woods walking back and forth muttering to himself incoherent sentences and gesticulating wildly, and at such times he seems utterly oblivious of my presence and of everything else.” The next night, Rev. Brown had an opportunity to speak with the General about the promotion of holiness in the camp. The General said: “I find that it greatly helps me in fixing my mind and quickening my devotions to give articulate utterance to my prayers, and hence I am in the habit of going off into the woods, where I can be alone and speak audibly to myself the prayers I would pour out to my God. I was at first annoyed that I was compelled to keep my eyes open to avoid running against the trees and stumps; but upon investigating the matter I do not find that the Scriptures require us to close our eyes in prayer, and the exercise has proven to me very delightful and profitable.” [Ibid., p. 89.]

General Jackson prayed concerning his military decisions, even in the midst of battle. Confederate Chaplain E. W. Yarbrough wrote: “Notwithstanding all the feebleness of form and sweetness of expression, he was the hero of the Valley, having clipped the wings of at least four soaring Federal Generals in a short time, and having thundered upon McClellan’s rear simultaneously with the advance of our forces upon his front, completely unearthing him, and then joining with his shouting hosts in the most glorious pursuit of an invading foe ever recorded.” The chaplain commented: “You are aware that he is a man of God. On that memorable Thursday, in the hottest of the fight, he was seen by his men to fall upon his knees and there remain for several moments, with his right hand raised to heaven in the most earnest supplication” [W. W. Bennett, The Great Revival in the Southern Armies, p. 160.]

General Jackson’s chaplain, the Rev. Dr. B. T. Lacy, wrote: “I had often heard of that indescribable change of manner and appearance which came over Jackson when the war-bugle summoned him. I therefore

watched him well. Soon couriers were seen dashing in every direction to summons out the army. That usual stooping, meek, thoughtful man was no longer before me, but a warrior, his eyes flashing, and through them his great military genius beaming; his form appeared to dilate, he appeared to comprehend all, and soon he was ready; the servant led his horse to the tent, the General went inside. I thought I would speak to him before he went forth. As I approached, the faithful old servant motioned me to stop, be silent -- the General was at prayer. I waited sometime; at length the tent was drawn aside, and Jackson stepped forth. Never shall I forget the serene brightness that glowed upon his face. He only remarked, as he bade me good-bye, that 'all appears well.' He had held communion with his God, and went forth to victory." [Ibid., p. 303.]

In our country's dark hour, we too can offer our thanksgiving to the Lord, commit all things unto Him, and intercede against the flood of enemies bent upon destroying our Constitution and our God-given liberties. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

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## PERSONAL

A CAT scan with the VA did for my back at the end of June reveal a huge kidney stone. Thank the Lord for VA health care. They told me to get to my urologist as soon as I could. I took a copy of the scan to him, and he scheduled me in for surgery on June 30. The stone was too large for him to get out, so he had to reschedule for July 25 when he could use a laser. (He practices in Hillsboro, about 15 minutes from us, and in Wilmington about 35 minutes from us. Of course, when I was offered which hospital to go to, I chose the closest in Hillsboro. The problem was that he does not have laser equipment in Hillsboro, so he had to reschedule me in Wilmington. He left the catheter in until the surgery on July 25 when he brought me in to zap the stone with a laser.

They kept me overnight to make sure the bleeding was controlled. In the past, when they released me from prostate surgery, my catheter plugged up with blood clots by the time I got home from the hospital, and I had to immediately return to the ER. This time, the doctor did the procedure as an inpatient, so they kept me overnight to make sure there were no blood clots.

I am certainly thankful to the Lord for modern medi-

cal techniques and medicine. Those of you who have had a catheter know it is not a pleasant experience. I have joked with the nurses that, women have babies, and men have stones. No doubt when some of you get prostate and stone problems, technology will have improved to make the whole situation much better.

Shortness of breath sent me to the ER again, 9/14. I should know by now that in my case, stress has the same symptoms as a heart attack, shortness of breath. They did every test imaginable, and found a few problems, thyroid and "Covid." However, my lungs were and are clear, and no temperature. It has been revealed that a positive Covid diagnosis means a good payment from the state. Makes one wonder. Sent me home the evening of the 14th. (ER was extremely crowded.)

Bettie had her last cancer checkup July 26 when they took the port out that they had installed for the treatment. The Lord has certainly been better than what we deserve, for after about 16 months after the diagnosis, there's no sign of cancer

*Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. (Ps 106:1. The Chemo messed up her mind, so please pray for her recovery in that area.)*

The County Before Country conference was a great success. The attendance in 2021 was around 190. This year, there were 550 in attendance. Mark your calendar now for Labor Day, 2023.

We spent several weeks in our mad effort to pack the house so we could put it on the market. Within 5 days, the house was placed under contract. We need to be out by end of October. Now we need the Lord to provide a suitable house in Iowa. As must everyone, we must face the reality of old age and all the issues that come with this stage of life.

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## From the Past

### GODLY ADVICE FOR YOUNG LADIES

This is a 21-year-old e-mail from Bettie Ethell to her future husband, Ovid Need

One of the first lessons I study with young girls is Titus 2:3-5, then show how that is modeled in the Proverbs 31 woman. After going through all her characteristics, I ask if that is what the girls desire to be in their own lives. Then I ask them, "If this is God's model

for a godly wife, what kind of man does this woman deserve?" Their assignment then is to write Proverbs 32. Their response is always, but always, "There is no Proverbs 32!" Then comes the fun part! I make them list all the qualities God requires of a godly husband, and the qualities or characteristics THEY would desire in a mate. When they are done, we have a commitment time. I encourage them to covenant with their fathers to wait for God to bring into their lives at the right time this man they have described, not turning to the right or the left, or being distracted in any way from their desire to be godly women.

They further covenant to spend their youth preparing themselves to become the wife that man deserves.

When I was 13, I read an article in the Saturday Evening Post about death rates among men and women: women tend to live much longer than men. With that in mind, and not wanting to outlive a husband and be left alone, when I wrote my own list of qualities in a mate, I included one which said, "Given that women outlive men, I will marry someone at least two years younger than me." I never gave it much further thought until I met Jeff (her first husband who died in a plane accident in 97, ed.) who was 2 years, 7 months younger than me. (His mom was also 2 years older than her husband!) I can see that God directed me to write that, or else I would never have even looked at Jeff, as perfect as he was for my early life.

