

# The Biblical Examiner

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

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Holding to the *1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith*

## INTRODUCTION

I have been pretty much laid up since the day after Labor Day. Two trips to the ER for back pain, and then to the ER at the VA hospital in Des Moines. I believe I spent five days there. When I was able to walk about 15 feet, they sent me home, so all of these events means a different Examiner; a 45 year old ministry which I must continue as long as I can. (Any preacher who has been set aside by the Lord to preach knows what I mean. He must preach as long as physically possible. Thank the Lord, I am not nearly as incapacitated as some preachers I know.) I will send the the PDF Examiner out periodically as I have time to get it together, which may be more or less than in the past. Lord willing, I will continue to post them on the website. I will keep this format because it allows a TOC and good divisions between articles, making it easier to read.

## PERSONAL

### What is going on?

After returning from the Labor Day conference, my back started hurting. Basically the problem is a result of polio at a very early age (I am 83. Polio was a probom in the late 30s and early 40s.) which left my left leg over 1 1/4 in. shorter than the other resulting in serious scoliosis where arthritis has also set in. I have had pain problems over the last 30 so years, but now it has caught up with me. After 80+ years, that pain caught up with me. Two trips to the ER with the pain, one in an ambulance, and finally five days in the VA hospital in Des Moines. I was discharged with PT instructions with visits in our home. Codeine and morphine at the present keep the pain under control.

The doctor I saw some time ago told me that he would get with his team and see how to best address the prob-

lem. (I have a a followup appointment with him the 22ed.) From what I understand, after a two-time trial of deadening that area of the spine, they will burn the ends of the nerves. The nerves will grow back after a few years, but the pain will then be relieved. Nothing can

be done “mechanically.” I was told years ago that the damage is done, and nothing can be done except pain management. And **the Lord** has given me favour in the eyes of the lady in charge of Pain Managemt at the VA, and she keeps a very close eye on me.

**I stand amazed at the providence** of God who knew this would be coming on from the time of my birth. So in his providence, he moved me to enlist in the military which at that time had a very good contract concerning healthcare. (I asked one of my doctors about why such good healthcare with so little service. He said that was the contract I enlisted under.) When one starts messing with the spine, we are speaking of highly skilled men and very expensive procedures.

Anyone who will look back over his life will see the amazing hand of God directing every event for His glory and for our good. There are several lessons learned that I am looking forward to sharing.

How can we not rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice?

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## OBSERVATIONS FROM A HOSPITAL BED.

While laying in the VA hospital bed, I was looking on my phone for encouragement, and the Lord reminded me of Ephesians 2. Let me share that encouragement with you. (Online Bible has a bible app.)

In eternity past, we were called for the purpose of showing God's grace and power to the world, Ephesians 3:10. Psalms 47:4 tells us that our path was determined at the time of our calling. Ephesians 2:8, 9, faith and grace are gifts of God not only for salvation, but for daily living. We are to pray for ourselves and for one another that God will provide the abundant faith, grace and power to live the path that he ordained for each of us in eternity past. We must keep in mind that we go through these things in order to show the riches of his mercy throughout eternity.

Ephesians 2 has given us the challenge to keep on for his glory regardless of our individual circumstances. "His grace is sufficient." Whatever happens, we are assured that it all will rebound to the glory of God, 2 Corinthians 4:14ff.

I thanked the Lord for the opportunity to serve him and bring glory to the power of his grace in my hospital bed. Serve the Lord and hospital bed? To start with, always have a joyful and cheerful attitude with the nurses, and always look for opportunities to compliment them, and for ways to speak up for the Lord.

Everyone wants to serve the Lord and glorify him, but not really from a hospital bed. He is the one who determined where we are at any given time. He is One who determines our inheritance whether it be smooth sailing or stormy waters, Psalms 47:4.

Even in midst of our most distressing situation, we are to thank God for the situation because it will bring glory to Himself, which is our goal, 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

Being stranded in the hospital for several days, I spent some of the time watching TV. The channels were very restricted, and consisted mostly of fine old movies. Have you noticed there are almost no white American males anymore in advertising; and the prevalence of mixed-race couples in advertising? On the other hand, movies with the mega builders and high-tech, there are no colored people in those movies. Interesting!

## What a glorious day in which to serve the Lord even from a hospital bed.

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### VARIOUS NOTES AND THOUGHTS

\* 1982: At the first church I pastored I had to deal with the church corporation issue. I wrote a small booklet about it, and made it available to others at conferences and pastors' meetings. As I made them available, others asked to be added to our mailings, so I kept contact with various articles I wrote dealing with current and pressing issues from scripture. From the start, the Examiner has always had a hardcopy; however, starting with this issue, the Examiner will be e-mail, and basic, dealing with the pressing social issues around us from the word of God, such as the extensive article attached dealing with the cause of the current Palestinian issue. Actually, just the URL. You can lay the cause of the present conflict that is causing untold damage of lives and property at the feet of the British Empire in the early 1900s. I love the research!

\* The next few Examiners will seem very "disjointed" until I get all of this straight in my mind, which is dramatically affected with Oxycodone and Morphine.

\* The VA has a fob available for those who might be disabled, and if you press the button an ambulance will come get you. I punched the button, and they took me to the local hospital ER, about 15 minutes away. The impressive thing is that the local hospital sent me a thank-you card: "Thank you for choosing Knoxville Hospital and clinics for all your healthcare needs!" It was signed by several nurses. This is the first time I have even heard of such a thing.

\* The VA hospital experience freed me from the tyranny of the CPAP. I don't know how, but one night I forgot to turn it on, and I had no problem breathing. I have been a slave to it for more years than I care to remember. Those of you who must use one know exactly what I mean.

\* We read of various groups seeking government grants. Obviously, we are under the judgment of God, and he has closed the mind to sound reason. People want lies so they can continue to live as they please uninterrupted. There's no such thing as a free lunch, and government grants require borrowing and printing more paper debt notes, including selling bonds. We are a coverages nation that does not care about the fu-

ture. The debt can never be repaid. Politicians have kicked the can down the road for many years and hope they are out of office before the debt bomb explodes; “No one will own anything and they will be happy” which is a common saying among the elite one world crowd. The FED will own everything, and they bought it with no more than a computer entry.

**Romans 1:29** *Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:*

\* **My email box overfloweth.** Once you get on a mailing list, it is impossible to get off unless you change addresses. There is a lot of money in selling email addresses, so I’m trying to move away from email as much as I can. It’s much easier to deal with a text message than an email message. As you know, text messages can be answered and deleted. TEXT ME

\* **Mediate on this for a moment**

**Philippians 3:13** *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but [this] one thing [I do], forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things are before, **so** 14 I **can** press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

Note the added words **so & can**. There’s no way we can press ahead toward the high calling that God has given to each of us in our life without leaving the past behind. Our sins and failures must be separated from us as far as east is from the west or we cannot serve God with faith and a clear conscience. (1Timothy 1:15, 19).

