

The Biblical Examiner

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THE THEOLOGY OF HISTORY

By Rev. Need

In Deuteronomy 1:19-46, Moses recounts Israel's history over the past 40 years.

Webster: "History is an account of facts, particularly of facts respecting nations or states; a narration of events in the order in which they happened, with their causes and effects."

History is theological in its nature, for all the doctrines of the New Testament are based on history as recorded in the Old Testament, including Christ. It records the order of events, and the causes and effects of those events. History shows us how God's law works in people and nations. History enables one to prophesy the future because history shows the order of events and the God-established outcome of those events. Honest history shows us that events have consequences, though they may not come to pass for many hundreds of years.

Scripture tells us to study history

2 Timothy 3:14 *But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned [them]; 15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able*

to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Paul gives at least 7 points about the importance of **Biblical history**:

1. history makes one wise unto salvation through faith in Christ.
2. history is given by inspiration, so biblical history is the only true history. History outside of scripture has been corrupted beyond recognition.
3. history is required in order to obtain proper doctrine. Doctrine that is not supported by biblical history is false.
4. history defines the proper method of reproof and correction. How many times did the OT prophets reprove and correct religious leaders and kings?
[Reproof. a proof, that by which a thing is proved or tested. **That is,** proof of one's sin comes from what is recorded in the Law and the Prophets. "to show people their sins." **Correction.** 1) restoration to an upright or right state. 2) correction, improvement of life or character. Proverbs is one of the better-known books for reproof and correction.]
6. history gives the proper instruction in right living.

Contents

The Theology of History...1; Need to study for God's Approval...5
Amy Carmichael...6; Clinging to the Core...8; From California Dreaming"...9; Tyranny and Confederate Battle Flag...9; The homeschooling revolution...13
China...15; HAPPY BIRTHDAY...16; Definitions...17;
The American Military Paradox...17; What is going on...19;
Various...19; Personal...21; How Growing Up in a Christian Home...21; 'Amazing grace' is 250 years old...22

7. finally, history is required to mature the Christian in all good works as required by the LORD.

This writer has found that more than a few Christians are bored with both Biblical and non-Biblical history. However, a good knowledge of Biblical history is required for sound doctrine and Christian maturity. A good knowledge of biblical history is required for the man of God to be furnished unto all good works. [In addition, secular history can throw a great amount of light on biblical events. Example: Alaxander the Great who overthrew the Persian Empire, and Julius Caesar who conquered the world and stationed his troops in those nations. He built the roads for the ready movement of his troops. Those roads that were later used to spread the gospel like wildfire.]

History records Godly cause and effect on men and nations. Humanism must deny any relationship of history to the present; humanism must rewrite history for the masses in order to justify that history, to prove there is no God as well as to prove that their wicked cause is right. The humanist religion must deny that history has meaning because history means that God has worked in men and nations from the very beginning of time, time which they deny has a beginning. God has preserved true history for man's warnings and instructions.

The wicked see and teach history apart from the Christian God for to then *there is no God* who controls history. The wicked have replaced history with social studies which allow the teacher to go anywhere he wants and mold the student according to the desires of the state. The ungodly must consider history as no more than a meaningless collection of facts that can be changed at will to suit the desires of the wicked.

PARENTHESIS

The "Jews," that is, the Ashkenazi Jews who claim Palestine today are descendants of a very vile tribe, the Turkic Ashkenazi who was a son of Gomer from the Caucasus. They are Caucasian, with no connection at all with the Hebrews who came out of Egypt. Their homeland was the Ukraine and Russia; they had no connection whatsoever with Palestine. In c. 740 AD, Blan the Kazar King grew weary of the vileness of the Kazars, so he converted to Talmudic Judaism and ordered the conversion of all the Kazar tribe under his control. They took on new "Biblical Israelite" names, named all their children accordingly, and hired "memory merchants" to rewrite their history. And thus, the lie becomes truth that calls the "Christian world" to war in

support of that lie. See Essays on Judaism, biblicalexaminer.org/JudaismOpen.html

95% of Ashkenazi Jews are Khazars: *The Times of Israel*, August 30, 2017. <http://blogs.timesofisrael.com/leaked-report-israel-acknowledges-jews-in-fact-khazars-secret-plan-for-reverse-migration-to-ukraine/> Accordingly, the right of Gomer's son, Ashkenaz to claim Palestine as a "Jewish Homeland" was not according to Scripture, but according to UN resolution 181, May 14, 1948.

<https://www.adl.org/resources/glossary-terms/founding-of-the-state-of-israel-may-14-1948>.

Bulan was a Khazar king who led the conversion of the Turkic tribe of Khazars to Talmudic Judaism. His name means "elk" (Moose) in Old Turkic. In modern Turkish, it means *The one who finds* (Bul + a2n). The date of his reign is unknown, as the date of the conversion is hotly disputed, though it is certain that Bulan reigned some time between the mid-8th and the mid-9th centuries. Nor is it settled whether Bulan was the Bek or the Khagan of the Khazars. His conversion is placed at about 740 A.D

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulan_\(Khazar\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulan_(Khazar)). King Joseph's letter gives more details.

Thus, the "Evangelical community" is supporting the self-proclaimed Jews in their effort to wipe out the Palestinians. See Essays on Judaism, *A New History I & II*. It was a false flag that allowed the Palestinians to come into Israel and do great damage, and give the Israelis an excuse to destroy the Palestinians and take over their land. The nation of Israel wants that access to the sea and will do anything to get it. **False flag again?** The agitators on the campus who are stirring up anti-Israel sentiment could well be Israel stirring up the turmoil in order to get Congress to support "anti-Semitism" (they are not Semites, but Ashkenaz Turks) laws in the US that will prosecute any negative words against the Turks who follow the Talmudic Jewish religion a self-proclaimed Turks who follow the Jewish religion. Hence, "Israel" is antichrist, for Judaism repudiates Christ yet Christians support them. Israel's propaganda has worked wonders. Where are the protestors against Christian persecution? The Federal Reserve system is owned by very high-powered Jewish bankers. We are now paying \$1 trillion a year in interest on the money they created and loan to the US.]

END PARENTHESIS

Biblical history is the source of law, so for man's law to prevail, true history must be ignored and replaced

with a history more appealing to the goals of the wicked. History shows God's natural laws in action, so that law must be replaced with the laws of "mother nature" which has no god.

The wicked understand that lies can replace true history if told often enough. This generation has been taught climate crisis, and they will live in fear of global warming. Thank the Lord for homeschooling!

We are told in Ephesians 4:14, that because Christians do not know history, they are *tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;*

Today, history is little more than political propaganda. Truth has been sacrificed on altar of political agendas; truth has become irrelevant, and history is no more than personal opinions which changes with the time. We no longer know what the law is because law has become detached from the reality of history, and has no relationship to life. More and more we are seeing that the only truth is in THE TRUTH, and the wicked must destroy that TRUTH, or at least cut the population off from that TRUTH by spending 12 years in approved statist education, and the products are unable to read. Every homeschooler and Christian school realizes that it takes real effort to spend 12 years and not teach anything, yet they get an astounding amount of money per student from our property tax.

Ignore the Scriptures as history, and the conclusion will be that man does not have a history. **Without true history, the "powers that be" see those beneath them as no more than white lab rats or guinea pigs at their disposal for experimentation in their continuing efforts to overthrow God's created order, such as GMO, Painting the sky to control the climate, green energy, fake food, vaccines, the list is endless.**

- After a lengthy legal battle, a document has been made public in which AstraZeneca admits that its COVID-19 experimental vaccine can cause a deadly blood-clotting condition.

- Documents have surfaced that prove the CDC and the Pharmacal industry knew the "Jab" would cause great harm and death, even before the great push to vaccinate everyone. Both the CDC and the Pharmaceuticals have proved that money has corrupted them beyond any trust; they see the public as no more than an ATM to be used to increase their wealth and influence. Even Fauci has admitted the whole thing has been a

fraud, yet no one is held responsible. The perpetrators knew they would not be held responsible. The corrupters of elections know that after the vote is counted, no one will be held responsible for the frauds, and the results will stand.

- Iowa's governor is signing a bill that forbids fake meat to be labeled as meat. Florida is totally banning fake meat. I wonder what they will do when Tyson starts adding bugs to the products they sell as meat that does not need to be labeled as containing bug protein.

Without true history, the wicked see those beneath them as no more than white lab rats or guinea pigs at their disposal for experimentation in their effort to overthrow God's created order.

Moses' review of Israel's history shows us that all things are being controlled by Tri-une God's divine providence for the benefit of His people, and for the glory of God. Biblical history assures us that all events, even to the smallest hair on our head and every lowly sparrow, are working together to subdue all things under the footstool of Christ before the end comes, 1 Corinthians 15.

History is not the product of chance but evidence of Divine Providence.

"History is an account of facts, particularly of facts respecting nations or states; a narration of events in the order in which they happened, with their causes and effects."

As we study and learn biblical and secular history, we see God's law at work according to the faithfulness or unfaithfulness of man to His law. In other words, man willingly and knowingly destroys himself because the way of life and death are clearly spelled out in both biblical and nonbiblical history.

We must not overlook an important point here as Moses' reviews of history.

We see that it was not time for Israel to go in, for the promised rest cannot be claimed by the law of Moses, but by faith. The preceding generation was faithless, yet God still held them responsible for not going in.

We will find this truth throughout Scripture. God's plan for the ages is being worked through Divine Providence as Moses recounts here in Israel's history, and He holds Israel responsible for their disobedience and rebellion against God's divine word and plan.

Which brings up the natural argument against

God expressed in Romans 9:18-26.

“Why does the Lord God find fault? Who has resisted His will?” Of course, the answer is “How can man, the creation, call God, his Creator, into question? Does not God have the right to do as He will in the kingdom which He has created out of nothing? Cannot He do whatever He pleases to make known *the manifold wisdom of God?* (Ephesians 3:10)

There are two great themes in Scripture:

First, the total sovereignty of the Tri-une God over all things according to His divine providence and for His own glory. **Proverbs 21:1** *The king's heart [is] in the hand of the LORD, [as] the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.*

Second, man's responsibility and accountability to God for his every action. Obviously, being the creature, man cannot understand how the two themes work together, but they do. (Rom. 11:33-36; Rom. 14:12, etc. Heb. 11:3, *Through faith we understand* those things beyond human comprehension.)

John 7:24 *Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.*

40 years previously, 10 men gave an *evil report* according to their judgment in their lack of faith.

2 men gave *righteous judgment* based on faith in the promises of God.