Fay (an exchange student from Brazil, SA, living with her for a year, being discipled by Bettie in Godly womanhood, ed.) has written her own Proverbs 32 and emailed them to her parents, who are delighted with what God is doing in their daughter.

May I share with you my own version? Don't laugh!

**The words of Queen Bettie** (see Pro. 31:1, ed.), **the prophecy that God has taught her.**

O my daughters whom I have dedicated to the Lord, do not give your purity to boys, nor distract yourselves from God by following ways which will destroy you.

It is not for daughters of the King of Kings to become drunk with the ways of the world and forget the laws of God.

You should defend and abide by God's principles, and encourage those who are perishing to turn to Him.

Who can find a godly man? He is worth more than riches or fame. The heart of his wife safely trusts in him because he is a "one-woman" man, and the whole world knows it.

He takes his responsibility as the head of his home seriously and studies God's Word to know how to lead his family in righteousness.

He loves his wife as Christ loved the church, and gave himself for it. He spends "quantity time" with his family.

He does his wife good and studies how to cherish her according to her needs.

He washes his family daily with the Word of God to present them to God without spot or wrinkle, knowing that God desires godly offspring.

He prays daily with his wife, knowing that where 2 or 3 gather in God's name God is there, and where 2 are agreed concerning God's will He will do it.

He works willingly to provide for the well-being of his household, not only in material things, but also in spiritual matters.

He is not afraid of hard times because his trust is in God.

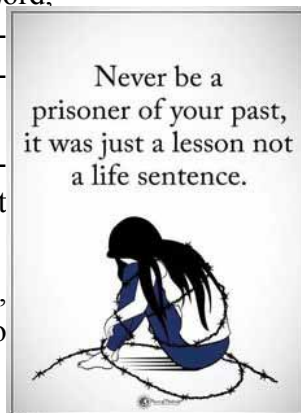
He is well-known for his wisdom as he interacts with leaders among men, and he has a reputation for honesty and kindness.

His children rise up and bless him with great respect; his wife also praises him.

Many men have succeeded in the world, but you have succeeded in God's eyes.

Fame is fleeting, and applause is transient, but a man that fears the Lord-- he shall be praised.

May you have a blessed day! Bettie (Bettie Ethell, 56, is the oldest of 6 children born to missionaries in Brazil, SA, and has been a widow for 4 years. She lost her parents two years ago. I met her through a Christian "Matchmaking For Reformed Singles" ministry. She has three grown children, 2 girls and one boy and several grandchildren. They were all homeschooled, are self-employed out of their homes, and are all faithfully serving the Lord.)



# MASOCHISM

## AN ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH GUILT WITHOUT CHRIST Masochism Defined (RJR):

“A common recourse is to self-atonement and self-justification. A modern term for such behavior is **masochism**, in the broader sense of that term. The narrower sense refers to a sexual offense, in which the masochist seeks to buy atonement by demanding punishment before the sin and as a license to the sin. In the broader sense, **masochism is self-punishment** as atonement for sin in order to cleanse the conscience of guilt.”

*Politics of Guilt and Pity*, R. J. Rushdoony. The Craig Press, 1970, p. 2.

That is, the manufactured guilt naturally requires atonement, but not by Christ, but atoning self-suffering and punishment for one’s sin. Guilt brings with it the **unconscious will to suffer, which is a masochistic desire for self-punishment** in a vain effort to find atonement without Christ.

Rushdoony lists these six things that are results of Masochistic self-punishment.

**First**, “If I suffer enough, I will pay for my sins.” Such thinking can lead to psychosomatic ailments. “Medical science recognizes that emotions such as fear, sorrow, envy, resentment and hatred are responsible for the majority of our sickness. Estimates vary from 60 percent to nearly 100 percent.” (See *None of these Diseases*, by S.I. McMillen, M.D. Fleming H. Revell Company, 1979)

**Second**, “gambling is a common and popular exercise in masochism.” The gambler knows he will lose, so he plays to lose in order to punish himself and atone for his guilt.

**Third**, “alcoholism is another form of self-punishment, and marriage to a known alcoholic is similarly masochistic activity” A woman may marry a man such as a known drunkard in order to atone for her guilt by the “cross she must bear with an alcoholic.”

**Fourth**, “still another form of masochism is ‘burden-bearing.’ The burden-bearer will play the role of a public saint in order to atone for a private guilt.” He may take on the most unpleasant role, for the more unpleasant the role is, the more self-atonement. Various works of virtue can be devices of self-atonement, a do-it-yourself salvation.

**Examples:** The rich may indulge in philanthropy to atone for the evil they know they have done or are do-

ing. (Bill Gates built Microsoft by climbing over others. His vaccines kill.)

**Fifth**, “ ‘injustice-collecting’ has been rightly described by Reik and Bergler as an important aspect of masochism.” That is, the guilty finds “pleasure in displeasure.” He places himself in positions where he will feel offended; places where he and others will see him as the innocent victim who has been sinned against. In order to deal with his guilt, he seeks pity for himself. “WOE IS ME.”

**Guilt:** We live in a guilt-ridden age where everyone wants to see himself as the suffering, innocent victim. In his victimization, he seeks to cover his guilt by gaining pity. Lies are used to manufacture public guilt. That guilt promotes pity, and threw pity, the wicked are able to justify burning, looting and killing. (“We feel sorry for all the hurt and pain we have cause, so let them burn, rape and pillage.”)

**Sixth**, according to Rushdoony, “the will to failure is a common factor in masochism. Failure is a penalty paid, an atonement made, for sins committed.” **That is**, our subconscious tells me that I must pay for the wrongs I have done, and my failure will make that payment.

**Guilt** will separate friends, and cause one to avoid those he might have wronged. **Guilt** can lead to confessing to a lesser crime, or sin, to cover for a greater crime or sin. **Guilt** leads to resentful feelings. **Guilt** makes it difficult to concentrate, pray, sleep. **Guilt** wears on the emotions and brings heavy burdens.