How can we draw near to Him without the true heart in the full assurance of faith that we have been made clean by the blood? Hebrews 9:14, 10:22. We cannot fight the good fight of faith without the boldness that comes from leaving the past sins and failures under the blood, Pro 28:13, 14.

What is in the past that must be confessed and be left behind before we can press on for his glory with a clear conscience?

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## A NEW SPIRIT OVER THE LAND?

Trump’s victory signifies a psychological shift in America from the nurturing female archetype to the

warrior male archetype

After having gone too far in the realm of forgiving everything, surrendering to invaders and tolerating perversion and transgenderism, America is now strongly pivoting into a male archetype energy.

The male energy, signified by Trump and his team, is the energy of battling invaders, retribution against traitors and righteousness rather than blanket forgiveness.

Understanding this shift will help you navigate the historic shift now under way.

Natural News. Mike Adams

For some time now, famous sports personalities have been praising God and his son, Jesus Christ.

## TUCKER CARLSON NETWORK, 11/15/24

The large-scale effort to secularize the United States has defined the last fifty years. It’s leading to our downfall.

America is and always has been a Christian country, and the efforts to tear the nation away from those roots reveal a sinister agenda.

The Hallow app is an inspiring outlier fighting to buck this trend. How did a prayer and guided meditation app come to reach the #1 spot on the Apple App Store?

Hallow’s CEO joined today’s Tucker Carlson Show to share his mission, explain how God can work through technology, and reveal why despite the current darkness, a new dawn is coming. Click the image below to watch.

Hallow CEO Alex Jones tells Tucker:

“Let’s not diminish politics or the importance of politics in any way, but the first thing is ‘Do we give on to God what is God’s?’ And this is the one thing that I still think has a chance at cutting across political boundaries... saying ‘Man, if we just let Christ into our hearts, if we just let Jesus come, He can fix it. He can fix it all.’”

Alex told Carlson that they have had 200,000,000 downloads thus far! He also told Tucker that they hear from people all over the world who use his app and how it has caused them to find God and the Lord Jesus Christ in their desperate hours of need. Technology has allowed the hope of Christ to be spread throughout the world just as leaven is spread throughout a loaf of bread. The Kingdom of God is flourishing out of the sight of men in a manner that it cannot be stopped.

**OKLAHOMA ORDERS FIRST SHIPMENT OF BIBLES FOR USE**

## IN PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

By Ian M. Giatti, Christian Post Reporter Monday, November 18, 2024

Oklahoma Superintendent of Education Ryan Walters speaks during a video recording posted to social media on Nov. 14, 2024.

More than 500 Bibles have been purchased for use in Advanced Placement (AP) Government classrooms across the state of Oklahoma.

The move marks the first purchase of Bibles specifically intended for use as an “academic and literary resource” in U.S. public schools and is a key part of a broader initiative aimed at providing Bibles to every classroom in Oklahoma, according to State Superintendent Ryan Walters.

The Bible purchase, which will be distributed specifically to AP Government classrooms, is part of a push to purchase 55,000 King James Version Bibles with the United States Pledge of Allegiance, the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights documents included.

[https://www.christianpost.com/news/oklahoma-orders-first-shipment-of-bibles-for-use-in-public-school.html?utm\\_source=Daily&utm\\_campaign=Daily&utm\\_medium=newsletter](https://www.christianpost.com/news/oklahoma-orders-first-shipment-of-bibles-for-use-in-public-school.html?utm_source=Daily&utm_campaign=Daily&utm_medium=newsletter)

**Matthew 13:33** *Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.*

**2 Samuel 5:24** *And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself: for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the host of the Philistines.*

Are we hearing the sound of the Spirit of God moving against the ungodly to claim the world for Christ?

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### A WORD ABOUT THE ELECTION:

Trump’s selections suggest a deep entanglement with Zionist influences within America’s political landscape.

Reportedly, Sen. Marco Rubio is being chosen as Secretary of State, meaning we will be dragged into a war with Iran, and American troops will bleed and die for Israel.

In fact, every single pick by Trump so far looks to be a Zionist, putting Israel first and America last.

Homeland Security is going to be run by Kristi Noem,

who wants to criminalize any speech against Israel, and who believes God gave Israel the right to slaughter all other human beings on the planet (and steal their land and resources).

These are dangerous, delusional people that Trump is picking. Not looking good so far.

Mike Adams

### TRUMP’S CABINET: ZIONISM TAKING OVER AMERICANISM

We had an election here in the United States on 5 November. And according to the exit polls, only about four percent of the people who voted said they were concerned about global affairs. They are not concerned that the United States has sent about 15,000 two-thousand-pound bombs to Israel so they could commit their genocide and blow Gaza into ruins and that the U.S. has sent over \$200 billion to Ukraine to keep bloodying the killing fields there. As the saying goes, it is the economy, stupid. That is what voters were concerned about in the election.

Donald Trump advocated for peace during his campaign, but his Cabinet picks are pro-Israel, pro Zionism and pro war. One of them is Tulsi Gabbard, his selection for director of national intelligence, who has referred to herself as a war hawk and claims Islam is the greatest threat to the U.S.

Trump has picked RFK Jr. as Health and Human Services Secretary. He said the Palestinians are the most pampered people in the world. How about the genocide going on, and all the suffering of these people?

Former Alabama governor Mike Huckabee, who was selected as the U.S. ambassador to Israel, said there was no such thing as Palestine or the West Bank while Stephen Witkoff, Trump’s pick for Middle East envoy, raised vast amounts of money for Trump’s campaign including from Jewish voters... the list goes on.

Israel military is planning to stay in Gaza through 2025, stealing more land, killing more Palestinians.

Where is the God that gave Israel this land? People didn’t care about it when they went out to vote. Zionism has taken over Americanism.

The people that Trump has brought into his Cabinet are very pro-Israel war. If this Israel war continues and war is ramped up with Iran it is going to be Hell on

Earth.

Gerald Celente, Trends Journal

<https://mailchi.mp/3f1628b2987d/sermon-10-01-13363115?e=111b1d7019>

### THE WAR PARTY ALWAYS WINS.

#### JEWISH GROUP PRAISES TRUMP FOR PRO-ISRAEL PICKS

The Zionist Organization of America, the leading major American Jewish organization defending Israel and the Jewish people, said Wednesday it is pleased with what it has seen from President-elect Donald Trump's transition team. ...