That is, **the evil report was based on the personal judgment** of the 10 men. Their judgment said that the wicked in the land were mightier than the God who had delivered them from Egypt by the might of His power

We are faced with the same problem as Moses. One of the favorite songs in the evangelical Christian community is “*Victory in Jesus.*” It is sung with great vigor and gusto as though they believe it. Yet that song is many times followed with a message to just hold on and endure and we will be removed from this mess (that we have created with our false theology). “Woe is us. We are victims of the world and the devil. Just hold on, and we will soon be gone.” No, they are not victims of the world and the devil. They are victims of their own ignorance of how God has worked and is working in history.

The victorious faith that settled this nation 250 years ago has been replaced with a “**Woe is us**” mentality. Since 1865, the historic victorious Christian faith that settled this nation has been undermined and abandoned

by faithless generations of Christians who lost all hope of victory over the enemy.

Why does God give victorious faith to some and not to others? Romans 9 is the only answer we can give.

Habakkuk 2:4 *Behold, his soul [which] is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.*

That is, the proud is lifted up by pride that his way is best, as the roaring and devouring lion continually says, “Follow your heart!” But the just lives by faith that God's way is best, and he walks therein.

Isaiah 30:21 *And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This [is] the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.*

Here is a quick breakdown of Moses' account of his-
tory.

First, verses 19-26. Their sin of rebellion was obvious for everyone to see. We see here that man wants to judge God's word according to his own understanding. His obedience is based on his understanding.

How many Christians insists on being the judge, and seek to have power over God's word as they depend on their own wisdom to decide for themselves what is right and wrong as did the 10 men of Israel? How many only trust God if they can agree with him? How many believe they are the judge as to whether or not God is truth or false. Such an attitude is not only extremely presumptuous, but it is a serious form of unbelief. Rebellion says “I will accept and do God's word only if I can verify it to my satisfaction?”

ANTINOMIANISM IS A COMMON FORM OF REBELLION.

Second, verses 27 - 33. Rebellion is based in unbelief. In v. 32, Moses reminds them that though the LORD God had miraculously cared for Israel, they refused to believe in the Lord God.

We live in a day when the words of evil men are regarded as gospel. Meanwhile, God's word is viewed with suspicion or else it is only accepted so far as it agrees with one's reason.

Third, 41 - 46. Israel was guilty of the sin of presumption. Presumption is following our heart regardless of what the law word of God tells us. Presumption is an act of defiance, going on without God's promise or authority.

All three churches where I served as associate pastor were deep in debt, presuming that God would pay the

debt. The last church in Louisiana had borrowed a large amount of money to pursue what they felt the Lord would have them do. They even sold bonds to the church members, several of who invested their savings in those bonds. The church was a typical dispensational church built on the charisma of the pastor and hot messages, but when he became so dependent on painkillers so he could carry on the ministry, he had to resign the church.

The result was the church went bankrupt and had to sell the property.

God pronounced judgment against faithless

Israel, yet they chose to reject His word and presumed that God would take them on their own terms. Having already disobeyed God, Israel tried to prove to God how faithful they were by disobeying him.

In verse 31 we see that Moses cared for Israel as a man doth bear his son, yet Israel said in v. 27 *Because the Lord hated us he brought us forth out of the land of Egypt to deliver us into the hands of the Amorites to destroy us.*"

The lack of faith in the providence of God leads to cowardice. Because of unbelief, the people of Israel lacked the courage to take God at his word and claim the promise 40 years previously.

Fourth, 34-40. The judgment of God. **Numbers 14:1-10** tells us that when Moses pronounced this judgment, the people organized a lynch mob to kill both Moses and Aaron. Only God's intervention prevented it.

Though God's patience with man's sin is amazing, it is not endless. If it had not been for the intercession of Moses, Aaron, Joshua and Caleb, God would have destroyed the people.

Deuteronomy 1:41, false words and tears of repentance are a smoke in the nose of the Lord.

In Hebrews 12:16, 17, though Esau repented with tears that he had lost the blessing, his repentance was

worthless.

How many people assume that tears and prayers can wipe out their sins of unbelief and presumption?

Can the reprobate shed great tears of remorse and speak pleading words of repentance to parents, husband or wife and expect forgiveness without the slightest evidence of a changed life?

The Baptist said *Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:*

This takes us back to our starting point. The **theology of history** is that God is not mocked. No one has ever made a fool of God, though many have tried.

Humanist education has no desire to learn true history. But without true history, we have no past for guidance or comfort nor do we have assurance of the future.

Biblical history is important. It is a denial of Christianity to see the Old Testament as simply a collection of interesting stories as do many Christian today. It denies Biblical history, and denies true Biblical doctrine as shown by history.

The indifference of Christians to both biblical and nonbiblical history a serious rebuke against the God of history, and assures the church of God's judgment. Ignoring history shows despise for God's handiwork work throughout history.

2 Timothy 3:14 *But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned [them]; 15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

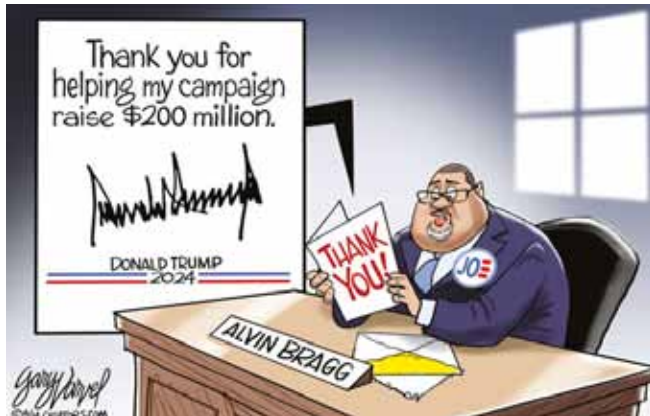
Knowledge of Biblical history is required to make one wise unto salvation!

NEED TO STUDY

FOR GOD'S APPROVAL

By Dr. Ron Rumburg

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15



The one whose approval we should seek is Him whose name is above every name, the Lord. Many people want approval from their fellow travelers, but the children of God need their Father-in-heaven's approval. One way of receiving such approval is to study "the word of truth." Here the context is the Word of God, which is to be studied; but in conjunction with that Word we need to think upon God's providential acts in time in fulfilling that Word. There is a sense then that we should study true history which reveals God's ways with men.

Modern education has destroyed the desire in many to "study" in general and to "read" in particular. "Study" should be an adventure leading one to the knowledge of the truth biblically, historically, and doctrinally. Paul, in an imperative statement, told Timothy to "study" which refers to personal application in order to discover the real truth God has revealed. The meaning of the Greek word for "study" literally refers to the exertion and diligence which is a zealousness to reach the goal of properly handling the truth revealed by God. About what is Timothy to be diligent? Gaining God's approval and rightly interpreting the Word of God! He is "to show himself approved unto God." This means to present yourself for God's approval. Our Lord Jesus came into the world as a servant, and when Satan accosted Him, He directly applied the Word to His own circumstances during the temptation (Matt. 4:1-11). This is what we should do. Knowing the Word is good, however, its benefit comes when we apply it to our circumstances. Our circumstances may not compare to others as Isaiah or Hezekiah or Jeremiah or Zedekiah, but if we know the Lord's revealed will we are able to know what to do. This is what Christians should do; use the Word as a guide under the various circumstances of life. Our motive should be to receive the Lord's well done! The applause of men is short lived, but eternity is unending. Timothy, you need to be "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed," Paul asserted! The gospel ministry, as Timothy knew, is a good work (1 Tim. 3:1) and the labor intensive. Every man's work will be tested as to what sort it really is (1 Cor. 3:9-15; 4:3-5). Our desire should be that "in nothing I shall be ashamed" (Phil. 1:20). Unashamed workmen are the opposite of those who build on wood, hay, and stubble. This work is the opposite of the one that brings ruin or catastrophic results (2 Cor. 11:13-15). An unashamed workman is the one "rightly dividing the word of truth." The word for "rightly dividing" means to cut along a straight line or to plow

a straight furrow. This is also used with reference to a stone cutter who goes to the quarry and cuts the stones according to specifications so that when they are transported to the build site they all fit exactly according to plan. [Remember, there was not a stonemason's hammer heard as Solomon's Temple was assembled. Everything fit perfectly, ed.] "Paul is telling Timothy that the Word of God is so perfect in its authorship that when each passage is exegeted properly it fits into the total picture. Thus the inner consistency of the Word of God is set forth. The careless exegete, like the careless stone mason, will find that his interpretations ... are inconsistent with others.... There are no contradictions in the divine message—only careless stone masons" [Randolph O. Yeager]. "Since Paul was a tent-maker and knew how to cut straight the rough camel-hair cloth, why not let that be the metaphor? Certainly plenty of exegesis is crooked enough to call for careful cutting to set it straight" [A. T. Robertson]. The meaning in this context is referring to one who rightly handles the word of truth or God's revelation the Bible—"to treat truthfully without falsifying" [Dean Alford]. We are responsible for our handling of God's Word, history, and providence. We should not be bullied by modern shysters with their evil agenda to twist them. Peter by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit wrote, "As also in all his epistles ... in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest [twist], as they [distort and misinterpret] ... the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction" (2 Pet. 3:16).

Ron Rumburg

AMY CARMICHAEL

This month's biographical sketch covers the life and lasting influence of Amy Carmichael and her work among the orphans of India. We hope her story will prove to be a blessing and encouragement to you and your daughters.

CHILDREN TIE THE MOTHER'S FEET

Mighty Men Herald - Virtuous Women Edition, May of 2024

It was early morning in 1901. Far away from her native land, a young Irish lady was drinking her morning tea out on her verandah. The birds were beginning to greet the morning with songs that formerly she had not been accustomed to, but which delighted her ears.

Suddenly, another woman with the name "Servant of Jesus" appeared with a seven-year-old girl. The little

dark-skinned girl climbed straight into the lap of the young white woman and began to chatter in the native language of Tamil. “My name is Pearl-eyes, and I want to stay here always.”

The little girl received a warm welcome and felt herself wrapped in a motherly hug with a tender kiss placed on her head. “My mother used to put me on her lap and kiss me,” she thought with delight. “Who is this person that kisses me like my mother?”

Little “Pearl-eyes,” called Preena by her new mother, did indeed stay in her new home always. She was the first of hundreds of girls and boys who would call Amy Carmichael their mother, or “Amma” in the native language of South India.

India is a long way from Ireland. Why was this young lady, who possessed many gifts and talents, so far from home, from her own mother and siblings in her native land? Why was she giving up all opportunities for marriage and children of her own to help poor girls (and eventually boys, too) who were being enslaved to gods of stone in pagan temples?