**Personal Guilt and suicide.** More and more Americans are dying by suicide. Suicide is rampant in the military.

[USA Today, Jan 30, 20] Numbers released Thursday from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show 48,344 people died by suicide in 2018, up from 47,173 the year before. While the increase was small, just two-tenths of a percent, the rise in deaths over time has been steady. Since 1999, the suicide rate has climbed 35%.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/01/30/u-s-suicide-rate-rose-again-2018-how-can-suicide-prevention-save-lives/4616479002/>

**Collective Guilt and mass suicide.**

**Jeremiah 6:19** *Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but*

rejected it.

**Proverbs 8:36** *But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.*

Both passages, as do a multitude of other passages, speak of collective judgment against a people who reject God's law. **The results of a people turning from God's law is God turning them over to their unconscious** desire for mass destruction. Hatred of God results in hatred for all life which is especially visible in abortion and homosexuality. (Though he will not consciously admit it, the sodomite knows the result of his actions is death.) Politics and laws without the law-word of God must be laws of death, for the ungodly love death.

**Sadism** attempts to transfer guilt to an innocent party. It is revenge against the innocent in an attempt to lower the innocent to the same level as the guilty.

**Psalms 140:4, David prayed,** *Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from the violent man; who have purposed to overthrow my goings.*

**Guilt determines to destroy the righteous** as it seeks self-justification. Self-justification seeks to reduce everyone to the lowest common-denominator, so everyone will be more tolerant toward sin. "Everyone is doing it," relieves individual guilt. The guilty work to place unwarranted guilt on the innocent, so the innocent will feel they deserve what the guilty are placing upon them.

In addition, I may have guilt over my sin against you, but if I can get you to sin, my guilt is relieved.

Man cannot avoid the need of cleansing from his guilt, for guilt is a natural knowledge placed in him by God to lead him to the Father's His Sin-Bearer, Isaiah 53. (4 *Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.* 5 *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*) Psalms 51 is a song of rejoicing for cleansing a guilty conscience.

Because man naturally rejects the Father's means of cleansing and purifying himself from his guilt, he seeks every means possible to cover his guilt. He seeks to lose himself in the crowd in the vain hope God will overlook him.

The guilty may seek **ritual purification** as a sub-

stitute for Christ's purification. There is money to be made from a guilt-ridden population. Ladies magazines abound with exemplars of merchandizing which offers purification, *i.e.*, new and spotless homes, a clean look, new clothing, new cars, &c. That search for ritual purification is all around us.

### **Ritual purification offered in a soap.**

"The popular soap brand, Zest, was first released in 1955 with the slogan, "For the first time in your life, feel really clean." A big selling point to back this up was that the Zest soap bar didn't leave a sticky film behind on user's bodies, which was a common problem among other bar soaps. The tagline evolved in the late 1980s to become, "You're not fully clean unless you're Zestfully clean!" This new line brought in greater sales and was widely popular in the 1990s, but eventually, other brands caught up. Liquid body wash entered the mainstream, and Zest's main selling point became irrelevant."

<https://krausgroupmarketing.com/brandingpublic-relations/how-the-zest-rebranding-effort-made-us-feel/>

In 1955, Zest launched a new selling point for soap and other products to make one feel fresh and clean. Seeing the rise in sales as Zest offered a clean feeling, other manufactures followed suit, offering a multitude of products named to tell the consumers that they can cleanse themselves and smell good if they will only use their products.

"The masochist seeks to buy an area of immunity and autonomy for sin from God. His thesis is that a jealous God is preventing him from enjoying his pleasure by declaring it a sin. This jealous God must be bought off and independence gained for the freedom to sin, for the privilege of living without God and without law." (Politics, p. 6.)

**Whether honest or manufactured, guilt naturally calls for atonement. Honest guilt calls for Christ's atonement; manufactured guilt calls for self-atonement.**

Matthew 5 answers **Godly guilt**. First, one must confess to those offended, then confess to God and seek his forgiveness through the redemptive work of Christ.

Hebrews 9:14 *How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

**Man's guilt** makes one a slave, and never able to rest because self-atonement can never satisfy the conscience.

Isaiah 57:20 *But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.*

**Guilt** caused Adam to blame his wife. **Guilt** caused Adam and Eve to hide from God. **Guilt** caused Ahab to accuse the innocent Elijah of sin. **Guilt** attacks the righteous. (1 Kings 18:17, 18. *And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.*) **Guilt** caused Judas to take his own life. **Guilt** caused Peter to weep bitterly after he denied Christ. **Guilt** caused Herod and Herodias' to kill John the Baptist, Mark 6:17-28. **Guilt** caused David great stress and sleeplessness, Psalms 32:1-4.

A.W. Pink comments:

“From his guilt, David cried out, “For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was turned into the drought of summer” (Psa. 32:4). It was as if God's hand was crushing him. He believed his depression was from God and he considered it the merciful punishment of God warning him and leading him to repentance. **David acknowledged his sin and sought forgiveness (Psa. 32:5-7).** David's forgiveness restored to him the joy of salvation (Psa. 51:1-13).” (Gleanings.)

Proverbs 5:22 *His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.* His conscience will not let him rest.

### **Guilt and Freedom**

**Guilt** binds the guilty, but knowing and doing the truth found only in the Word of God frees one from all guilt:

**John 8:32** *And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. 36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed: free from the guilt and fear that binds one to Satan's controlling lies.*

**1 Timothy 1:5** *Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:*

Pink comments:

The word of God can cut you to the heart. On the great day of Pentecost Peter told his audience they had “taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death” the Son of God (Acts 2:23). When these people realized that God had made this same Jesus both Lord and Christ, they were cut to the heart and asked what to do in order to be saved (Acts 2:36-38). Stephen preached a similar lesson

before the Jewish council. His audience was also “cut to the heart” (Acts 7:54), but their guilt caused them to kill the messenger (Acts 7:55-58). (Gleanings)

**The Word of God creates guilt.** The natural knowledge of guilt will either produce a repentant spirit of God's salvation, or it will seek self-attornment by taking it out on the innocent, as did Herod against The Baptist.

**Acts 24:16** *And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.*

It takes work, watchfulness and humble confession to have a conscience void of offence. It takes useful knowledge of the Word of God to not be caught in Satan's web of deceits and lies.

Redemption, to **make up for, compensate or make reparation for wrongdoing or causing offence.** Christ alone can make the required reparation for our sins, and free us from the bondage of guilt.