[https://www.newsmax.com/politics/zionist-organization-of-america-marco-rubio-mike-huckabee/2024/11/13/id/1187943/?ns\\_mail\\_uid=bb6f74bb-7598-4b93-a88c-d054668b03f1&ns\\_mail\\_job=DM710526\\_11142024&s=acs&dkt\\_nbr=010504xlxm3p](https://www.newsmax.com/politics/zionist-organization-of-america-marco-rubio-mike-huckabee/2024/11/13/id/1187943/?ns_mail_uid=bb6f74bb-7598-4b93-a88c-d054668b03f1&ns_mail_job=DM710526_11142024&s=acs&dkt_nbr=010504xlxm3p)

Under Trump, America is now controlled by the Zionists who in 1899 stated their goal:

#### THE 1899 PROTOCOLS OF THE LEARNED ELDERS OF ZION

“A program for the enslavement of the world and the destruction of Christian religion.”

<https://biblicalexaminer.org/PDF%20Essays/PROTOCOL.pdf>

See “propaganda works” in this issue. Also see “Essays on Judaism.” Historical evidence shows that the Ashkenazi Jews, “Israel,” is the most fierce nation on earth as it consumes all opposition. All of the Trump family either were or have converted to Rabbinic Judaism.

(<https://biblicalexaminer.org/PDF%20Essays/Merger%20w%20Christianity.pdf>; [https://biblicalexaminer.org/PDF%20Essays/Growing\\_Prestige.pdf](https://biblicalexaminer.org/PDF%20Essays/Growing_Prestige.pdf))

Israel hates God the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, and they love death and destruction particularly of the innocent Palestinians. See “Propaganda Works.”

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

President-elect Donald Trump announced Tuesday night that Elon Musk, one of the richest men in the world, and Vivek Ramaswamy will head up a new efficiency department with the goal of dismantling government bureaucracy and “cut wasteful expenditures” throughout federal agencies by July 4, 2026.

The men above made their millions the hard way — they worked for it. They use their understanding of the business world and their ability to put that understand-

ing in action. Add Trump, and we have three men in places of power to bring actual skill and work into the bureaucracy. They certainly need our prayer as the bureaucracy is going to do all it can to protect itself.

\* **A word about Apple!** I have purchased and downloaded all kinds of word processing programs, including MS Word. As many of you probably already know, Apple has an excellent native word processing program in Pages. It rivals MS Word once you figure out how to use it. Moreover, it has voice recognition within Pages, as as does the iPhone and the iPad that will rival extremely expensive Dragon Dictate. The more my hands give out, the more thankful I am for the ability to dictate your thoughts. Of course with “AirDrop” all the files are easily shared within the Apple devices.

Apple is this writers dream Do your dictation on the iPhone and AirDrop the file to your document for Pages on iPad or your Mac. Once you get used to Pages, it will do about everything that the expensive word processing programs will do. In addition, all the files will interchange with the iPad, which I intend to use more, and the iPhone. I do not know why it took me so long to find a decent word processor when it was right under my nose. “AirDrop” alone is worth having the Apple system.

I hope to start a blog if I can figure out how to do one. I'm too old for this technology, but I certainly thank God for it for the ease of spreading the Good News.

\* One of Bettie's brothers-in-law owns a farm in Northern Indiana. Below is a note that he sent out to all the siblings.

Happy November all. I have the need to tell you about my wonderful day. Before daylight a flat bed semi was sitting on the driveway at the dairy. While I milked, Jeremiah and Scott Burton loaded it with hay for a flooded farm in Tennessee. I was out to meet the truckers taking it down. Fine people doing a wonderful thing. What I did not know was that they not only were providing the truck and doing the driving but they were putting in the fuel!!!! They thought we were great for donating hay. I told them the hay was the easy part. Getting it there was the hard part. They told me not if you have a truck!!! So out the drive they went. I sent out pictures of the hay shipping and I received a text that wondered how she could help and I said I think you could help with the fuel so now everybody gets to be a help. But I

didn't know that the Oldfather's paid for the fuel then. So helping hands joined together. Then I rushed off to the store. A few weeks ago a 16 year old Hispanic girl passed away with cancer that was not found until a few months ago. Jeremiah and Rachel put out the word on facebook that part of the sales were going to be donated to the Ortize family. The parents came to the store to thank us in person. I told them I had a brother who had cancer at 18 and we knew some of what they went through and wanted to help. We hugged and cried and the father told me about being blessed by God to live in a place that people gave you help and love and race did not matter. I am so thankful I have been blessed to live in such a wonderful community!!! ...

### **A REMINDER:**

Things are going well for us, so we fail to remember those who are facing devastating, life changing events. In other words, pray for those affected by the hurricane, particularly those of the household of faith.

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## **THE WAR PARTY**

Rev. Need

**Psalms 120:7** *I [am for] peace: but when I speak, they [are] for war.*

This is an article I spoke into my iPhone while waiting for Bettie's MRI to finish. Then this article was waiting for me when I got to my Apple computer an hour or so later. Then I edited this article on my computer with the voice recognition ability within Pages; this ability is this writer's dream come true.

An elderly lady in the waiting room with me commented on the Navy Seabee hat I was wearing and war in general. I mentioned to her it was certainly true what the Bible said, "all that hate me love death." She wanted to know where it was found, so I searched the KJV Bible I have on my phone.

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

That conversation reminded me that we are living in a society that has a burning hatred for God. They love death. They love war; they love destruction; they love abortion, they love death in every form, except for the death penalty as should be executed by the State. They are willing to spend our last tax dollar to accomplish their death and destruction.

As Christians, we have a huge responsibility before us as we try to stress the love of God in Christ Jesus and his life versus the hatred of God and the love of death. Meditate for a moment on Proverbs 8:36. How can we not be overwhelmed with the realization that we live in a society that loves death, and will gladly tax the average person to death in order finance the Jews as they are intent on eradicating the Palestinians or finance the Ukrainians war against Russia. Sadly, our Rhino Republicans are gladly financing these wars, and they will continue to do so even with Trump in office. The name of the leaders may change, but I'm afraid we will find that the same War Party is still in control at least in the House, and certainly in control of the White House as Trump has surrounded himself with those who support the Jews who are intent on controlling all of Palestine no matter how many innocent people must be slaughtered.

I read where both the Senate and the House elected leaders are against Trump. Trump's going to have a problem getting his agenda through Congress. He desperately needs our prayers. The leadership vote was secret in the House, as are most other things, for "They" do not want others to know what is in the recesses of their hearts, as revealed in their secret votes.