It began on a wet, windy day in Ireland as the Carmichael family walked home from the Sunday morning church service. A poor old woman struggled with the bundles in her arms, and Amy and two of her brothers began to help her on her way home. The damp weather and wind made the trek uncomfortable, and being seen by other respectable members of their church made it miserably embarrassing. Out of the mist and above the sound of the busy street a voice seemed to call out to Amy, a seventeen-year-old girl at the time: “Gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble – every man’s work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be declared by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is.”

Amy looked around to find the speaker. No one had spoken to her. She trudged on through the muddy street, but her heart was changed forever.

She who was once embarrassed to be seen with a poor old woman now began to search out such people in need of help. Her life and work with the temple children of South India is well known. Up until the day Preena climbed into her lap, Amy considered her work to be evangelism throughout the villages. She did not have intentions to be a mother. But on that day in March in 1901, Amy’s special work began that lasted for over fifty years in Dohnavur: the work of raising these girls and eventually boys for Jesus instead of the heathen

gods of stone.

“Children tie the mother’s feet” was a Tamil proverb. When more and more girls and babies came to Amy, who quickly became “Amma” to them, Amy had to give up her evangelizing work and leave it to others. She devoted her time, energy, thoughts, and her whole life to being “mother” to the children God was giving to her. It was not the exciting and interesting work of preaching on the streets. It was the mundane, regular “Mommy” duties of changing diapers, fixing meals, cleaning the house, tending the garden, disciplining naughty children, homeschooling, teaching them about Jesus, and praying daily for each child. Amy found joy in it, knowing it was God’s calling for her life.

After many years of such work, Amy wrote, “If by doing some work which the undiscerning consider ‘not spiritual work’ I can best help others, and I inwardly rebel, thinking it is the spiritual for which I crave, when in truth it is the interesting and exciting, then I know nothing of Calvary love.”

Genuine love was a theme always in Amy’s heart. And that is what it took to get through the difficulties of her work. Satan always attacks God’s work, and the family in Dohnavur endured suffering and hardship. They were hated by the Hindus. They were misunderstood and criticized by the Christians at home. Many babies and children died from sickness or accidents. Most of the time there were not enough workers to help and always there was not enough money. Some girls did not appreciate the Christian home Amy gave them and had to learn the hard way to not rebel and be thankful for what they had been saved from.

Amy tried to make life joyful for her children, but she was strict and taught them early to bear responsibility and to do hard work cheerfully for Jesus’ sake. She taught them to love one another, not bear grudges, and to lay down their lives in the service of others.

A prayer she wrote for her children sums up what we as mothers should pray for ours:

Father, hear us, we are praying,
Hear the words our hearts are saying,
We are praying for our children.
Keep them from the powers of evil,
From the secret, hidden peril,
From the whirlpool that would suck them,
From the treacherous quicksand, pluck them.
From the worldling’s hollow gladness,

From the sting of faithless sadness,
Holy Father, save our children.
Through life's troubled waters steer them,
Through life's bitter battle cheer them,
Father, Father, be Thou near them.
Read the language of our longing,
Read the wordless pleadings thronging,
Holy Father, for our children.
And wherever they may bide,
Lead them Home at eventide.

When Amy breathed her last in 1951, on what she had looked forward to as her “Glory Day,” the family in Dohnavur numbered over nine hundred. Though many babies had died over the years, Preena was still there, now a much older woman, to see her beloved “Amma” buried amidst the flowers in the family cemetery they called “God’s garden.” Amy’s “feet were tied” for fifty years. But she had built her work with “gold, silver, and precious stones”, and received a great and eternal reward.

CLINGING TO THE CORE

A RELIGIOUS SNOB FINDS A CHURCH HOME IN THE MIDDLE VOICES CHELSEA BOES

My dad remembers being a little boy, looking out a window and praying, “God, I can’t be good!” He grew up Mormon, just miles from the upstate New York spot where Joseph Smith supposedly found his holy tablets. This explains why my defiant dad now drinks coffee, verboten to Mormons, by the gallon.

In a miracle more profound than Smith’s because it was real, my dad converted to Christianity in juvenile detention. My father couldn’t be good. But by the stunning grace of God he now was. Decades later, around the time I was 10, he graduated from plain old Christian to Calvinist.

A Calvinistic reading of the Bible fit my father like a glove. And why not? It’s a reasonable paradigm for someone so clearly called out of death to life by God. He who couldn’t be good was, not by virtue or choice but by grace. And why shouldn’t I, his daughter, follow in his footsteps?

Without Dad’s conversion, there’s no me—because the fiery Baptist lady who birthed me wouldn’t have married a Mormon or a profligate. Without Dad’s Calvinism, though, I may never have become a religious snob.

In the New York I grew up in—frozen nose hairs, snow in May, ham and leek dinners at the grange—the Wesleyan symbol, a little fire, branded weathered signs all over county roads. I was raised in a Wesleyan church until the family Calvinism dawned. At daybreak, our household left childish ways behind.

We trekked instead to a church whose leaflet read, “Welcome to Hornell’s UNIQUE church.” Compared with the Wesleyans, our sermons were longer, our people fewer, and our doctrinal certitude finer. We were doing Christianity right at last. For example: We didn’t sing that fluffy lyric, “I have decided to follow Jesus,” because it was God who did all the deciding.

People refer to a Calvinist’s early years as “the cage stage” because civilians would benefit from the dogmatic Calvinist’s incarceration. “I had my cage stage at 12” may be my most well-worn party anecdote from that period besides “I fell down the stairs into the baptismal,” which is also true. Theologically aggressive for an adolescent, I kept one line of “I Have Decided” close to my heart: “Though none go with me, still I will follow.”

In college, my theological snobbery sustained three blows: (1) I met a lot of smart Christians from many denominations. (2) I grew infatuated with a Calvinist who wasn’t kind and didn’t love me back. (3) I fell in love with an Arminian who loved me like Jesus does. I don’t joke about Calvin’s five points as if they’re mere immaterial chestnuts. Theological and ecclesiastical convictions are how we meet God. What’s more personal? What’s more important?

My now-husband and I spent our dating year in blissful concord, except for Calvinism. Once when we argued about TULIP, I tried to stomp away. But he was still holding my hand. Against what I feared was my better judgment, we embarked on the theological journey together. We got married.

Meanwhile, dozens of college students around us had an allergic reaction to their youth-groupy rearings and converted to Anglicanism. These people, whom I called “the Anglicans,” discoursed about history, creeds, and the Church Fathers. (Whoever they were: My husband says that in the evangelical imagination of our generation a blank chasm yawns between the Apostle Paul and Martin Luther.) Not only did the Anglicans belong to a club I didn’t understand, many disdained their Calvinistic youths. So: Religious snubbing was cool until I got snubbed. Had they graduated? Was I the child? Of

course, there are no graduations in Christianity. There are only children. You enter at the narrow gate beloved to the uttermost. And when it comes to maturity, the way up is down: If anyone would be great in my kingdom, he must be a servant of all.

After nine years of marriage, my husband and I were confirmed in the Anglican church this fall. Do you know who was an Anglican? John Wesley. But so was the Calvinist George Whitefield.

Each Sunday I take to my knees, confess my sins, and recite the creed with people who came from about every ism and non-ism you can think of. Anglicanism's nickname, "the middle way," proves true. If you stand in the middle and cling to the core, you can lavish grace on all "outsiders" evenly. But not if you're angry.

In other words: All these people go with me. Still I will follow.

World, 6/244 Email editor@wng.org

Interesting: Anglicanism, a church home in the middle.

FROM "CALIFORNIA DREAMING"

TO "CALIFORNIA NIGHTMARE"

From my 14month former Marine younger brother, Richard.

California. Isn't it great to see what the "Left" plans for us!?

The insomnia I had, probably from Covid vaccine and Covid, put me into delirium. I went to the hospital for treatment. The hospital had to submit a form to the State. The State defined it as a mental commitment even though the hospital insists it was a medical, not mental, admission. They then labeled me a danger and without advising me imposed a firearms prohibition. When I was declared cured and was discharged, I returned home. I had guns/ammo in the house. That meant I was immediately committing a crime, having guns as a "prohibited person". The California Department of Justice used that made-up crime to get a judge to sign a search warrant. DOJ raided my house (8 armed agents) and confiscated all guns and ammo, including the muzzle-loading antiques. They threatened criminal charges but declined to prosecute. I suppose



they could have charged felonies for each gun I had a bit like how New York manufactured 34 felony charges against Trump out of 33 misdemeanors. That is, 10 felony charges (10 guns).

I tried to request a hearing to contest the firearms prohibition, but my application for a hearing was rejected several times by the clerk of courts. Maybe my persistence caused them to look at the apparent heavy-handed treatment because a judge, without a hearing, signed an order to release the guns/ammo - but to the DOJ agent who had led the confiscation! He processed them through a gun store to transfer everything to my brother-in-law. I believe this still leaves me with the prohibition, but I can't find out. I have clear background checks from California DOJ and from FBI but there may be a secret data base of "prohibited persons" that I can't access. A lawyer said I should ask at my local police station. I tried but the police station isn't talking to the public- they have a permanent sign that the lobby is closed permanently. If I will pay enough I can get an attorney to help but I don't want to spend lots of money without knowing what the secret data base shows.

I need to stop annoying them. They might re-open the case and bring charges. Right now I have not been charged with a crime, much less convicted, so I'm not a felon. I don't want to give them another chance. We are moving to Nevada. The cost of the move will be about equal to what a lawyer would charge to try to challenge my firearms prohibition.

Richard Need

TYRANNY AND CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG

Introduction: This is a longer article than I normally republish. But the point Brother Floyd makes against the rise of tyranny since 1860 is one of which we need to be reminded. I am not Southern by birth, but by my conviction against tyranny. (I did have a grandfather who fought in the Revolutionary War.) The Southern cause against Northern Tyranny was right, and anyone who has looked into Lincoln's invasion of the independent nation of the

South will know what it was about. It certainly was not about “slavery,” because slavery was quite common in the North, and there was no effort to free them. In fact, in personal conversation with Lincoln, Lincoln was assured slavery was dead, and the South was only asking for time to know what to do with the freed slaves. (*Discussions*, pp. 87ff.) The “War” was about the South seeking freedom from the tyranny that was coming down from the central government in Washington, and about the money Lincoln needed to repay the bankers. Great effort and money have been expended since to rewrite history in order to justify the evil and pure wickedness that was traduced and accomplished as a result of that invasion. Actually, Lincoln is the one who set the standard for warfare against an innocent population as he sent Sherman to absolutely destroy everything and everyone in sight. **Regardless of whether one stands toward the North or toward the South, the situation with the tyrannical central government in the North affects everyone.** (*Discussions* by R.L. Dabney, Vol. IV, Secular, 1897. Sprinkle Publications, 1994.)

“CHRISTIANS AND THE CONFEDERATE FLAG”

Thomas R Floyd

“Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people” (Isaiah 62:10).