A Christian must not see sin as a violation of the conscience, but as any failure to meet God's requirement as revealed in his law-word. (1 John 3:4)

The condition of the natural man is far, far worse than he imagines, and far worse than the average preacher and Sunday school teacher supposes. Man is a fallen creature, totally depraved, with no soundness in him from the sole of his foot even unto the head. (#Isa 1:6) He is completely under the dominion of sin, (#Joh 8:34) a bond-slave to divers lusts, (#Tit 3:3) so that he ‘cannot cease from sin’. (#2Pe 2:14) Moreover, the natural man is thoroughly under the dominion of it. He is taken captive by the Devil at his will. (#2Ti 2:26) He walks according to the Prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience. (#Eph 2:2) He fulfills the lusts of his father, the Devil. (#Joh 8:44) He is completely dominated by Satan's power. (#Col 1:13) And from this thralldom nothing but the truth of God can deliver. (Pink's Gleanings)

Guilt allows the enemy to have his will in one's life. Nothing but the Truth of God can deliver from guilt and fear.

“Guilt can affect our physical bodies. David's sin caused him to murder Uriah, and his guilt affected his physical body, i.e., his “vitality was turned into the drought of summer.” Like Peter, some people have uncontrollable tears because of guilt. Many individuals can not get to sleep at night because of their guilt. Sadly, many Christians today lead miserable lives because guilt has a hold



on them.

Guilt often leads to other sins as well. Cain's guilt led to depression and finally murder. Judas allowed his guilt to lead him to take his own life. Herod and Herodias allowed their guilt to end in the murder of John. Guilt can cause you to hate and lash out at those who are trying to help you."

<https://www.padfield.com/2000/guilt.html>

The preacher confronted David with his sin, and Psalms 51 was the result.

From the time of the Fall, man realizes he is separated from the Holy God. Guilt caused Adam to hide from God, and attempt to cover his sin. Adam's effort did not satisfy God. God showed man how to be reunited with his Creator and be free from his guilt through God's ordained means, the blood atonement. (Leviticus 1) From the time of the Fall, man believes he is his own god, and denies the reality of sin. Thus, he sees no need of God's required way of atonement. Yet the need of atonement (punishment) for his sin cannot be ignored, which has led to many efforts to atone for his sin apart from submission to God's way.

**Webmed.com:** "If you're guilty, you're probably getting stressed. If your body releases stress chemicals, it puts you at risk for minor stuff like headaches and backaches," McKee tells WebMD. And that's not all. "It [guilt] also contributes to cardiovascular disease and gastrointestinal disorders. It can even have a negative impact on the immune system over time," McKee says.

Guilt also takes a toll on an already fragile mental state. "It contributes significantly to depression, as it is very often involves a negative view of self, and to anxiety," McKee explains.

<https://www.webmd.com/balance/features/is-guilt-getting-best-of-you#2>

**Psychology Today** list 10 things about guilt. (That guilt can be biblical guilt or manufactured guilt generated by lies.)

**1. Guilt protects our relationships.** Guilt moves us to make things right in our interpersonal relationships. (Matthew 18:15ff gives God's answer to interpersonal relationships.) **2. We experience 5 hours a week of guilty feelings.** **3. Unresolved guilt is like having a snooze alarm in your head that won't shut off.** (Does guilt hinder our prayers?) **4. Guilty feelings make it difficult to think straight.** **5. Guilt makes us reluctant to enjoy life.** **6. Guilt can make one self-punish; that is, masochistic** which means covering or dealing with guilt through self-punishment. (We will see more about masochism shortly.) **7. Guilt can make you avoid the**

**person you've wronged. 8. Guilt trips make you feel guilty but also resentful.**

"You never call me" may get a call from the accused, but makes him or her less likely to want to call. The wicked know that by placing guilt, real or manufactured, on others they can get them to do whatever they desire. However, placing that guilt builds up resentment, and how much resentment can people tolerate?

Glen Beck, 7/17 interviewed a man who was brought here from Cuba when he was 13. The man said that one man can cause enough fear to change a society through terrorism.

**9. Guilt-prone people assume they've harmed others when they haven't.** That is, we feel we have harmed another though we have not. That fear may shut us up in our homes, and it will certainly bring about unnecessary stress. **10. Guilty feelings may make you feel literally heavier and more belabored.** One can never be free from a self-imposed and imaginary burden of guilt. (Come unto me ye that are heavy laden...)

Guilt is a burden too heavy to bear. The stress of that weight leads to a multitude of physical problems. Even physical activities require more effort.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-squeaky-wheel/201411/10-things-you-didnt-know-about-guilt>

**Fear and anxiety** accompany guilt and shame since there is an underlying fear connected to feelings of guilt. The shameful person fears being found out or exposed for their deep feelings towards oneself, although this tends to be an invalid thought process.

<https://medium.com/the-mission/why-guilt-and-shame-carry-a-strong-burden-how-to-make-peace-with-them-and-transform-your-life-54ec6451fa2>

• FEAR

And upon them that are left alive of you I will send a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; and the sound of a shaken leaf shall chase them; and they shall flee, as fleeing from a sword; and they shall fall when none pursueth. (**Le 26:36**)

And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding. (Job 28:28. Ps 18:6, 28:1, 29z;25, ec 12:13, Song 2:8, Jer 49:5, Dan 10:19, Lu 18:4, John 7:13, Heb 13:6, 1 Pe 1:17, 3:15)

Deuteronomy 28 gives the horrible results of a people who forget God.

V. 15 *But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken*

*unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: which includes subjection to a foreign nation, v. 36.*

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## DO PSYCHIATRIC MEDS AND WAR GAMES LEAD TO MASS SHOOTINGS?

Analysis by Dr. Joseph MercolaFact. June 16, 2022

### STORY AT-A-GLANCE

While many have bought into the simplistic idea that availability of firearms is the cause of mass shootings, a number of experts have pointed out a more uncomfortable truth, which is that mass shootings are far more likely the result of how we've been mistreating mental illness, depression and behavioral problems.

Gun control legislation has shown that law-abiding Americans who own guns are not the problem, because the more gun control laws that have been passed, the more mass shootings have occurred.

97.8% of mass shootings occur in “gun-free zones,” as the perpetrators know legally armed citizens won't be there to stop them.

Depression per se rarely results in violence. Only after antidepressants became commonplace did mass shootings really take off, and many mass shooters have been shown to be on antidepressants.