The Rhinos are refusing to accept the reality of Trump as they rebel against the wishes of their constituents.

We need to continue to pray that God will expose the hidden works of darkness and provide men of integrity who will deal with these difficult issues that will come up in the House. It's certainly going to take a work of the Spirit to even begin to claim the hopes and promises of this administration.

Psalms 14 applies more than ever, but we have the assurance that God will judge the wicked in his good time. He will only allow man to go so far in his efforts against God's Kingdom.

\* BTW, My last blood work, my kidney test was abnormal and if this test remains abnormal for three or more months it may mean I have a condition called CKD, chronic kidney disease. Most people with CKD live regular lives; however if your kidney test indicates more severe CKD, we will need to deal with that. Especially remember the CKD in prayer. Remember Bettie in prayer. Her back is also giving out. An MIR is scheduled to see what is going on. We thank the Lord we can

grow old in His service, using the gifts he has provided for his glory.

Pray for us that the Lord will intervene for his own glory.

**Job 23:8** *Behold, I go forward, but he [is] not [there]; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: 9 On the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold [him]: he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see [him]: 10 But he knoweth the way that I take: [when] he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold. 11 My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined. 12 Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary [food]. 13 But he [is] in one [mind], and who can turn him? and [what] his soul desireth, even [that] he doeth. 14 For he performeth [the thing that is] appointed for me: and many such [things are] with him.*

Pray for my wife and me that the Grace of God will enable us to glorify him as he preforms the things appointed for us, and we will come forth as gold.

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## BORING HISTORY

### MY MIND IS MADE UP

“My mind is made up. Don’t confuse me the facts“ was my motto for many years. My mind and ears were closed to anything that went contrary to what I had been taught or to what I wanted to believe. But the Lord started opening my eyes back in the late 70s, and many pet ideas, theories and theologies had to be sacrificed on the altar of reality and Truth.

Though “Propaganda Works” is documented at every point from history and scripture, it is so contrary to modern Christian thought that it will be automatically dismissed by the average reader. Thorough documentation of everything that is said can be found at “[biblicalexaminer.org](http://biblicalexaminer.org).”

**History means, inquire, explore,** and learn by inspection. Where are the Christians who are inclined to seek out the true history of modern Rabbinic, Talmudic, Orthodox Judaism? (1828 Webster) The fallen nature is attracted to error. A work of the Spirit is to guide the child of God into all truth.

All history is God’s history for history is the record of God working out his will for his glory and for the good of his church. “Propaganda Works” goes deep into history, deeper than the average person wants to know. Not

knowing history, both biblical and non-biblical, has allowed many strange and false doctrines into the church. Ignoring history has placed the church, and the world, in great jeopardy of being overrun by the ungodly. Of course, wickedness only prospers as God permits.

**2 Timothy 2:15** requires that we study history so we might know the truth. False doctrine has taken over the church because people don’t like to study history. The following is true history that has been intentionally removed in order for the wicked to be able to prosper. “Why do the wicked prosper?” They prosper because Christians fail in their biblical responsibilities to study and act on what they learn.

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## PROPAGANDA WORKS

Things are seldom as they appear nor are they as we are told.

### WW

#### III AND BRITAIN

#### BRITAIN AND THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

**Psalms 120:7** *I am for peace: but when I speak, they are for war.*

The October 23, 2023 Examiner, “They Are For War,” dealt with the Israeli’s love and lust for war and destruction. We also pointed out that Biblical Christians have no business being for or against either side. We are against death, particularly death of the innocent. Our warfare is spiritual and against the powers of darkness who seemingly are having their way. Our weapons are not fleshly; our weapon requires faith and a clear conscience. Our weapon is the Law-Word of God, and dependence on the Spirit to subdue the enemy. Our calling is to life and peace found only in the gospel of Christ. But today we may be facing a world-wide war between Israelis and Palestinians who both claim Palestine as their homeland. Which side has history on their side?

This article is at [biblicalexaminer.org](http://biblicalexaminer.org)

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## THE GREAT ESCAPE

### ESCAPE FROM ADULT RESPONSIBILITIES TO CHILDHOOD PLEASURES

Rev Need

Remember the old song, “Where have all the flowers gone?” Our song today is “Where have all the adults

gone?”

### WHERE HAVE ALL THE ADULTS GONE?

Where are they? We are surrounded by a world of children whose goal is to play. They cannot wait to play, and for many their goal in life is to lay aside responsibility and “retire” into playtime. How many people are excitingly working toward the weekend, so they can escape and play; they live year-to-year for a vacation so they can escape and play. They work years in hope of a good retirement so they can escape and play.

### WHERE HAVE ALL THE ADULTS GONE?

Our culture is anti-maturity. (“The difference between a man and a boy is the price of his toy”) Godly, god-ordained pastors and teachers have a difficult time understanding professed godly men living and dreaming of the day they can return to childhood playtime of no responsibility. (I cannot understand other pastors-teachers who count the days until they can retire and go play. What was the source of their calling? Within the circle of my pastor friends who are well in their 70s-80s, they are in it until they die. I intend to die with my “boots on.” See “Second Hand Lions.” It is an excellent family movie. “Help Wanted” signs are common, but new employment numbers are down. Why work when you can play? (Put away childish playthings, 1 Cor 13:11.)

I do not know how many people I have told to quit their jobs, and go into what they enjoy, and they will never have to go to work.

One advantage of homeschool is allowing the young people to find and prosper in the areas of their God-given gifts and abilities. I have never gone to work in my life: In both the trades and in the ministry, I have always done what I loved, so I have never gone to work. In fact, my wife had to then and now must tell me, “You have been at it long enough. Shut it down and let’s do something together.”

### WHERE HAVE ALL THE ADULTS GONE?

This nation was not built by baby adults who had the goal of being able to escape from duty and play.

**The question to be addressed is where do all the immature, baby adults come from who now have such a hold on even the Christian community today?**

Isaiah 3 tells us that God exalts immature children as

judgment for the rebellion of his people.

**Isaiah 3:4** *And I will give children [to be] their princes, and babes shall rule over them. 12 [As for] my people, children [are] their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause [thee] to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.*

Our prayer must be “Lord, raise up pastors according your heart who will feed with godly knowledge and understanding. (3:15)

We are not at all speaking against godly escape and rest from one’s labors, Mark 14:41; however, there can be no rest apart from faith in Christ and obedience to his every word, Hebrews 4.

### WHERE HAVE ALL THE ADULTS GONE?

From where do the baby adults come?