First let us set in context our verse. The context is opening the gates and preparing the highway for the Latter Day Glory of the Church. God’s ministers are to hold not their peace, and preach and pray until the Lord shall make His Church a praise in all the earth. They are to remove every stone which hinders the entry of saved sinners into the kingdom. They are to hold up the standard that all may see Christ and His glorious kingdom. The standard that we are to lift up is the word of God. It is the only infallible standard on earth. Having shown you briefly something of the sense of our text, I now wish to hold up the standard of God’s word as it pertains to the Confederate Flag, a standard also that needs to be lifted up.

I will confess to you that I am somewhat reticent to write upon this subject. My reticence is not for lack of zeal for my subject. My only reluctance in taking this as my subject is that I would prefer to be writing on the Person and Work of Christ, the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, the electing love of the Father and related themes. The Narrow Way is a gospel column,

not a political column, and we hope to always keep that before our readers. However, we have not shied away from writing on political and cultural subjects as they relate to the gospel and we have felt compelled to shed forth Biblical light upon subjects related to the commonwealth. The fact is that everything is to be considered in the light of the Word of God. There is no part of life that is isolated from the scriptures. We are to bring every thought captive to the word of God (II Corinthians 10:5). Some liberal preachers and preachers have lambasted the Confederate Flag, and the Old Mississippi Flag, and one scalawag politician in this state renounced our Old Flag, very piously saying he is opposed to our flag because of his “religious” convictions. We have to question what this man’s religious convictions are. We also solemnly remind him and all of you that you can be as religious as all get out and be as lost as a goose. The fact is that Christ will send multitudes of “religious” people to hell (Matthew 7:21-23). Now, I am not suggesting that everyone who is opposed to our Flag is lost, nor am I suggesting that everyone who loves it is saved- not hardly. What I am declaring is that a “religious conviction” that is based on anything other than “thus saith the scriptures” is not worth a hoot in hell. If people claim they are opposed to our Flag for religious reasons, they need to be ready to tell us what their religion is and whether or not they hold to the scriptures as the infallible word of God. And I am declaring that there is not anything in scripture that is opposed to Our Flag, either by direct command, general principle, or necessary consequence.

Now first of all, let us consider that the Flag itself is a thing indifferent, that is, there is no right or wrong about it per se. Secondly, let me renounce as plainly as I can the practice of flying flags in the meeting house of the Church. The Church is comprised of elect sinners from every nation. The True Church of Christ is not limited to any nation. Let no one suppose because they are “patriotic” that they are a Christian. There are multitudes of “flag waving” republicans and democrats that are going to bust hell wide open because they do not know the Lord Jesus Christ. There are multitudes who have pledged “allegiance” to the flag of the United States who have never pledged allegiance to the Lord Jesus Christ. (I told you this is a gospel column, and no matter what our subject is we are always demanding that you lay down your arms of rebellion and surrender to the Lordship of God’s Eternal Son.) Well, I am sure some of you are wondering, if the Flag is a thing

indifferent in and of itself, why take time to write on it or come to its defence? Well, we are running out of space, so the main message will have to wait until next week. But let me say in closing that since the liberals in church and state have renounced the Confederate Flag and the Old Mississippi Flag, and with much declared “piety”, it is incumbent that conservative Bible believers cast out the stones and lift up the standard so that the real issues may be understood. So finally, let me say that our Old State Flag should continue to fly first of all because of honour to our Fathers and our Mothers. Secondly, our Old Flag should continue to fly because it represents opposition to tyranny, a Biblical precept. More next time, Deo Volente.

“Christians and the Confederate Flag- Part 2”

“...Lift up a standard for the people” (Isaiah 66:10b).

A few weeks ago (this article was originally written in October of 2015) I heard a report on the radio that a group of preachers and preacherettes had assembled in front of the Governor’s mansion to pray. And for what were they praying? Was it for the salvation of the lost? Was it for the latter day glory of the Church? Was it for a great spiritual awakening? Was it for genuine revival? No! They had more “urgent” matters about which to pray. They met to pray that the Old Mississippi Flag would come down! As I continued listening to the report I realised why these preachers and preacherettes considered the lowering of the Mississippi Flag a more urgent matter of prayer than the conversion of sinners. This motley crew was comprised of Unitarians who deny the Deity of Christ, Episcopalians who have endorsed sodomy, Romanists who know not the gospel, and various other liberals who only have a “social gospel” which is not the gospel. As I stated in last week’s

article, one of the reasons that I have felt compelled to write in defence of the Confederate Flag and our Old State Flag is that many of these liberal preachers and preacherettes have opposed the Flag for professed “religious” reasons. (I am not suggesting that everyone who has opposed our flag is a theological liberal, but I am making a point that many of the ringleaders of the new effort are.) Those who wrap their opposition to our Flag in religious garb

should be willing to tell us what their religion is and what scriptures support their position. Your unworthy writer is prepared to give you who are Christians scriptural reasons to support the Old Mississippi Flag and the Confederate Battle Flag emblazoned in its ensign.

First, Christians should support our Flag for what it represents. The Flag of Mississippi and the Confederate Battle Flag represent opposition to tyranny, a Biblical and Christian Principle. One day we will undertake a series of articles on this subject, but for now the reader is urged to read these passages: Daniel 3:13-18; 6:10-23; II Kings 11:4-16; Acts 5:29. Believers in the Old Testament and in the New and all down through the history of the Church have understood that resistance to tyranny is obedience unto God. The early Christians refused to call Caesar “lord” and were fed to the lions. Martin Luther and the Reformers believed they ought to obey God rather than man and began the Reformation. The Founders of America stood on this Biblical foundation. The original thirteen colonies seceded from England because they held to this Biblical principle. And our Southern Fathers seceded from the federal union into which they had voluntarily entered on the very same Biblical Principles held by the Founders of America.

When the Red Republicans (that is what they were called in that day and all you good republicans need to know that your party was founded by people who had Marxist beliefs and wanted a strong central government; Donald Kennedy and Al Benson have written a well documented book , “Red Republicans and Lincoln’s Marxists” in which they show the influence of the German Socialists, who were run out of Germany in 1848, on the founding of the Republican Party; the Republican Party has not gotten far from its original Socialist agenda as is evidenced by the reverence that Republicans still give to Lincoln, and by their singing the Unitarian hymn, “the Battle Hymn of the Republic”), seized control of the national government in 1860, our Southern Forefathers who had borne a great train of abuses saw the handwriting on the wall and thirteen of the Southern and Border States tried to peacefully withdraw from the union. The Red Republicans, led by the wily politician and corporate attorney, Abraham Lincoln, then invaded our homeland. After four years of valiant defence of the homeland our Fathers



finally admitted defeat (temporarily). Might does not make right, and the Northern Victory over the South only proves that the Providence of our Sovereign God is a great Mystery. The defeat of the South no more “proves” that the North was right any more than the feeding of the Christians to the lions proves that the Roman Empire was right. The tragic result of the Northern Defeat of the South is that we no longer have a Constitutional Republic, but a tyrannical empire. Although our Fathers finally succumbed to superior manpower and money it does not mean that their Cause was not right.

The South, and the whole country has been under a despotic government since 1865. The Federal Government of the United States since the fall of the South and the old Constitution has been increasingly tyrannical under both major parties. The recent ungodly and illegal edict of the Supreme Court in nullifying State Laws defining marriage is a case in point. Now I hope all of you who profess to be Christians will hear me. When we fly our State Flag we are declaring to the Supreme Court and to every other tyrant that we resist your illegal edicts. The reason the Supreme Court is able to issue such ungodly edicts and get away with it is because the Northern Tyrants destroyed the Old Constitution that strictly limited the power of the federal government.

Mississippi should keep her Old Flag flying as a righteous symbol of opposition to tyrannical acts of this government like the recent ruling on sodomite “marriage” and the infamous Roe vs. Wade which “legalised” baby killing by nullifying State laws. We may not be able at this point to resist the tyrannical federal government as our Fathers did, but we can at least let them know we oppose them and call them the wicked tyrants they are by flying our Old Flag.

“Christians and the Confederate Flag- Part 3”

“Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee” (Exodus 20:12).

Last week we showed that Christians ought to support and fly the Old Mississippi Flag and the Confederate Flag which is emblazoned upon its ensign, because our Flag represents resistance to tyranny. Tyranny is a wicked sin. It is a violation of the fifth commandment. “The fifth commandment requires the preserving the honour, and performing the duties belonging to everyone in their several places and relations, as superiors, inferiors, or equals” (Spurgeon’s Catechism, Q. and A.

#53). The Westminster Larger Catechism elaborates showing us that the fifth commandment includes the honour of lawful authority of parents, church officers and magistrates. The same commandment requires that those in the position of a superior are to use their authority lawfully as commanded by God. When civil rulers become tyrants, and usurp the law, they are to be resisted. See these scriptures: Daniel 3:18; Daniel 6:10; 2 Kings 11:1-21; Acts 5:29. Good Samuel Rutherford worked these things out theologically in a book entitled “Lex Rex”; i.e. “The Law is King.” Such works as this had a great impact upon the founding of America. The original thirteen States acted upon the principle that resistance to tyranny is obedience to God when they seceded from Great Britain. Our Southern Fathers acted upon these same principles when they seceded from the tyrannical government in Washington, D.C. and formed the Confederate States of America. That federal government is a thousand times more tyrannical and intrusive than it was in 1860, proving that the South was indeed right. So this is the first reason we should support our old Flag, because it represents opposition to tyranny. By flying our Flag we are telling the wicked government in Washington, D.C. that we oppose your tyrannical edicts like “legalising” sodomy.

But the second reason we should support our flag is for the honour of our ancestors. Our Southern Forefathers were honourable people. Note well, that this is a very general statement about the people of the Confederate States of America. I am not suggesting that all our forefathers were Christians-- far from it. What I am saying is that the South was led by Christians. Politically the South was led by Jefferson Davis, a devout Christian. Militarily, the South was led by men like Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson, two of the most devout Christians that have ever been saved by grace. The South was a bastion of orthodox Christianity, as opposed to the North that was increasingly being influenced by liberalism, “higher criticism,” and Unitarianism. During the War the churches and ministers of the South were active in preaching the gospel and promoting piety among the troops. The Lord blessed their labours by sending down a true revival in which upwards of 50,000 Confederate soldiers professed to have found peace and joy in believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Great Revival has been well documented in books like “Christ in the Camp” by Pastor J.W. Jones, one of the Baptist preachers who laboured among the Confederate Soldiers. If you will take time to read books like the

late Honourable Bob Evans's "The Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment", you will see how the people of the South were a people greatly influenced by the truth of scripture. The South still is known as the "Bible Belt" because of the influence of our forefathers.