Antidepressants, especially selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), are well-known for their ability to cause suicidal and homicidal ideation and violence

An article written by Molly Carter, initially published on ammo.com at an unknown date<sup>1</sup> and subsequently republished by The Libertarian Institute in May 2019,<sup>2</sup> and psychreg.org in late January 2021,<sup>3</sup> noted:

“According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a mass murder occurs when at least four people are murdered, not including the shooter ... during a single incident ...

Seemingly every time a mass shooting occurs ... the anti-gun media and politicians have a knee-jerk response — they blame the tragedy solely on the tool used, namely firearms, and focus all of their proposed ‘solutions’ on more laws, ignoring that the murderer already broke numerous laws when they committed their atrocity.

Facts matter when addressing such an emotionally

charged topic, and more gun control legislation has shown that law-abiding Americans who own guns are NOT the problem. Consider the following: The more gun control laws that are passed, the more mass murders have occurred.

Whether or not this is correlation or causation is debatable. What is not debatable is that this sick phenomenon of mass murderers targeting ‘gun-free zones,’ where they know civilian carry isn't available to law-abiding Americans, is happening.

According to the Crime Prevention Research Center,<sup>4</sup> 97.8% of public shootings occur in ‘gun-free zones’ – and ‘gun-free zones’ are the epitome of the core philosophical tenet of gun control, that laws are all the defense one needs against violence ...

This debate leads them away from the elephant in the room and one of the real issues behind mass shootings — mental health and prescription drugs.

Ignoring what's going on in the heads of these psychopaths not only allows mass shootings to continue, it leads to misguided gun control laws that violate the Second Amendment and negate the rights of law-abiding U.S. citizens.

As Jeff Snyder put it in The Washington Times: ‘But to ban guns because criminals use them is to tell the innocent and law-abiding that their rights and liberties depend not on their own conduct, but on the conduct of the guilty and the lawless, and that the law will permit them to have only such rights and liberties as the lawless will allow.’”

### **The Elephant in the Room: Antidepressants**

Thoughts, emotions and a variety of environmental factors play into the manifestation of violence, but mental illness by itself cannot account for the massive rise in mass murder — unless you include antidepressants in the equation. Yet even when mental health does enter the mass shooter discussion, the issue of antidepressants, specifically, is rarely mentioned.

The fact is, depression per se rarely results in violence. Only after antidepressants became commonplace did mass shootings take off, and many mass shooters have been shown to be on antidepressants.

Prozac, released in 1987, was the first selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) to be approved for depression and anxiety. Only two years earlier, direct-to-consumer advertising had been legalized. In the mid-

1990s, the Food and Drug Administration loosened regulations, direct-to-consumer ads for SSRIs exploded and, with it, prescriptions for SSRIs.

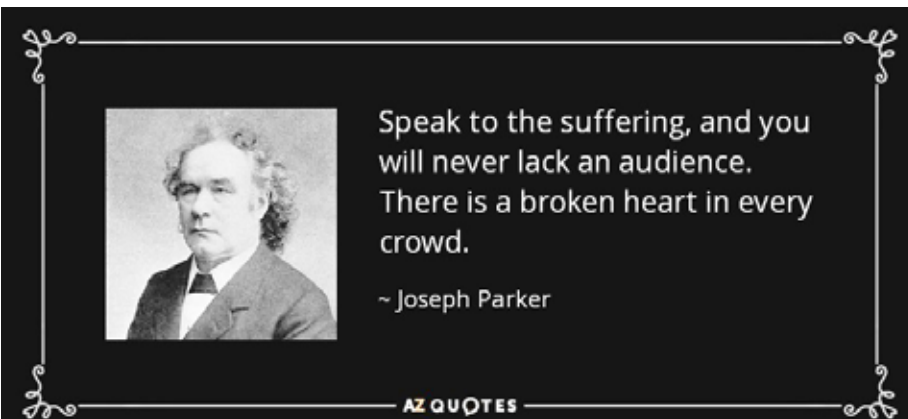
In 1989, just two years after Prozac came to market, Joseph Wesbecker shot 20 of his coworkers, killing nine. He had been on Prozac for one month, and the survivors of the drug-induced attack sued Eli Lilly, the maker of Prozac. Since then, antidepressant use and mass shootings have both risen, more or less in tandem.

In the two decades between 1988 and 2008, antidepressant use in the U.S. rose by 400%,<sup>5</sup> and by 2010, 11% of the U.S. population over the age of 12 were on an antidepressant prescription.<sup>6</sup>

In 1982, pre-Prozac, there was one mass shooting in the U.S.<sup>7</sup> In 1984, there were two incidents and in 1986 — the year Prozac was released — there was one. One to three mass shootings per year remained the norm up until 1999, when it jumped to five.

How can we possibly ignore the connection between rampant use of drugs known to directly cause violent behavior and the rise in mass shootings?

Another jump took place in 2012, when there were seven mass shootings. And while the annual count has gone up and down from year to year, there's been a clear trend of an increased number of mass shootings post-2012. Over time, mass shootings have also gotten larger, with more people getting injured or killed per



incident.<sup>8</sup>

How can we possibly ignore the connection between rampant use of drugs known to directly cause violent behavior and the rise in mass shootings? Suicidal ideation, violence and homicidal ideation are all known side effects of these drugs. Sometimes, the drugs disrupt brain function so dramatically the perpetrator can't

even remember what they did.

For example, in 2001, a 16-year-old high schooler was prescribed Effexor, starting off at 40 milligrams and moving up to 300 mg over the course of three weeks. On the first day of taking a 300-mg dose, the boy woke up with a headache, decided to skip school and went back to bed.

Some time later, he got up, took a rifle to his high school and held 23 classmates hostage at gunpoint. He later claimed he had no recollection of anything that happened after he went back to bed that morning.<sup>9</sup>

#### • THE RISKS ARE CLEAR

The risks of psychiatric disturbances are so clear, ever since mid-October 2004, all antidepressants in the U.S. must include a black box warning that the drug can cause suicidal thoughts and behaviors, especially in those younger than 25, and that:<sup>10</sup>

“Anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility (aggressiveness), impulsivity, akathisia (psychomotor restlessness), hypomania, and mania have been reported in adult and pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder as well as for other indications, both psychiatric and nonpsychiatric.”