**1 Peter 4:17** *For the time [is come] that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if [it] first [begin] at us, what shall the end [be] of them that obey not the gospel of God?*

If God spares not His own people, what can be the fate of those who obey not the gospel of God?

**The basic principle of Christianity is found in Matthew 28:19, and maturity is found in v. 20.** Accordingly, if the believer is not disciplined in the Law, Psalms and the Prophets, he will remain an immature baby.

Thus, those responsible for Godly instruction in the Law-Word of God are failing. How are they failing? They are not maturing their flock past the basic doctrines of Christ v. 18, repentance, faith, baptism, &c. (More than once I was confronted by church members who were upset that I went “past” the basic doctrines of Christ.)

**Hebrews 5:12** *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which [be] the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. 13 For every one that useth milk [is] unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. 14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, [even] those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 And this will we*



*do, if God permit.*

In this section of Hebrews, Paul deals with laziness with which all are plagued, and that prevents all progress in the Christian life: it renders one incapable of entering into the full meaning of the gospel, truth and blessing. It often leads to an entire falling away. Just the elementary truth about the gospel (Matt 28:18) is not enough to keep from going astray. Paul here feels that many of his readers are incapable of following or appreciating the deep spiritual truths of the gospel. (1 Cor 3) He is reproving them, and exhorting them in order to urge a hunger upon them for the necessary food for maturity.

**Vv. 11-14 are a sharp rebuke** to all who are addressed by this letter. The Hebrew Christians saw themselves as wise and mature believers, unlike the Gentile congregations; their pride had made them dull witted. In their own natural wisdom, their minds were made up, so they would not hear the truth involved in the Mediation work of Jesus Christ.

(The problem being addressed here by Paul: The Hebrews looked to Abraham as their mediator, and their pride and immaturity prevented them from grasping the truth in Christ's atoning work; they believed that Abraham was made a priest by God. They believed that Abraham's stored up works were of such great merit that those works could save his descendants to the end of time. See Charles Hodge, Rom 2:24. Note that Abraham was a Hebrew, NOT a "Jew," Gen 14:13)

"Dull of hearing" was an insulting statement to the Hebrews, or Jews. Their moral and religious superiority over the general population made them less willing to learn. Their superior attitude, i.e., pride, made this highly intelligent people dull witted.

The Hebrews are told: "You should be teachers of others, but instead you need to be taught again the first principles of God's word."

**Observe: Judgment must begin in the house of the Lord.** Maturity must begin in the house of the Lord. Baby Christians means a baby society. Irresponsible Christians mean an irresponsible society. Christians whose goal is to play will result in a society whose goal is to play. It takes more than a couple hours of preaching from the pulpit a week to grow in maturity and knowledge of the Lord. Personal study time is required to grow, 2 Tim 2:15.

How many professed Christians are content with just the basic salvation, repentance, faith, and baptism yet have no strong desire for the truth of God's word so they can grow in grace and knowledge? Paul's complaint here is not that they do not have sufficient education or mental power to understand what he wishes to say. They were Hebrews, and had been Christians for some time, but their diet was still milk. A diet of meat can only be received by the humble, spiritual mind. The Hebrews were content with the assurance of eternal life.

**In other words, they were useless Christians,** for the baby Christian is always in need of help rather than being equipped with good knowledge of the Word in order to help others. Moreover, one must go beyond the basic principles of the doctrine of Christ if he will be able to discern both good and evil and be a blessing to others.

Paul would have liked to go more into depth in the Word, but he knew that they could not follow him

Preaching just the basic doctrines of Christ will not offend. Preaching and emphasizing obedience and responsibilities to every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God, the Law, Psalms and the Prophets will meet resistance as well as separation in many cases. The Historic, Orthodox faith is offensive to the natural man. Include "Calvinism," and resistance will build.

Those who do not go past the basic principles of Scripture, the A-B-Cs of Christianity are babies. They are particularly sickly if they do not want to go beyond the basics. The Christian can exist on milk, but is he equipped to be a blessing to himself, his family into society?

**Immaturity and maturity start in the church.** The Gospel Church must produce mature Christians if there will be a mature society.

Note

**First, immature Christians** are easy prey for false doctrine, as the Devil walks about seeking whom he may devour. (Eph 4:14) Immaturity allows false doctrines to prevail, Heb 13:9.

Those who do not go past the beginning "principles of the doctrine of Christ" and remain a theological baby will lack proper understanding of the Law-Word of God.

**Second, the immature lacks** spiritual discernment and will follow his human reasoning ability rather than the Word of God. (Jn 7:24)

**Third, Christian adulthood** and responsibility is removed from the Christian community when religious teachers fail to teach and develop the Law and the Prophets into practical applications. Disobedience is rebellion against God.

**Fourth, obedience through suffering** produces mature Christians.

**Fifth, immature Christian prefers,** even requires milk over strong meat, 1 Cor 3.

Sadly, it seems that many professed Christians do not want seriously strong meat; that is, in depth Bible teaching, and are content with what they get a few hours a week from a the pulpit.

**Observe:** One must have humility; that is, a willingness or “readiness of mind” to be taught, and the willingness to “search the scriptures” if he will grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, Acts 17:11, 2 Peter 3:18.

Growth depends on being able to depart from the unscriptural teachings of the “fathers” which the Hebrews were being urged to do. The unscriptural teachings of the Hebrew or Jewish fathers was a problem that hindered these Hebrews from maturing past the milk stage in their knowledge of Christ, 1 Peter 1:18. Useless religious traditions and rituals passed down from our Protestant fathers are also hard to lay aside.

“...The life of a Christian is a growth; he is at first born of God, and is a little child; becomes a young man, and a father in Christ. Every father was once an infant; and had he not grown, he would have never been a man. Those who content themselves with the grace they received when converted to God, are, at best, in a continual state of infancy: but we find, in the order of nature, that the infant that does not grow, and grow daily, too, is sickly and soon dies; so, in the order of grace, those who do not grow up into Jesus Christ are sickly, and will soon die, die to all sense and influence of heavenly things.

There are many who boast of the grace of their conversion; persons who were never more than babes, and have long since lost even that grace, because they did not grow in it. Let him that readeth understand.” (Adam Clarke)

V. 13, Christian maturity is a result of the willingness

and desire to grow and to learn.

## MATTHEW 28:19, 20

Over the years, it has been discouraging to meet so many people, even religious leaders, who are convinced they have arrived, 28:19. They know about faith in Christ as their Saviour, but are closed to any further knowledge of the law-word of God, particularly from the Old Testament, 28:20. They feel that because they have been a “Christian” for many years, they are mature, and at times even more mature than their teachers. They are quite content thinking they are mature, yet they are baby Christians, insisting on milk as they resist any strong meat of God’s Word; they want their teachers to continually emphasize the basic doctrines of faith and repentance; they do not want law and applications that **require personal growth and responsibility**; that is, sanctification in “all things.”