Men like my great-great grandfather, Elisha Edwards deserve to be honoured. He is representative to a great degree of the average Confederate soldier. Grandpa Edwards was not a plantation owner, and as far as we know owned no slaves. He was a small farmer like the vast majority of the Confederate soldiers. He joined the Lowery Rifles when he was sixteen years old. He took a mini ball in the stomach at Shiloh, but the Lord spared his life and he went on to fight for the South until the very end. Most of you have ancestors like my great-great-grandfather. They deserve to be honoured because they fought to defend their homeland from a foreign invader. I say to take down our old flag was* nothing less than a violation of the fifth commandment that requires us to honour our Fathers and our Mothers. Let us not be guilty of dishonouring our forefathers who left us a great legacy.

*this article was written before the scalawags in the legislature led by Phillip Gunn and Delbert Hoseman over-rode the vote of the people to keep our Old Flag. In the original article we used "is".

Thomas R Floyd

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A short word: Why so many homeschooling articles? As I am now a "senior citizen," I see the hope for our nation is in a new generation basically free of the state's ungodly education system. Generally, our grandchildren included, the homeschool generation loves to read and is being taught to work by their parents. Some families do not allow their children access to electronic devices, including TV and movies except on rare occasions. The children in that kind of an atmosphere are free and encouraged to develop skills wherever their interests might lie as they entertain themselves

THE HOMESCHOOLING REVOLUTION

WILL GOV'T SCHOOLS RECOVER?

Exclusive: Patrice Lewis explains the stark reality of public education's ongoing failure

By Patrice Lewis, 1/19/24

Last November, American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten annoyed the vast American homeschooling community by expressing bafflement



behind the trend to remove children from school.

"What's behind the increase in homeschooling?" Weingarten posted on X (formerly Twitter), referencing an article on Axios with the same title. This apparent cluelessness drew snorts of derision from parents all over the nation, who didn't hold back on their responses by the thousands – so much so that Weingarten turned off replies to her post.

After stating, "The answer is in your mirror," Townhall columnist Phil Hollaway questioned why Weingarten turned off comments. "Are you afraid of the answers you'll get? You and the teacher unions with help from [former CDC director Rochelle Walensky] sent public schools into a death spiral from which they may never recover."

Another poster responded: "A person touted as the country's top teacher asks a question then turns off replies to keep people from answering it. That sums up pedagogy in public schools right now."

It wasn't so much the refusal to acknowledge the problems endemic in public education that homeschooling parents found objectionable in Weingarten's remark; it was the deliberate playing dumb: "Golly gee willikers, little ol' me has NO IDEA why anyone would want to homeschool their kids!"

In the past, various prominent politicians have been dubbed "Gun Salesman of the Year" after involving themselves in gun-control legislation. The same sentiment can be applied to the upper echelons of public education officials, who cannot seem to grasp the concept that parents want their children educated, not indoctrinated. When public schools were closed during COVID, millions of parents learned they could educate better at home, and never looked back. New meme: "Randi Weingarten: Homeschooling Sponsor of the Year!"

From sociopolitical commentary to romance writing!

Patrice Lewis branches into the world of Amish inspirational fiction. These clean romances are wholesome enough for Grandma to read. Check out Patrice's available titles.

The numbers are impressive; and the bluer the state, the higher the interest in homeschooling. In California alone, over 1,400 public K-12 schools lost more than 20% of their students since 2020, with homeschooling up 78% between 2017 and 2022. Upending the narratives that homeschooling is done only by religious or wealthy families, a 2023 analysis by the liberal Washington Post admitted homeschooling's surging popularity "crosses every measurable line of politics, geography and demographics."

As often happens when faced with such drastic declines in enrollment, the public school systems make fretful attempts to lure parents back into complacency, usually in the form of hiring more teachers to lower teacher-to-student ratios. Ironically, this itself has proven difficult, as teachers are (understandably) leaving the profession in droves, concerned about violence, disrespect and other classroom quarterbacking that interferes with teaching academics.

Additionally, fewer and fewer people are entering the profession to begin with. According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, there is a massive drop in college students seeking degrees in education to pursue jobs in teaching. This decline has been going on for decades, but has accelerated in the last few chaotic years.

This creates something of a doom loop. The teachers who remain get burdened with even more tasks and responsibilities, which leads to more burnout, which leads to more teachers leaving, etc. Faced with these challenges, it's no wonder there's a teacher shortage in America. Who would want the job?

But what academic experts fail to see (or, more likely, refuse to admit) is what parents find most objectionable about public education: The content of the curricula. As long as public schools ignore academics in favor of grooming and indoctrination, parents will continue to withdraw their kids for academic alternatives.

So, faced with such drastic declines in enrollment in failing public schools, officials are falling back on what they often do when faced with homeschooling's indisputable academic superiority: Ramping up regulations for homeschoolers. Usually this increased regulation begins by conveniently citing the rare case of abuse, then spinning it into the wild extrapolation that any parent who homeschools is doing so to hide the bruises.

Citing a Washington Post smear piece against the booming homeschooling movement, Casey Chalk wrote in *The Federalist*, "To support the claim of exploiting 'lax home education laws' to hide abuse, the Post cites a

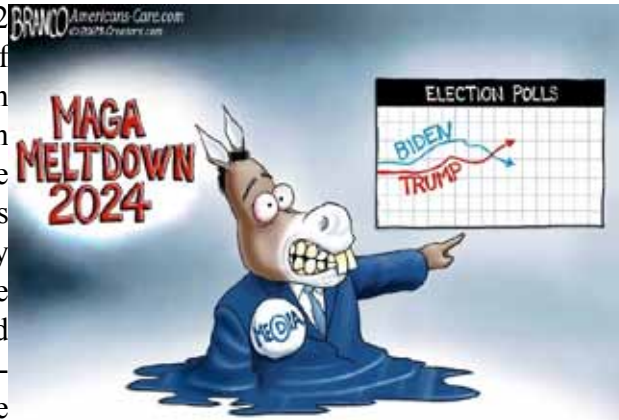
2014 study that found that of more than two dozen tortured children treated at medical centers in five states, eight of 17 victims old enough to attend school were homeschooled. You read that right – the most damning evidence The Washington Post can cite to support the claim that homeschooling is facilitating widespread abuse or neglect of minors across the United States is a study with a sample size of 17 children.

(Keep in mind, there were about 3.1 million home-school students in 2021-2022 in grades K-12 in the United States, or roughly 6% of school-age children, and yet the Post could only drum up 17 examples of abuse from nine years ago.)

Meanwhile, the extreme-left Southern Poverty Law Center has classified parental rights organizations as "hate groups." And of course, the U.S. Justice Department famously documents and investigates concerned parents attending school board meetings.

Ironically, as one commenter pointed out, "Homeschoolers are held to a much higher standard than are public schools. Case in point: Oregon has suspended standards for graduation from a public school but still requires testing for homeschool students in grades 3, 5, 8 and 10 to make sure they are getting a 'good' education."

Meanwhile public education continues to decline in quality. In Illinois, just 32% of high school juniors could read, and 27% do math at grade level – and yet the state opted to kill school choice.



Schools are now being dubbed “knowledge-free zones.”

Educators can play dumb all they want, but of course we all know the real reason behind the hostility toward the homeschooling movement: The manic desire to keep children within their clutches. For this reason, I pray every parent in the nation finds some way to educate their children outside of public schools. Only by starving the beast can their agenda be disrupted.

https://www.wnd.com/2024/01/homeschooling-revolution-will-govt-schools-recover/?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=wnd-breaking&utm_campaign=breaking&utm_content=breaking&ats_es=76c88699640bf17c199c18ba90162de3&ats_ess=62275c4f6eb5e1c6872faec264ac18ae89396dd486d6b98af038d9fef2e3c00d

CHINA

By Rev. Need

Proverbs 22:3 A prudent [man] foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.
(Double warning, Proverbs 27:12)

This disquieting article came to my attention, and I believe it’s worth passing on.

China Behind Super Highway That Targets US With Mass Migration, Economic Warfare

China is ‘like a boa constrictor that’s tightening and tightening around the United States,’ says expert, regarding the CCP’s vast investments in Latin America.

If it’s ever completed, the Pan American Highway will stretch about 18,000 miles from Alaska to Argentina, opening up a land corridor the length of the Americas.

...

https://www.theepochtimes.com/article/china-behind-super-highway-that-targets-us-with-mass-migration-economic-warfare-5610607?utm_source=Morningbrief&src=Morningbrief&utm_campaign=mb-2024-03-23&src_cmp=mb-2024-03-23&utm_medium=email&es=AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAbvQicV0CzMTMzLQDv2xVRbd1xtrEQrjNM548fCj6siE6pes%3D

This lengthy disturbing article tells how China is investing multiplied billions of dollars (thanks to “made in China”) to open South America as well as Canada to not only Chinese trade, but the Chinese military. China is building seaports for their military ships that are already visiting South America. The Pan-American highway will give China’s military quick and easy access to North America all the way to Alaska.

The planned destruction of our nation has been in

the works from its very foundation. Many of us can remember over the past several decades, particularly since the 1960s, when Nixon visited China, and gave most Favored Trading Nation status to China. If I remember right, there were several reasons: first, to lift China’s economic status, to export “air pollution” to other nations as manufacturing produces massive pollution, and to turn this nation into a wealth consuming nation instead of a wealth producing nation. (The USPS agreement with China almost gives China free postage into the US.) Also, who can forget the propaganda blitz that said, “our strength lies in our diversity?” America’s strength was found not in religious denominations, but in a common religious faith, Christianity. Also, notice the tremendous effort to erase WASP male influence that made this society great. Observe how that propaganda is working out in society.

Who can forget Jimmy Carter who gave away the Panama Canal with no opposition by the US Congress? The US paid a terrible price to purchase the land, containing the Canal and for building the Canal, so the Canal was legitimately owned and controlled by the US which effectively controlled the traffic between South and North America. It is now largely controlled by those who desire to absorb America into their circle of control. (Only the naïve would think that the “New World Order” does not have a hand in this. Nothing takes place on the international scene that is not pre-planned.)

The transfer of American wealth to China did not happen in a vacuum. These things were not done in a corner, and it was told what was being done. But I remember no public opposition, and it seemed no one seemed to mention the implications for this nation. The implications have been to turn this nation into a debtor nation, and debt slaves are

not free.

I am sure the implications were not unknown. It appears that we have idiots in authority over idiots — those lacking the ordinary intellectual powers of a man, Webster 1828. However, we can be assured that the “powers that be” know exactly what they are doing. Moreover, they have done their best to turn the population into sheep that will follow the “Judas” goat



wherever he leads, even to their own destruction, e.g., experimental vaccines. “Give me my beer and football, and I will be happy.” A more modern version, “give me my video games or smartphone.”