SSRIs can also cause emotional blunting and detachment, such that patients report “not feeling” or “not caring” about anything or anyone, as well as psychosis and hallucinations. All of these side effects can contribute to someone acting out an unthinkable violent crime.

In one review<sup>11,12</sup> of 484 drugs in the FDA's database, 31 were found to account for 78.8% of all cases of violence against others, and 11 of those drugs were antidepressants.

The researchers concluded that violence against others was a “genuine and serious adverse drug event” and that

of the drugs analyzed, SSRI antidepressants and the smoking cessation medication, varenicline (Chantix), had the strongest associations. The top-five most dangerous SSRIs were:<sup>13</sup>

**Fluoxetine (Prozac)**, which increased aggressive behavior 10.9 times. **Paroxetine (Paxil)**, which increased violent behavior 10.3 times. **Fluvoxamine (Luvox)**,

which increased violent behavior 8.4 times. **Venlafaxine (Effexor)**, which increased violent behavior 8.3 times. **Desvenlafaxine (Pristiq)**, which increased violent behavior 7.9 times

### **Depression Is Vastly Overdiagnosed**

In her article, Carter also reviewed the clinical determinants for a diagnosis of clinical depression warranting medication. To qualify, you must experience five or more of the following symptoms, most of the day, every day, for two weeks or more, and the symptoms must be severe enough to interfere with normal everyday functioning:<sup>14</sup>

Sadness • Anxiety • Feeling hopeless • Feeling worthless • Feeling helpless • Feeling 'empty' • Feeling guilty • Irritable • Fatigue • Lack of energy • Loss of interest in hobbies • Slow talking and moving • Restlessness • Trouble concentrating • Abnormal sleep patterns, whether sleeping too much or not enough • Abnormal weight changes, either eating too much or having no appetite • Thoughts of death or suicide

The reality is that a majority of patients who receive a depression diagnosis and subsequent prescription for an antidepressant do not, in fact, qualify. In one study,<sup>15</sup> only 38.4% actually met the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) criteria, and among older adults, that ratio was even lower. Only 14.3% of those aged 65 and older met the diagnostic criteria. According to the authors:<sup>16</sup>

“Participants who did not meet the 12-month MDE criteria reported less distress and impairment in role functioning and used fewer services. A majority of both groups, however, were prescribed and used psychiatric medications.

**Conclusion: Depression overdiagnosis and over-treatment is common in community settings in the USA.** There is a need for improved targeting of diagnosis and treatments of depression and other mental disorders in these settings.”

### **What Role Might War Games Play?**

Aside from antidepressants, another factor that gets ignored is the influence of shooting simulations, i.e., violent video games. How does the military train soldiers for war? Through simulations. With the proliferation of video games involving indiscriminate violence, should we really be surprised when this “training” is then put into practice?

As reported by World Bank Blogs, young men who experience violence “often struggle to reintegrate peacefully into their communities” when hostilities end.<sup>17</sup> While American youth typically have little experience with real-world war, simulated war games do occupy much of their time and may over time color their everyday perceptions of life. As noted by Central, some of the top benefits of simulations training include:<sup>18</sup>

Allowing you to practice genuine real-life scenarios and response Repetition of content, which boosts knowledge retention Personalization and diversification, so you can learn from your mistakes and evaluate your performance, thereby achieving a deeper level of learning In short, violent mass shooter games are the perfect training platform for future mass shooters. Whereas a teenager without such exposure might not be very successful at carrying out a mass shooting due to inexperience with weapons and tactics, one who has spent many hours, years even, training in simulations could have knowledge akin to that of military personnel.

Add antidepressant side effects such as emotional blunting and loss of impulse control, and you have a perfect prescription for a mass casualty event.

On top of that, we, as a nation, also demonstrate the “righteousness” of war by engaging in them without end.<sup>19</sup> When was the last time the U.S. was not at war someplace? It’s been ongoing for decades.

Even now, the U.S. insists on inserting itself into the dispute between Russia and Ukraine, and diplomacy isn’t the chosen conflict resolution tool. Sending weapons to Ukraine and calling for more violence against Russians are. Sen. Lindsey Graham has even called for the assassination of Russian President Vladimir Putin. Showing just how serious such a suggestion is, the White House had to publicly disavow it, stating Graham’s comment “is not the position of the U.S. government.”<sup>20</sup>

Graham, meanwhile, does not appear to understand how his nonchalant call for murder might actually incite murder. In the wake of the Uvalde school shooting, he now wants to mobilize retired service members to enhance security at schools, and while that might be a good idea, how about also vowing never to call for the murder of political opponents? Don’t politicians understand that this could translate into some kid thinking it’s acceptable to murder THEIR perceived opponents?

As far as I can tell, mass shootings have far more to do with societal norms, dangerous medications, a lack of high-quality mental health services, and the normalization of violence through entertainment and in politics, than it does with gun laws per se.

There are likely many other factors as well, but these are clearly observable phenomena known to nurture violent behavior. I'm afraid Americans are in need of a far deeper and more introspective analysis of the problem than many are capable of at the moment. But those who can should try, and make an effort to affect much-needed change locally and in their own home.

[https://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2022/06/16/causes-of-mass-shootings.aspx?ui=62275c4f6eb5e1c6872faec264ac18ae89396dd486d6b98af038d9fef2e3c00d&sd=20110406&cid\\_source=dnl&cid\\_medium=email&cid\\_content=art1HL&cid=20220616\\_HL2&mid=DM1191740&rid=1521997776](https://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2022/06/16/causes-of-mass-shootings.aspx?ui=62275c4f6eb5e1c6872faec264ac18ae89396dd486d6b98af038d9fef2e3c00d&sd=20110406&cid_source=dnl&cid_medium=email&cid_content=art1HL&cid=20220616_HL2&mid=DM1191740&rid=1521997776)

### Observations

Shootings (False Flags to get public support for gun control) and tragic events of all kinds as well as simply disquieting events bring out the “mental health experts” by the dozens. We never hear of a representative of the true source of peace called to the scene, *i.e.*, a gospel preacher. **There is no God, so the only hope is in the experts in the humanistic religion.** We know those experts prescribe antidepressants though the side effects are well known. Because of man's hatred of God, he would rather have the whole population destroyed than to admit the hope is in the Law Word of God.