## MATURITY

Maturity is not measured in the amount of time one has been a believer. Rather, maturity comes with a humble willingness to learn and grow. So Paul tells the Hebrew believers that they must cultivate maturity, *i.e.*, work at learning.

Bettie has a “green thumb”, and can make about anything grow. But she succeeds in her efforts by carefully cultivating the plants in her charge. She had many plants, roses included, that she had babied for several years, and she prepared them to move from WV to Ohio with us. But the truck was full, and our PU was in the shop, so there was just no room. It was with great sadness she had to leave them behind.

When a fruit tree, or grape vine, grows to maturity, it starts producing a small amount of fruit. However, the tree, or vine, does not stop growing at that point. As it matures, it produces more fruit. If a person thinks they are mature and do not need to grow any more, they are immature.

The key point of Hebrews is made many times over: One must grow, he must continue to study and learn. Maturity cannot mean an end to growing. It means the ability to learn and to continue to discern more and more. It means an increasing ability to grasp implications and meanings of God’s word, and added grace and faith to act on the Word of God (He 5:14)

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**HEBREWS MEANS CHRISTIAN MATURITY AND  
RESPONSIBILITY IN AND THROUGH CHRIST.**

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When I first got into the ministry in 1970, I remember college students who even mocked those teachers who tried to lead them past the basic Christian doctrines, and into the “deeper” things of God’s word. “Dry as cracker dust” was the term they used.

There was also an older student who had been in college several years. He refused to graduate. He was afraid to face the challenges of being an adult. He was rightly known as a “professional student”.

We have a relative who remained a student as long as possible, letting his wife work while he spent his time obtaining many degrees, including Phds. (He is Presbyterian, and has a good retirement income; he now spends his life playing with no responsibility.) His life proved that his “ministry” (pastor) was simply an occupation, and totally apart from any Godly calling; retirement age meant “playtime.”

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WITHOUT MATURE PEOPLE, THE WEST IS DEAD. THERE  
IS NO PLACE IN THE WORLD FOR PERPETUAL BABIES.

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The anti-maturity attitude has overwhelmed the church, and has made it absolutely powerless in the modern world. The attitude is that conversion completes sanctification, and conversion makes one perfect in Christ. So there is no need to increase in the knowledge of Him as revealed in the total of the Word of God. The attitude seems to be: “Why study the law and its applications? We are now sanctified and perfect in Christ. He freed us from the law, so we will not be brought back under the commandments again.” (That law from which He freed the Elect was the mediation ordinances given by Moses, for he nailed them to his cross. Col 2:14.)

Of course, that attitude is practicing Antinomian, Armenianism.

Such beliefs, and there are many varieties to them, tell us why the churches have become useless in our modern world. Even churches which do not follow strict Armenian professionalism, have no growth, or maturity attitude. They are “converted;” they attend morning and evening service and maybe a mid-week service, and they give. “Well, what more do you want

of us?” And they resist challenging preaching past the basic doctrine of salvation.

Many of us know from experience that many churches believe that “growth” means growth in numbers, so they do everything possible to grow in numbers. That increase makes them feel they have accomplished a great deal for the Lord. However, the Lord is not in the “numbers” game. He defines Christian growth as increase in the faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ and His law-word, and increased ability to understand and do its implications and applications.

Most of the churches I have visited have one message: faith and repentance as though the congregation is made up of unsaved people. Certainly, that is a good and needed message, but that message is primarily “preached to the choir” that has heard the same message week after week. (Matt 28:20) The public assembly is to gather to hear the law-word of God expounded and applied to daily responsibility and activity. The public assembly is to be a training ground for the army of God, equipping the saints to wage war against the very gates of hell. It is for teaching all things as commanded by our Risen King. As those things are applied, His kingdom is advanced.

The Hebrew believers were ready to return to the temple. They were ready to trust Jesus as the Messiah, but as the High Priest? Knowing that they needed a High Priest, they were ready to return to Judaism, and continue with the temple sacrifices, and depend on the merit of Abraham.

They were ready to separate themselves from the rest of the church and go into churches that said: “We are Christian, but we are still tied to the priesthood as practiced in the temple.” Some groups did return to the temple, so there were two sects of such Jewish believers. The temple sect died out in time, particularly after 70 AD. At the end of the first century, the overwhelming majority of Christians were Jews. For centuries afterwards and well into the medieval era, many Christian leaders were from Jewish families. (RJR)

Hebrews is still needed today to recall the believers in the “West” to the maturity and responsibility needed to fulfill their task of dominion and victory. Even among the most stringent Bible Believing individuals and churches, there is little evidence of a calling to triumph in Christ. Accordingly, the maturity of the He-

brew believers then and the evangelicals now was a self-defined one, not a legitimate one. Hebrews tells us that they were not mature men, but babies. And as the prophet Isaiah tells us, “Where immature men, children and babes in men’s bodies, rule, disaster follows.”

**Isaiah 3:4** *And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. 5 And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable. V. 12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err; and destroy the way of thy paths.*

The fulfillment of Isaiah is quite evident in our day. Today's young “man” is irresponsible and undependable. Women rule in the churches, and dominate the work place. Where are the mature, responsible men who will exercise dominion over their spirit, over their families and over every area that God places under their authority? Who will lead the church on to the victory that is promised through the mediation work of Christ?

“Lord, raise up pastors and teachers according to your heart who will feed with godly knowledge and understanding.” (3:15) Raise up leaders who will call your church back to obedient faithfulness to Christian responsibility and duty, and thus lead our nation back from the abyss.

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## SHE SMILES AT THE FUTURE

This virtuous women edition highlights the faithful life of South Carolina Patriot wife and mother, Eliza Lucas Pinckney. Her life is little known today, but the results of her faithful labors brought about many blessings for South Carolina and for the entire country. We hope and trust that your daughters will be inspired by her worthy example.

### SHE SMILES AT THE FUTURE

#### ELIZA LUCAS PINCKNEY

There are few young ladies today who relish getting up at 5 AM. Even fewer make it a habit of rising at 5:00 every single day. Probably, fewer still prioritize projects that look far into the future - such as planting cedar and oak groves and developing a valuable crop, not for her own profit, but for the benefit of her country.