Also, about that time the propaganda started which said “Our strength lies in our diversity.” This nation strength was founded in the unity of religion, Christianity. Charlemagne realized that for his kingdom to hold together, there had to be a united religion. The West has been destroyed by the various religions and nationalities which are being intentionally imported into the Western nations

China has been given our technology advancements as we have sent Advanced Technology manufacturing to China. That technology is now being used against us. Their Space Shuttle looked identical to our Space Shuttle. Their fighter planes bear a striking resemblance to those we have developed. No doubt, China’s military and construction efforts have been paid for through the Most Favored Trade agreements that have been in effect at least since the 1960s, and probably much earlier. China has stolen our technology advancements and are now using them against us. China’s military has been paid for by Western companies such as Walmart. Remember the shirt worn by the returning captives from the USS Liberty? “I was held captive by a Walmart Supplier.”

These things were not and are not being done in a corner. Anyone who is paying attention and is willing to face facts can see what is happening; only the unwise (2. Idiot a foolish person; one unwise. Webster, 1828) ignore what is surely before us as individuals and as a nation.

The planned destruction of our nation was and is found largely in the Most Favored trade agreement with China. Though China now owns all manufacturing, that Most Favored trading agreement is still in effect. In my lifetime, all manufacturing has been intentionally out-sourced to China.

We are no longer a wealth producing nation as we were before everything was shipped “offshore.”

As one travels around the nation, he will see many highway interchanges and new bridge structures under construction, which keeps the building trades well-funded. As I walk around in our small town, I notice our town, as multitudes of other small towns, was built

in a time of prosperity. However, that American prosperity has been transferred to nations like China, and now there’s not even funds to maintain these rapidly and seriously deteriorating concrete streets.

All manufacturing has been out-sourced to China resulting in the world’s wealth being transferred to China. Even our drugs are sourced to China. Thus, the West, America especially, has and is financing China in their very expensive goal of controlling the world, particularly North America.

Congress could put a stop to that agreement, but no one will take on China because of the money involved.

Have you noticed all the animosity toward Russia as the Bear asks for peace and holds little or no threat to the US; meanwhile, China is given a free pass and ignored as the Dragon tightens his hold on the world with eyes on devouring the US. We are not being told what is going on, and Congress seems to be oblivious to the danger. Moreover, it has become clear that powers in DC have been purchased by China with our money.

BTW,

TicToc. Rand Paul in an interview by Tucker Carlson pointed out that there are nefarious reasons for trying to ban TicToc, and it is not because of spying. There was no concern about the spy balloon that floated across this nation some time ago.

Hosea 14:9 Who [is] wise, and he shall understand these [things]? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the LORD [are] right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.

FOOLS IGNORE THE OBVIOUS TO THEIR OWN DESTRUCTION.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

On June 3, 1808, was born Jefferson F. Davis, one of the most admirable Christian statesmen ever born in North America, despite all the false calumnies now flying, thanks to the cultural genocide being carried out against the South.

Davis was not only president of the Confederate



States, he also graduated from West Point and served as a soldier in the Mexican and Black Hawk Wars. He was elected US representative and senator from Mississippi. As the 23rd US Secretary of War, he ironically modernized the very army his country would later fight. Of his service as CS president, Robert E Lee said, “Few could have done as well; none could have done better.” At the war’s end Davis was arrested by the Army and imprisoned in Fort Monroe, Virginia for two years, at first under diabolically cruel conditions . The US government wanted to try him for treason, but their wiser legal heads knew better than to try that because a trial would only vindicate secession’s constitutionality.

Before anybody tells me I’m wrong, at least learn something about Jefferson Davis. One of best ten books I have ever read is *Jefferson Davis, Unconquerable Heart* by Felicity Allen. (Look on [ThriftBooks.com](https://www.thriftbooks.com) for a copy.) Mrs. Allen spent over 20 years collecting material on her subject. Her book is fascinating and exciting and reads like a splendid novel. It is a fitting tribute to a noble and tragic man who, though he lost everything, never lost his honor.

Franklyn Sanders

DEFINITIONS

R. J. Rushdoony

We have become, in the modern age, a dictionary-oriented people. We like handy definitions. I often encounter, in my travels, officious people with whom a conversation is impossible. Almost every statement they make includes the demand, “Define your terms.” One man, whose pastor had denied all the essential doctrines of the faith, would object if other members described the pastor as a modernist. Why? “He has never defined himself as one,” was the answer.

Definitions have their place, but the only defining the Bible does usually is by calling attention to life and action. Since faith without works is dead, the Bible defines things in terms of life.

This leads to very telling definitions. For example, Peter refers to “holy women,” and then tells us who they were and what they did: they “trusted [or, hoped] in God.” Here is a practical definition of holiness: it means trusting in God, and acting on that faith.

If we trust in Him, then we do not fret or complain. We do not cry or worry, as though God would get nothing done without our nagging. To trust in God means that we practice what Proverbs 3:5 requires us to do:

“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.” I heard a description of someone who professes to believe the Bible from cover to cover a few years ago: “She’s not a Christian. She’s a worrier.” If this is true of you, it is time to take hands off your life and give it to the Lord. You and I can only make a mess of things. Why not let the Lord take over the controls?

THE AMERICAN MILITARY PARADOX

By Charles Johnston

In 1949, the U.S. War Department changed its name. Branches of the armed forces were then administered under the new name ‘Department of Defense.’ This newly defined mandate of defending the United States should have been a relatively easy and inexpensive task. Geography and history render the U.S. the most defensible country in the world. Canada and Mexico, good trading partners of the U.S., have not demonstrated a threat to American territorial integrity; nor would they have the military muscle to do so.

More importantly, there are no overseas countries that pose a serious conventional warfare challenge to U.S. security. The enormous logistical operations needed to invade the United States, in the Western Hemisphere and across the world’s largest oceans, would be beyond the naval and maritime capabilities of any country or military alliance of countries.

The “loss of strength gradient” is a rule in military logistics – armed forces weaken with increasing distance from their supply base. Extrapolating from combatant numbers in Operation Barbarossa, the Nazi invasion of Russia during World War II, an undertaking of that magnitude would require possibly ten million troops, hundreds of thousands of pieces of heavy equipment, millions of tonnes of ammunition and fuel, field hospitals, repair facilities and the many other necessities of warfare. In all, a logistical impossibility.

Moreover, any naval armada assembled for that purpose would be visible to American spy satellites and subject to missile attack. The large size of the U.S. would make it very difficult to conquer, and occupy if conquered. Also, the 200 million privately owned firearms in the U.S. would be a strong deterrent to any would be invader. The United States is not prone to conventional armed attack and invasion by any force.

The extraordinary level of current American military spending cannot be explained in terms of real defense

needs. Now and in the past, other less justifiable reasons account for the militarism, wars, lost lives, violations of international law and the money spent. The latter at the expense of pressing domestic needs. The paradox of the American military is the enormous amount of money spent in its support. The military budget of the United States in 2023 was \$842 billion. With a population of 336,000,000 this is a cost of \$2,506 for each U.S. resident. The military budget of the U.S. is more than the GDP of 90 percent of all countries. There is no real threat that would justify this level of expenditure on defense.

Former U.S. president Dwight D. Eisenhower gave a prescient warning of an obscure but powerful alliance in American politics – the Military-Industrial Complex. This real but almost invisible complex has a threefold purpose: to maintain war industry profiteering, crush socialist governments and movements across the world and to secure global supplies of oil, gas and other profitable commodities. None of these goals has been publicly acknowledged but are patently obvious in detailed studies of U.S. military interventions.

Most of the many U.S. wars, over more than a century, have occurred on the other side of the world, across vast oceans, where it also maintains 750 military bases at an enormous cost. Also, the United States Navy has 11 carrier strike groups. Each has an aircraft carrier and several supporting vessels. They do not defensively patrol the coasts of California or the Eastern Seaboard but rather ply the distant oceans of the world projecting American power. Socialism has been a principal target of U.S. militarism. It is defined as the public ownership of the principal and essential means of production. Large industries such as oil, transportation, pharmaceuticals, banking, health care, mining, steel and other activities essential to modern society are also the preferred enterprises of the corporate community. Socialism has therefore been viewed by the U.S. government as antithetical to international corporate operations, an ideology which Washington has long fought to stop.

The October Revolution in 1917 produced the first socialist government - in Russia. The United States soon intervened militarily but failed to halt its progress. Few Americans are aware of the North Russian Expedition. Washington's fear was that an anticorporate ideology would expand within the nascent Soviet Union and elsewhere. A successful socialist economy was a threat which could provide a model for the rest of Eurasia and

the world. Since its unsuccessful invasion of Russia, defeating socialism has remained an unstated but major foreign policy of the U.S.

The economic debate on capitalism versus socialism is important and will continue into the future. But the overriding question for democracy is do nations have the right to choose between them? Washington does not think so. A fundamental fact of modern history is that the United States and its often-invented adversaries have peacefully co-existed for 75 years, and can continue to do so well into the future. But the “permanent war economy” is profitable. For a few people in power.

The U.S. has waged armed conflicts in 30 countries since the end of World War II in 1945. Furthermore, information from the U.S. Congressional Research Service reveals that the number of American armed actions has been substantially increasing over the last few decades. From earlier historic roots in Christian pacifism and a peaceful humanism the U.S. has transitioned into a very warlike country. The long-term consequences of this militaristic behavior cannot be predicted with certainty.

However, in an age of ICBMs and nuclear weaponry, a retaliatory response is very possible and would be catastrophic. It is less likely a nuclear war will occur spontaneously by one of the nine countries having nuclear weapons. More probably it will stem from escalation of a conventional war in which the perception of a threat is more acute. Any war initiated by the U.S. could rapidly accelerate into a nuclear confrontation. Ironically, in this context, the largest threat to the American public is the behavior of its own military.

Survival in a world with thousands of nuclear weapons requires a substantial level of intelligent and judicious governance. Rev. Dietrich Bonhoeffer's thesis states that stupidity is more dangerous than evil because stupidity can be manipulated and used by evil. A clinical evaluation of the leaders in Washington would probably reveal that few if any are actual morons, defined as those with an

IQ between 51 and 70. However, their demonstrated willingness to engage in war, in an age of nuclear weaponry, is proof positive of their lack of sufficient intellect and good judgment.

This deficit coupled with the corrupting influence of Big Money in American politics bodes poorly for the well-being and security of U.S. citizens and the world. These cerebral deficiencies, and their potential con-

sequences, will continue. Douglas MacArthur was a five-star U.S. General of the Army in World War II. He noted the development of a war economy, “in an artificially induced psychosis of war hysteria and nurtured upon an incessant propaganda of fear.” This use of fear continues today.