**No one wants to connect the dots.** Due to the loss of the Christian hope and faith, anxiety prevails, and rather than turning to the Gospel, men turn to Pharmaceuticals, *i.e.*, *sorceries*:

**Pharmakeia is a form of the Greek root word from which we get our English words: Pharmacy, Pharmacist, and Pharmaceutical.** In the Bible, pharmakeia carried with it the idea of sorcery, occultism, and black magic. It is in this sense that Paul used the term in Galatians 5.20 as the word ‘witchcraft’. In Rev. 9:21 & 18:23 it is translated ‘sorceries’. ...

<https://www.contendingfortruth.com/pharmakeia-sorcery-pharmaceuticals-the-roots-of-modern-day-drug/>

The loss of Christianity on a national level is making itself known. Shootings, killings, murder! what is going on? It has been shown that the more anti-anxiety or mental health drugs the more shootings we have; as more of these mental health drugs are being used, the more uncontrolled people become; the mental health professionals come in after shooting or something else,

and their answer to the mental health problem is humanistic counseling and more pharmaceuticals.

**Psalms 42:11** *Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God. (Ps 43:5)*

## WISDOM

Exodus 28:3 *And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.*

**I have filled with the spirit of wisdom.** This is the first time the word *wisdom* is used in Scripture. It is important to understand the context of *wisdom* and to remember it every time spiritual *wisdom* and *power* is referred to in God's word. As we consider the source, purpose and some practical applications of *the spirit of wisdom*, we will see that it is not even remotely connected with mystical attitudes or feelings.

15 *This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. 16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. (James 3)*

**Worldly wisdom is separate from morality because it is in essence separate from God's law-word.**

*Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. (De 4:6)*

We praise the wisdom of those who make great advances in science, medication, engineering, &c., but if that wisdom is apart from God's law, morality, that is worldly wisdom at work. Worldly wisdom is not virtuous wisdom, for it is separate from God.

Without a good working knowledge of the power and work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament, it is impossible to understand the New Testament teaching on the power and work of the Holy Spirit, for every New Testament doctrine must be understood in light of its Old Testament illustrations. (2 Ti 3:16) Regardless of what has been taught for the last 100 years within Christian circles—promoted chiefly by the Keswicks—the power and wisdom of the Spirit is something that is very practical, as it applies to everyday life and involves

simply knowing and doing *the Law of the Lord* in our daily activities. (James 1:21) Accordingly, *the spirit of wisdom* is active whether we are painting a car, working in a factory, farming, studying Scripture &c.

**Keil says concerning Exodus 28:3,**

In the Old Testament *wisdom* is constantly used for practical intelligence in the affairs of life; here, for example, it is equivalent to artistic skill surpassing man's natural ability, which is therefore described as being filled with the divine spirit of wisdom.

The book of Proverbs is an instruction book concerning how to apply the *law of the Lord* into our everyday activity.

• **OBSERVE:**

**First, the source** of *the spirit of wisdom* is the Lord, not Moses nor any man, Job 38:36, Proverbs 2:6. The Lord later identified to Moses the ones to whom He had endowed with the necessary skills to do the work. ("Natural gifts" are provided by the Lord according to his good pleasure, e.g., working with one's hands, mental capacities, &c. 1 Cor 4:7. Worldly wisdom is separate from morality because it is in essence separate from God. The world see wisdom as a virtue apart from being virtuous, James 3.)

A pastor's responsibility is to teach and encourage his people to use their abilities for the glory of God in the kingdom work. (All work is kingdom work! Mat 6:33, Eph 4:12.) Moses did not (nor was he commanded to) use "wisdom of words" to persuade the people to volunteer for the work of the kingdom, cf. 1 Co 1:17, 2:4, 13. The Lord equipped and called the individuals to do His work; Moses was simply told to speak the command word of God to the people and tell them what to do. In Exodus 25:2, Moses was responsible for giving the people the opportunity to give of their talent and finances to the work of God; the people were responsible for using their God-given abilities and wealth for the Lord, and the Lord made them willing.

Not only does God give special gifts and abilities over and above natural abilities to certain individuals with which to serve Himself, e.g., carpentry, mechanical, "artistic skill," &c, but unique "spiritual" gifts, such as developing and teaching the word of God, service in the Kingdom, &c., but He, according to His good pleasure,



gives to all their gifts and abilities for everyday life, Rom 12:4-6, 1 Cor 12:1-7, Eph 4:7, 1 Cor 4:7, &c. Therefore, everyone is responsible for using his God-given abilities as needed in His particular life occupation, and each must honour

Him with the firstfruits of his labour.

**Second, the purpose of the spirit of wisdom:** *That they may make...* The Lord told Moses that there were very practical purposes for giving His special *spirit of wisdom* to certain persons; it was so they could work according to God's instructions.

Thus, *the spirit of wisdom:* **1)** had to be supplied by the Lord; **2)** was so the individuals could do hard skilled work for the glory of the Lord (in this case, making the priest's glorious and beautiful garments and the Lord's glorious and beautiful tabernacle); **3)** involved tremendous skill, including skill to engrave precious stones, including diamonds (no mean skill in itself); **4)** involved great understanding of the will, work and word of God.

Observe that God's *spirit of wisdom* here had nothing to do with "education," as we think of education, or with the current idea of some mystical attitude or feeling as presented by modern apostate Christianity. Godly, Biblical *wisdom and power of the spirit* is "practical intelligence," the ability to work hard at our occupational calling and apply the commandments of God to our every word, thought and deed. Godly wisdom is the ability to apply the command word of God to every situation of life, even pounding a nail.

**Third, some practical applications** of God's *spirit of wisdom:* *the spirit of wisdom* deals with practical skill and ability applied to any job or responsibility at hand and, as in Ex 28, applied especially to the work of the Lord, Ex 31:1-4, 35:31, 35; 36:1, 2. In 1 Chron 28:21, *wisdom* is called *skill*.

Accordingly, we see that evidence of God's *spirit of wisdom* at work is not some mystical feeling or "supernatural action," but simply the ability to go about our daily responsibilities in a skillful manner for God's glory, 1 Cor 10:31; Col 3:17, 23; 1 Pet 4:11.