Such a young lady was Eliza Lucas when we first meet her in 1739, a sixteen-year-old girl in the colony

of South Carolina. At sixteen, she had the responsibility of managing her father’s three plantations in South Carolina while he was stationed in Antigua and managing three sugar plantations. Colonel George Lucas was a kind and good father. He trusted Eliza over his property, and she rose to the task, “happy that I can be useful to so good a father,” as she wrote to a friend.

Amid her busy schedule with the plantations, Eliza did not forget to tend to the needs of her mother, who was not in good health, and to her sister Polly. She taught Polly at home for a time, and took pains to keep up with her own studies. Eliza read extensively from her father’s well-stocked library. She was also kind to their slaves, even teaching some of the girls to read, in preparation for letting them teach the slave children to read, something that was usually avoided at that time.

Eliza was serious-minded, and lived with purpose and energy. She kept up an avid correspondence and kept a record of her letters in a book. Friends called her a “little visionary” and teased her about her many “schemes” – always coming up with some new project that would reach far into the future. In her letters, she describes planting a fig orchard for the purpose of drying and exporting the figs. She also describes planting a grove of oak trees, the proceeds of which she designed for charity one day.

Colonel Lucas sent over many seeds to try growing in Carolina. Eliza set her eye upon indigo – a plant that produced a rich blue dye – as a crop that she thought would prove valuable. Indigo had been tried in South Carolina years earlier, but abandoned when rice became productive. England got her indigo from France. It was a valuable commodity, and Eliza’s efforts were towards England being able to supply it herself.

The journey was not an easy one. Eliza experienced one set back after another. The first year the frost destroyed her crop before it had sufficiently dried. The seed she saved made only 100 bushes the next year. A Frenchman who was sent to help her make vats and turn the indigo into dye did not want to put his own country at risk, and purposely ruined the color during the process.

But at last, in 1744, at the age of twenty-one, Eliza was able to send samples of her indigo to England. She received a favorable letter from London: “I have shown your indigo to one of our most noted Brokers in that

way, who tried it against some of the best French, and in his opinion is as good . . .”

The very next year Colonel Lucas gained a valuable income from the indigo crop. Eliza’s pioneering work on its cultivation paid off. She freely shared her seeds with other planters who also experienced good success. By the time the Revolutionary War began, the annual export from South Carolina was over one million pounds!

In 1744, the same year Eliza first sent her indigo sample to England, Colonel Lucas sent his son George to South Carolina to bring Mrs. Lucas, Eliza, and Polly back to Antigua to be near him. However, an unexpected turn of events happened before her brother George arrived. A friend of hers, Elizabeth Pinckney, had suffered ill health for many years and died in January of 1744. Mrs. Pinckney had been very dear to Eliza, and Eliza mourned her death. When the newly-widowed Charles Pinckney heard about Eliza’s impending move back to Antigua, he proposed to her, asking her hand in marriage.

Eliza accepted his proposal gladly. Her father and mother gave their blessing, delighted that she would be in the care of one so honorable and with such good character. Eliza wrote to her father with gratefulness for his generous dowry and his lifelong care of her.

Soon Eliza was writing to a good friend, “Heaven has blessed us with a fine little boy,” declaring that he had “all his papa’s virtues.” She delighted in her baby boy. The energy and diligence she had put into studying music and cultivating indigo, she now poured into loving and teaching her little boy. She stumbled across a method to “play him into learning,” and her husband Charles evidently made an alphabet-learning toy for him. At 20 months old, he could speak intelligently and knew all his letters and even some spelling.

Charles and Eliza were blessed with four children in all: Charles Cotesworth, George Lucas, Harriott, and Thomas. Baby George died when less than a month old.

Eliza poured her whole heart into being a good wife and a good mother. She kept a list of personal resolutions that she read often and tried to follow, “by the Grace of God assisting me to keep.” She resolved to believe in God and obey his commands. She resolved

to be a good wife and mother. Among the other the resolutions, she resolved “by the divine will not to be anxious or doubtful, nor to be fearful of any accident or misfortune that may happen to me or mine.”

For several years the Pinckney family lived very happily in the beautiful home that Charles had built for Eliza in Charles Town, South Carolina. The entire family then moved to England, where Charles served as commissioner for the colony of South Carolina. He thought it would be advantageous for his sons to be educated in England for a time. After five years, he and Eliza and Harriott paid what was intended to be a temporary visit back to South Carolina to visit the plantations. However, Charles caught malaria, and three weeks later he died. This was a terrible blow to Eliza and she grieved deeply the loss of her life companion. She had delighted in the 14 years they had together, and now, as she wrote to her mother, “earth had no charms” for her. She clung to the hope of being reunited in Glory.

But she must look ahead for the sake of her children. In writing to her sons, still in England, of their father’s death, she wrote honestly of the bitterness of the cup that they must drink. Yet she assured them, “I hope the Almighty will enable me to do my duty in every instance by you, and that all my future life may be spent to do you good, and in showing to you, . . . how much, how truly, I loved and honored your dear father by my affection and care of you.”

Throughout the rest of her days, how truly did Eliza Pinckney fulfill her duty to her children, in prayers, letters, and motherly counsel. We see the fruits of her labors in the honorable men that her sons became. Both played significant roles in the founding of our country. Charles Cotesworth was one of South Carolina’s delegates to the Constitutional Convention in 1787. Thomas served a term as governor, and presided at the State Convention which ratified the Constitution. They were excellent and respected leaders in their generation.

When Eliza Lucas Pinckney died of cancer in 1793, George Washington personally requested to be one of her pall bearers at her funeral. She had lived well, and the fruits of her labors still carry on.

Proverbs 31:25 says, “Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.” A literal rendering of “rejoice in time to come” is, “she smiles at the coming day.” This is a fitting description of this

worthy lady who looked to the future with hope and worked diligently to be prepared for the coming day.

Drawn from: The Letterbook of Eliza Lucas Pinckney

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## A PROCLAMATION: BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

When we review the calamities, which afflict so many other nations, the present condition of the United States affords much matter of consolation and satisfaction. Our exemption hitherto from foreign war ? an increasing prospect of the continuance of that exemption – the great degree of internal tranquility we have enjoyed – the recent confirmation of that tranquility by the suppression of an insurrection which so wantonly threatened it – the happy course of public affairs in general – the unexampled prosperity of all classes of our citizens; are circumstances which peculiarly mark our situation with indications of the Divine beneficence towards us. In such a state of things it is, in an especial manner, our duty as people, with devout reverence and affectionate gratitude, to acknowledge our many and great obligations to Almighty God and to implore Him to continue and confirm the blessings we experience.