The cultivated threat of a leftist enemy will extend into the future in tandem with the motive of war industry profiteering, an unfounded and dangerous belief in U.S. invulnerability. Washington’s sociopathic indifference to the ravages of war – death, destruction, dismembered children and devastated families – is proof that many of those in its leadership do not belong in public office, but arguably in hospitals for the criminally insane. They readily direct wars in which they will never have to fight. Those citizens who vote for them shoulder some of the responsibility for their misdeeds.

Repetitive actions over many years reveal real and perhaps irrepressible character. Most of Washington is locked in a war mindset from which there seems to be no escape. Any political opponents to this military folly – there is a few - would meet with substantial condemnation in the mass media, and possibly assassination. Realistically, permanent corrective change would seem very difficult if not impossible.

Carried unendingly into the years ahead, an apocalypse would seem inevitable, with potentially global consequences. Sometime in the future, the red button will be pushed, unleashing a co-reflexive exchange of carnage and mass destruction. The bloodied “winner” of World War III will be that nation which today lays the foundation for its few survivors to rebuild from the ashes of the future. Those that manage to survive, if any, will emerge with a much needed but costly enlightenment. It is incumbent on responsible global citizens and leaders to work toward peace, but prepare for disaster.

Charles Johnston, Ph.D., is an American-Canadian geographer and naval veteran. His publications include U.S. Militarism, Corporate Interests and World War III.

https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2023/07/the_american_military_paradox.html

WHAT IS GOING ON

We have been poking the Russian Bear trying to get him to attack us to give our “Hawks” a reason to fight a war. From what I have read, Russia is fighting on a different battlefield, and the Bear will surely win that war. The Petrodollar is dead as is the paper dollar printed by

the FED, and loaned to the freespending government now at \$1 trillion a year interest. Russia has plenty of ammunition for this war in the form of gold and oil. (We have enough oil to back our own Petrodollar.) The beginning of the loss of that war was when gold was confiscated and then silver removed from the coinage. Both things had to be done so that a booming economy could be built on debt. GET OUT OF FED PAPER “MONEY” INTO REAL PROPERTY, whatever that property might be. Russia will win this war over sound money, and FED paper will be worthless.

Putin has offered peace many times over, yet his offers are totally ignored. The “Hawks” are left with this question: what can we do to start a war?

False Flag! Our overseas military installations are being prepared for some kind of an unknown attack, which will likely be blamed on Russia. Israel instigated a **False Flag** in order to justify destroying the Palestinians. An “October Surprise?” We must have a war before November if the wicked powers hope to remain in power. Obviously, no one knows who is in charge in the central government, but it certainly is not Biden. (Obama’s third term!) Is it the military? Is it the State Department, which known to be infestation of communist? Is it the CIA which has proved itself to be at war against the American people? It has been revealed after 50 years that the CIA was seriously implicated in Kennedy’s assassination. Is it the DOJ?

Only the Lord knows who is in charge, but WE know the One Who is directing the hearts of the wicked to do what is being done, Proverbs 21:1.

VARIOUS

• Trump-backed candidate refutes promise Muslims will control U.S. gov’t

Arab-American publisher: ‘We are on the road to the White House, to Congress ...’

Muslims in America are “on the road” to running the government of the United States. At least, that was the clarion message of Osama Siblani, editor and publisher of the Arab American News, speaking at the Islamic Center of America in Dearborn, Michigan, last month....

https://www.wnd.com/2024/06/trump-backed-candidate-refutes-promise-muslims-will-control-u-s-govt/?utm_source=wnd-news-alerts.beehiv.com&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=breaking-news-alert-6-9-2024-3

The Muslims took over Britan one bite at a time. Obama imported enough Muslims to take over Detroit

and the surrounding area.

• **Teens Arrested After Scooters Leave Marks on ‘Pride’ Crosswalk**

Three people were arrested after a so-called “pride” crosswalk was damaged in Spokane, Washington, on Wednesday. ...

Turko was freed on his own recognizance after a Thursday hearing in which prosecutors called for a \$15,000 bond. ...

<https://canadafreepress.com/article/the-disgusting-worship-of-woke-murals>

https://www.westernjournal.com/teens-arrested-scooters-leave-marks-pride-crosswalk/?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=WJBreaking&utm_campaign=breaking&utm_content=western-journal

• How Low can you Go?” You can “sucker punch and disable one for life,” commit rape in public, go nude in public, “smash and grab,” “shop lift” up to \$1000 worth of goods, and no charges will be filed. Example: Dr Fauci. But leave marks on the Spokane Pride queer pride mural on the street, and you will face serious action for vandalism. We deserve whatever judgment God showers on us.

• Ignoring what is going on on the national scene has serious consequences. Our daughters are now being sacrificed to the military-industrial complex.

• 2025 NDAA authorizes mandatory military draft of WOMEN across America... as Pentagon pursues global NUCLEAR war with both Russia and China at the same time

Russia is pleading for peace, but the war machine does not want peace, for there is no money and power in peace

<https://www.newstarget.com/2024-06-15-ndaa-authorizes-mandatory-military-draft-american-women.html>

I actually had a Christian mother tell me that she sought no problem with women serving in the military. It now looks like her daughters could well be drafted.

• Trump has made it a campaign promise to deal with the out-of-control DOJ. Now the DOJ must do whatever is needed to stop Trump. Expect the worst possible scenario. Are we ready?

• **SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY DESTROYED: Fauci’s NIAID received \$690 Million in kickbacks during his COVID-19 vaccine mandates**

<https://www.naturalnews.com/2024-06-10-faucis-niaid-received-kickbacks-covid-vaccine-mandates.html>

• Bird flu now in farm animals! Something does not smell right! We have been warned about food shortages, and have been plagued with destruction of food

processing plants, and now a variant of bird flu infecting the animals. It appears to me as those who desire a famine are working their plan.

In addition, states are cutting off water to the farmers, which should assure us of the famine they have been prophesying for the last several years. I am sure Las Vegas must have plenty of water in order to keep the tourist money coming in.

• Huge issues today. The state of Idaho is cutting off irrigation water to 500,000 acres of food farms, accelerating the engineered mass famine targeting America. (Mike Adams, Natural News)

• **16-Year-Old Virginian Opens Own Bakery After Learning to Bake Cakes, Brownies From YouTube**

https://www.theepochtimes.com/bright/16-year-old-virginian-taught-herself-to-bake-cakes-brownies-watching-youtube-opens-own-bakery-5663722?src_src=Morningbrief&src_cmp=mb-2024-06-17&est=AAAAAAbvQicV0CzMTMzLQDv2xVRbd1xtrEQrjNM548fCj6siE6pes%3D

• In 2025, all draftable U.S. women will be force-vaccinated with deadly mRNA spike proteins by the Medical/Military Industrial Complex

There’s a lot more to the draft these days than just readying and sending soldiers into the meat grinders of the political mass-embezzlement schemes, a.k.a. the military industrial complex. Now Big Pharma has its teeth sunk in deep, and every military member drafted next year, including all “eligible” women, will surely face the wrath of the mRNA-Industrial Complex.

<https://www.newstarget.com/2024-06-25-2025-all-draftable-us-women-force-vaccinated.html>

• “Everyone is so connected that sometimes they don’t even talk to their own family.” ALFREDO MARUBO, who said his remote Amazonian tribe is experiencing smartphone addiction after getting internet access via Starlink last September.*

World 6/24

• One would have to be naïve to think that these various viruses are jumping from one species to another without man’s intervention, particularly Bill Gates’ intervention in his desire for depopulation, as the NWO moves toward their planned famine. (I saw the Bill Gates’ article, but did not mark it.) However, in all this evil foolishness, we are assured that all power has been given to Jesus Christ; hence, he is controlling the thoughts, intense and the actions of the wicked all for his own glory.

Revelation 13:7 *And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was*

given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.
17:13 *These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. 14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him [are] called, and chosen, and faithful.*

Christ is giving both the desire and power for the wicked to accomplish their wicked deeds. How can we not rejoice in our victorious Christian faith?

PERSONAL

From the 1980s beginning, the *Examiner* has been published only as both times and funds permit. It seems the older we get the faster time slips away. So here is this issue from “June,” and the next issue will be as time permits. It takes time to assemble articles I think are worth publishing. I don’t want to “bore” people with just my articles, though I am continually confronted with new issues that beg to be Scripturally developed.

We are finished with our very time-consuming trips to the Dental College in Iowa City, for now anyway, so there should be a little more time to assemble the next issue.

Have you noticed the astounding dependence on the Internet? I am in desperate need of hearing aids from being around heavy equipment for several years, which the VA will supply. A few weeks ago, I went in for my initial hearing test over an hour away on the other side of Des Moines from us. However, their Wi-Fi was down, so they could not do a hearing test! In addition, just a few days ago my wife went to have her prescription refilled at Walmart, and they could not refill it because their Wi-Fi was down. Folks! we are captive to technology which is controlled by an elite few people. The time is quickly approaching when AI will control the web, and will determine who gets service depending upon their “social score,” which will be based on where they travel, what they say, what they purchase, and their political and religious status. Such social scoring is common in China today. China is where all of our spy cameras are made.

I am almost getting to the point where I “envy” the Amish who exist quite well apart from the grid.

On the other hand, considering all the dangers of the Internet to life, liberty, freedom and private property, I must thank the Lord for the wonderful opportunity of proclaiming his Truth worldwide. Our prayer is that he

will keep that avenue for world evangelism open.

I have been diagnosed with two more skin cancers, cancers which have become far too common for me. The most recent one was right on the end of my nose, which, as you can imagine, was very unpleasant to deal with as it required a skin graft. These next two are on the side of my forehead and my right leg.

Chemo brain, and old age are having a side effect on my wife.

Please remember us in your prayers.

HOW GROWING UP IN A CHRISTIAN HOME

AWAKENED ME TO THE LOVE OF MY HEAVENLY FATHER

Christen Limbaugh Bloom. Sep 21, 2022

“Whoever fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for their children it will be a refuge” (Proverbs 14:26 NIV).

I am excited to share that I have co-written a book with my dad (David Limbaugh) titled, “The Resurrected Jesus,” which examines the Apostle Paul’s prison and pastoral epistles. Working on this project with my father is the culmination of a dream and has brought home to me the immense benefits of being raised by loving parents in a Christian family. Let me explain.

Two of the most life-shaping questions a person must wrestle with are 1. Does God exist? And 2. If so, is He good?