Moreover, the power of the spirit or the spirit of wisdom enables both men and women to do needed practical things for the advancement of the kingdom of God, Ex 35:26; Mat 6:33. Some random applications of ***the spirit of wisdom***:

The mark of a godly leader is *the spirit of wisdom*, Deuteronomy 34:9. Joshua, with God's *spirit of wisdom*, knew how to apply the command-word of God to the situations in which God's people found themselves and consequently lead them to victory, John 1:5-9.

More often than not, wisdom is knowing when to keep quiet, Job 13:5.

God's *spirit of wisdom* is not necessarily something which is developed immediately but over a period of time as we grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord; we learn how to properly apply the word of God to situations through study of His word and trial and error, Job 32:7. Most of our lessons in wisdom are through failure (the school of hard knocks). We fail to properly apply the word of God, and the "evil" results come to pass which should cause increased desire for, and more work towards, God's wisdom, Psalms 51:6.

- The scorning fool is identified as he who will not listen to and apply God's commands to his life, thoughts and actions, Pro 1:7, Pr 14:6.

- When wisdom (the commandments of God) is applied to life, sin departs, Job 28:28, Pro 15:33.

- There is a great deal of false teaching concerning wisdom today, but *There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD*, Pro 21:30.

- When a child departs from the commands of the Lord and the rod is applied, he is "driven" back to wisdom, he is driven back to the proper application of the commands of God, Pro 23:13, 29:15. Note that the rod must not be used indiscriminately, but according to the word of God.

- A poor man's practical application of good common sense will accomplish more good than all the "wisdom" of the world combined, which, of course, the wise of this world will never admit. The world's "wisdom" scorns all who have not obtained to its level, and the result is the destruction of society, Ecc 9:15-18.

The Lord expressed His wrath, and moved in that wrath against the King of Assyria for thinking that he obtained his dominion by his own wisdom, Isa 10:12f. (V. 13, *For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have*

*done it, and by my wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man...*) Moreover, notice what the Lord promised to do to this proud king, v. 16, *Therefore shall the Lord, the Lord of hosts, send among his fat ones leanness; and under his glory he shall kindle a burning like the burning of a fire.* (Cf. Isa 29:14, 47:10; Jer 9:23; Ez ch 28). Will the Lord do any less today against those who feel that they, by their own wisdom, have accomplished what they have?

There is a vast amount of "Christian Material" on the market and in the mail today professing to be "wisdom oriented," but how much of that material takes the word of God and applies it to situations at hand? If the material does not, it is not presenting the wisdom of God; rather, it presents man's wisdom and humanist, man-centered philosophy (even though it might contain immense amounts of Scripture references).

**Biblically, *the spirit of wisdom* is the practical, intelligent use of the word of God in the affairs of life.**

At times being filled with *the spirit of wisdom* is equated with artistic skill surpassing man's natural ability, but at all times it is the ability to work skillfully and hard at whatever is before us, whether in ourselves, our home, church, society or occupation. When we work skillfully and hard in every area of life, God is honored in all we do.

We need to pray that the Lord will raise up people and give them His wisdom and skill to do His work to advance His kingdom. All we can do is proclaim the command-word of the Lord and give the people of God the opportunity to work for the Lord. The Lord must do the rest.

- **ADDED NOTE**

As man progressive departs from the Christian faith, he considers himself self-sufficient with no need for the Christian God and prayer. The result is that he becomes anxious, sleepless and more dependent on artificial solutions, e.g., aspirins, liquor, drugs, and sleep aids of all kinds. Man may believe he is autonomous, with no need for the Christian God and prayer; he may claim to be autonomous, but that is an impossible dream. Those who refuse to trust in the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, and pray to the Father though the Son are cursed to be like the troubled sea which cannot rest without some strong "sleep aids." (Isa 57:20) How many times

have I turned to my wife during one of those sleep-aid commercials, and said “They are replacing faith with drugs?” **1 Thess 5:17** *Pray without ceasing. 18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.* Hence, **Romans 8:28** contains the requirement of trusting the absolute and total providence of God.

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## TURN US AGAIN

*Ps 80:3 Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.*

Ver. 3. “Turn us again, O God.” It is not so much said, “turn our captivity,” but “turn us.” All will come right if we are right. The best turn is not that of circumstances but of character. When the Lord turns his people he will soon turn their condition. It needs the Lord himself to do this, for conversion is as divine a work as creation; and those who have been once turned unto God, if they at any time backslide, as much need the Lord to turn them again as to turn them at the first. The word may be read, “restore us”; verily, it is a choice mercy that “he restoreth my soul.” CHS

The problem is not circumstances but character. Only with a change of character can circumstances be changed.

It was not **turn our captivity, but turn us**. Changes in circumstances will not solve the problem of captivity. Nor is this a self-help effort, but realization that the Lord alone can turn hearts to himself. Moreover, the Lord alone must change character which must take place before there can be a change of circumstances.

*18 So will not we go back from thee: quicken us, and we will call upon thy name. 19 Turn us again, O LORD God of hosts, cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved.*

Sin caused the Lord to turn from his people. Personal responsibility, prayer, repentance providence, sovereignty, mercy, &c. How do they all work together? There is no confusing in the God-Head. Confusion reigns when we try to reduce these to human reasoning.

*Lamentations 5:21 Turn thou us unto thee, O LORD, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old.*

(1) By which is declared that it is not in man’s power to turn to God, but is only his work to

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convert us, and thus God works in us before we can turn to him, # Jer 31:18. Geneva

**The Prophet shews, in this verse, that the remedy is in God’s hand whenever he is pleased to succor his people.**

He, then, exalts here the power of God, as though he had said, that God is not without power, but that he can, whenever he pleases, help his people. This is not, indeed, a sufficient ground for confidence, yet it is the beginning of hope; for whence is it that despair weakens us, so that we cannot call on God? because we think that it is all over with us; and whence is this? because we impiously confine the power of God; nay, we in a manner, through our unbelief, repel his power, which would otherwise be exerted in our behalf. As, then, we thus close the door against God, when we extenuate his power, and think that our evils will prevail; it is, therefore, as I have said, the beginning of hope to believe that all the issues of death are in God’s hand, and that were we a hundred times swallowed up, yet he, by stretching forth his hand to us, can become the author of salvation to us at any moment. (Calvin)

God alone determines what happens to his people, and we cannot question him. He kills and makes alive.