By God’s grace, for me, there has never been a doubt in my mind on the first question, thanks to my Christian parents’ mentorship and example. My mom was the prayer warrior of our family, teaching me and my siblings how to pray, and my dad was what I’d call the “divine truth warrior.” Even before I had reached junior high, dad was explaining deep theological concepts about the validity of the Bible, why it was so important to understand that Jesus was the only way to salvation, and providing answers for many arguments naysayers have against the faith.

The summer before I left for college, my dad told me he wanted to fully prepare me for the attacks against Christianity I would undoubtedly hear from professors and peers. I am the oldest child and he had heard (and read) horror stories about secular universities stripping students of their faith. He was convinced that students’ vulnerability was often due to their weak theological and biblical foundation. As such, he was determined to introduce me to Christian apologetics.

Every week that summer he took me out to a spe-

cial lunch where we would discuss the core principles of Christianity, the arguments many make to discredit the validity of the Bible, and the counterarguments in response to those. Sure enough, the first semester of my freshman year I took a class on the Bible, hardly suspecting that anti-Christian indoctrination would be introduced. Sadly, the entire premise of the class was to critique the Bible as a piece of “literature”, and the professor gleefully highlighted the Bible’s alleged discrepancies. Now I understood why dad was so concerned and why he went to such lengths to prepare me. I was so grateful for his summer tutelage and felt empowered rather than discouraged as I took the course, because God—through my dad—had prepared me for this very trial. (Though I didn’t realize it at the time, dad’s uncompromising stance on the sacredness and divine nature of Scripture would prepare me to understand the Apostle Paul’s fierce opposition of heresies inside the early church that threatened its very existence and the life-saving power of the Gospel – a major theme will emphasize in our book.)

Years later, I was sharing this story with a beloved older colleague who also happens to know my dad well. He said to me, “Christen, you are so blessed to have a deep relationship with God at a young age. I have no doubt that a major reason you are able to understand God the Father’s abundant love, is that you have a loving and encouraging earthly father. When we’re blessed with godly parents, it makes it easier for us to believe that God is good.” His profound words resonated with me and have stuck with me since.

Like most kids, especially during the teen years, I didn’t always appreciate my parents’ high standards and discipline, but now I see how fortunate I am to have been raised by God-fearing parents whose sacrificial love for me always pulled me back to the narrow path God had for me.

God used my mom’s powerful prayers to protect me and connect me with Christian friends who helped my faith become my own, while my dad’s devotion to the scriptures solidified my belief and understanding of God’s Word. There’s a saying that children learn infinitely more from what their parents do than what they say. I believe this to be true, especially because God lives out His relationship with us – His children through His example. God always speaks love over His children and modeled His love for us by sacrificing the Person He held most precious so that we would not be

separated from Him for eternity.

It’s not lost on me that there are countless people who, tragically, either grow up without affection from their parents or without being exposed to learning about God. But God does have a special purpose and plan for every human being He created, and there is opportunity in every situation to call upon His Name and ask for help. He is the perfect parent who will never leave our side, never stop looking over us, and never stop loving or caring for us—whether we love Him, believe in Him, follow Him or not. We all have an immeasurably GOOD heavenly Father.

Christen Limbaugh Bloom is the co-author of *The Resurrected Jesus* with her father, David Limbaugh. Christen is a contributor to Foxnews.com.

https://townhall.com/columnists/christenlimbaugh-bloom/2022/09/21/bar-the-iranian-president-from-the-un-then-let-us-hold-him-accountable-in-court-n2613361?utm_source=thdaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nl&bcid=d640929e4531c9ccff91898dd55cf4d3757c44f95bf5af77521bbe4783ab1cc2&recip=19881050

‘AMAZING GRACE’ IS 250 YEARS OLD.

HERE’S THE STORY BEHIND THE SONG

By *Simon Baker*

Sung at the inauguration of presidents, 9/11 commemorations and memorably recorded by such luminaries as Aretha Franklin and Elvis Presley, you could be forgiven for thinking that ‘Amazing grace’ had its origins on the far side of the Atlantic.

But not so. Its roots lie in the small market town of Olney, in rural Buckinghamshire, and with a former slave trader by the name of Captain - and later Reverend - John Newton.

A LIFE TRANSFORMED

John Newton

Newton’s story is a powerful tale of redemption and God’s grace. As a young man, his life was spent at sea. He became part of the slave trade, rising to the rank of captain and transporting slaves from Sierra Leone to the West Indies.

But in 1748, on board *The Greyhound*, a fierce storm arose off Ireland. Newton, fearing for his life, cried out to a God he barely knew. He promised that, if his life was spared, he would devote the remainder of it to God’s service. The ship survived – barely – and New-

ton miraculously made land.

In his gratitude, he never forgot his promise to God and committed his life to serving him. Due to his previous life experience and lack of education, it took more than seven years for him to be accepted into ministry in the Church of England.

His first post was as curate at St Peter and St Paul church, Olney - at that time a poor Buckinghamshire village consisting mainly of farm labourers and lace-makers.



first sung; the one we are familiar with today emerged in the mid-1840s in America, perhaps a well-known tune to which many songs were put.

What we now often consider to be the final verse – “When we’ve been there ten thousand years / Bright shining as the sun / We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise / Than when we first begun” - was not actually written by Newton at all. The verse first appeared in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s immensely influential 1852 anti-slavery novel *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (Wordsworth Editions), and quickly became assimilated into the hymn.

NEWTON CRIED OUT TO A GOD HE BARELY KNEW AND PROMISED THAT, IF HIS LIFE WAS SPARED, HE WOULD DEVOTE HIMSELF TO GOD’S SERVICE

As Newton preached and ministered to his flock, he developed the habit of writing hymns - many with his good friend and local poet William Cowper - to accompany his weekly sermons and help his listeners understand the message. And so it was that, ahead of his New Year’s Day service in 1773, Newton wrote ‘Amazing grace’ to accompany his teaching on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17. (Cowper – see the Trinity hymnal for many wonderful songs by Cowper.)

Little did he and his congregation know that his hymn would go on to be so internationally renowned.

The words speak powerfully of Newton’s own personal experience of grace – how God had seen him through toils and dangers; how he had been spiritually lost but yet God had, both physically and spiritually, rescued him and led him home.

THE HYMN SPEAKS OF GOD’S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS, AND REMINDS US THAT HE PROTECTS HIS PEOPLE

Later, having fully realised the horrors and atrocities that he had been involved in, Newton became heavily involved in campaigning for the abolition of the slave trade.

Moving from Olney to St Mary’s Woolnoth, in the City of London, he began to work with the nephew of a friend, William Wilberforce MP, who led the parliamentary campaign which would eventually see the slave trade made illegal in 1806. He died a year later, aged 82.

In 1972, ‘Amazing grace’ topped the UK charts with The Military Band of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guard.

And in 2015, President Obama famously sang it unaccompanied after delivering a eulogy for Rev Clementa Pinckney, who was shot dead along with eight members of the congregation, at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

The song still serves as a great source of comfort to many Christians today, particularly for those who are searching for faith or meaning, or struggling at difficult points in their lives.

ENDURING LOVE

And in Olney, where it was first heard and sung on Sunday 1st January 1773, it continues to carry much significance. “The hymn speaks of God’s love and forgiveness, and reminds us that he is with us when life is not easy, that he protects his people and has prepared a place for all, with him, for eternity,” says Rev Andrew Pritchard-Keens, current rector of St Peter and St Paul.

“Newton says that he was lost, but speaks of being found by God. He tells us how his eyes were opened to God’s love. My prayer for 2023 is that all who know God will be ever increasingly released to praise him. And all who don’t yet see how much God loves them, will come to know his ‘Amazing grace’!”

As we mark the anniversary of this enduringly popular hymn, it provides a poignant moment to pause and reflect on the grace that has been extended to us all

ADAPTED AND ADDED

Since that time the hymn has developed a life of its own. We do not know the tune to which the hymn was

through God's love; but perhaps also to reflect on how we might extend that grace to those in our communities.

St Peter and St Paul church, Olney, are marking the 250th anniversary of 'Amazing grace' with a special service on Sunday 1st January 2023, with guest speaker Rt Rev Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop of Dover, who understands the special relationship that the hymn holds with those of African heritage.

Simon Barker

On January 1, 1773, at St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Olney, the congregation there sang a hymn for the first time, that was composed by their pastor. The pastor was none other than John Newton and the hymn in question is indeed, "Amazing Grace." That hymn, that has crisscrossed the globe and found its way into the hearts of Christians for the last 250 years. That hymn in its sheet music and recordings, actually occupies a rather large space in the Library of Congress. It came to be the title of a major motion picture in 2007. It's sung at funerals for dignitaries and celebrities, and it is sung in rural clapboard churches. It is accompanied by the world's most prestigious organs, by bagpipers, and by acoustic guitarists. It is in fact, the story of John Newton, "Amazing Grace," and it's probably not too much of a stretch to say, it's actually the story of all of these figures and events that we talk about in church history. Church history is the story of God's amazing grace.

Well, that hymn debuted, as we said, on January 1st, 1773. We have Newton's diary and his records of that very day. And in his diary, he wrote, "This is the ninth New Year's day I have seen in this place. I have reason to say the Lord crowns every year with his goodness. The entrance of this new year finds me and my dear Mary, in health and peace. It is given to me to trust in the Lord Jesus for life and salvation. I know He is both willing and able to save. Upon Him as an all-sufficient savior, and upon His word of promise, I build my hope, believing that He will not suffer me to be put to shame." Newton continues, "My exercise of grace is faint. My consolation small. My heart is full of evil. But, my eye is to Jesus. His I am. Him I desire to

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serve. To Him, I this day, would devote and surrender myself anew. Oh Lord, accept, support, protect, teach comfort, and bless me. Be thou my arm, my eye, my joy and my salvation."

We also have his sermon notes from the sermon he preached that New Year's Day he chose as his text, 1 Chronicles 17:16-17. These two verses show David's humility, in his prayer, after the Lord gave him the Davidic Covenant, that promise that the Davidic throne shall stand forever. And of course, we know that that promise was of the Davidic king to come, of Christ himself. The verse reads, "Who am I, oh Lord God? And what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?" In his sermon notes, Newton says, "Who am I? This question should be always upon our minds. What was I, when the Lord began to manifest His purposes of love"

Well, going back to his diary, the curious thing is that Newton doesn't even mention the singing of the hymn. But I do think that hymn was on his mind, as he sketched these closing words in his diary. And as we think of these words, I pray that they would be your prayer for this new year ahead. Newton writes, "May thy grace keep me always waiting till my appointed change shall come. And when the summons shall come, may I be enabled to rejoice in you, as the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

By Seve Nichols

The first published name of the song, 1779, was "Faith's review and expectation," with the Scripture reference of 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, given in six stanzas of four lines without music. <https://www.hymnologyarchive.com/amazing-grace>