Deeply penetrated with this sentiment, I, George Washington, President of the United States, do recommend to all religious societies and denominations, and to all persons whomsoever, within the United States, to set apart and observe Thursday, the nineteenth day of February next, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer: and on that day to meet together and render their sincere and hearty thanks to the great Ruler of nations for the manifold and signal mercies which distinguish our lot as a nation. particularly for the possession of constitutions of government which unite and, by their union, establish liberty with order; for the preservation of peace, foreign and domestic; and for the seasonable control, which has been given to a spirit of disorder, in the suppression of the late insurrection; and generally for the prosperous course of our affairs, public and private; and, at the same time, humbly and fervently to beseech the kind Author of these blessings. graciously

to prolong them to us – to imprint on our hearts a deep and solemn sense of our obligations to Him for them – to teach us rightly to estimate their immense value – to preserve us from the arrogance of prosperity and from hazarding the advantages we enjoy by delusive pursuits – to dispose us to merit the continuance of His favors by not abusing them, by our gratitude for them, and by a correspondent conduct as citizens and as men – to render this country, more and more, a propitious asylum for the unfortunate of other countries – to extend among us true and useful knowledge – to diffuse and establish habits of sobriety, order, morality, and piety – and, finally, to impart all blessings we possess or ask for ourselves, to the whole family of mankind.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States of America, to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand. Done, at the city of Philadelphia, the first day of January, 1795, and of the independence of the United States of America, the nineteenth.

Go Washington,

President of the United States

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## THE TRIUMPH OF FAITH

By Rev. Need

**Psalms 14:1** *«To the chief Musician, [A Psalm] of David.» The fool hath said in his heart, [There is] no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, [there is] none that doeth good.*

This is a millennial Psalm; it that takes us into the millennial reign of Christ which started when He ascended to his throne of all power. This Psalm is for the general use of the Church as it speaks to the universal corruption of mankind, and the coming victory of Christ.

This Psalm [and Ps. 53] gives a gloomy picture of the present, evil world yet the righteous must not give up, for it ends with a glorious picture of the future, a future of joy and gladness for the New Israel of God. This short 7 verse Psalm covers all the time from the Fall of man to the total Redemption of man in fulfillment of Psalms 10:1 when all men shall be subdued to the Son. We are continually reminded that there is no time as man thinks of time in the purposes of God. That is, in this chapter, the defeat of v. 1 moves to the victory of v. 7, and carries on into chapter 15; this movement from defeat to victory is common throughout Scripture,

especially in the Psalms, as the dark clouds of judgment are opened to the bright ray of SONSHINE. (Ps 53)

Its purpose is to encourage the righteous who are in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, particularly as they see the wicked prospering and flourishing as a green tree. (Ps 37, 73.) This psalm warns the ungodly and comforts the godly. It speaks peace unto his people, and judgment to the wicked. It gives to his saints the assurance of freedom, joy and gladness.

**14:1** *The fool hath said in his heart there is no God.* When David referred to the fool, he not only referred to the Atheist who says, “There is no God,” but to the practical Atheist who acts in his heart as though there is no God; he is outwardly a practicing believer, but the practical implication of his heart is that there is no God.

**14:2** *The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, [and] seek God. 3 They are all gone aside, they are [all] together become filthy: [there is] none that doeth good, no, not one.*

Psalms 14 reads much like Genesis 6 which ended in world-wide judgment. Psalms 14 ends with victory in Christ, salvation, rejoicing and gladness in the New Israel of God, the Gospel Church – that is, world-wide righteousness.

This Psalm opens with the universal corruption of man, or the doctrine of total depravity. All gone astray... Total depravity does not mean that man is completely without good, but that good cannot satisfy God and result in eternal life. The Spirit must make us a new creature in Christ.

The doctrine of total depravity does not mean that the unsaved are incapable of doing any “good,” but that every aspect of man’s being, his mind, will, emotions, feelings, body, &c. are infected by the fall. Total infection! (Our bodies certainly experience that effect, and the medical-industrial complex is rich because of sin’s effect. However, we must be thankful for the godly medical advancements that help alleviate sin’s effect.)

Paul quotes 14:3 as his proof text for the necessity of being a new creature in Christ.

**V. 1** *the fool.* That is, the sinner, the atheist, the unbeliever, all of those without the light of the Spirit. They have no fear of God; they live and act out their confidence that there is no God Who will hold them account-

able. However, God’s law works whether men believe it or not, just as sure as fire burns whether men believe it or not.

**Stupidity!** We live in the midst of stupid people who are living in an imaginary world because they have no God Who has fixed and unchangeable laws. In fact, they are shocked when reality intervenes in their imaginary world. They have no understanding of reality, no reasoning ability, no wisdom; they are godless, vile, opposed to righteousness and is no more than a dead carcass. Or they refuse to face reality as they think and act contrary to right reason. (This applies to the practical Atheist who acts in his heart as though there is no God.)

Romans 1 tells us that every man knows there is a God, and man must actively suppress that knowledge in order to deny there is a God. Those who persist in that denial are given over to the lusts of their own hearts. Though a man may profess faith with his mouth to gain public acclaim, the problem is the heart, for out of the heart are the issues of life.

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NEITHER GOOD WORKS NOR GOOD WORDS PRODUCE A GOOD HEART. (PRO 4:23, MARK 7:21FF.)

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14:1, leave out the translators’ words, “there is” and we have “No God, i.e., let there be no God-I wish there were no God. They hate him and refuse to retain him in their knowledge. Thus, they reject all divine authority, and live accordingly. No God: “no power (or dominion) of God in the earth.”

The term God or gods also refers to the civil magistrate -- those who are to represent God’s justice on earth, including the fathers in their households, Ps 82:2, John 10:34. Thus, we see the logical conclusion of no God is that there is no righteous judgment in areas controlled by fools, by idiots, for they recognize no law above man’s law. Chaos reigns without the gods, civil magistrates fulfilling their responsibility before God to enforce Godly justice.

As the wicked work at denying and removing the Christian God from every aspect of society, people are left to the devices of the imaginations of their foolish heart. They are blown about by whichever public wind is blowing the strongest. At the present, it seems to be the “transgender” movement. There is nothing that strikes more at the heart of the Creator God as men try-

ing to be women, and women trying to be men, which is why the ungodly state is enforcing and even financing the dream to be as God.

**Fools.** *Their foolish heart has been darkened.* They have moved into the realm of the powers of darkness, demonic control, from which only the enlightening of the Spirit of God can deliver. Note that the movements against the Christian God are becoming so open and wicked that we must say they are controlled by the dark powers from below, e.g., not only the open attack against Christianity at opening of the 2024 Olympics in Paris, but the Village with cardboard beds, vegetarian diet, &c.

**Note the countenance of people around us:** it is depression, defeat and hopelessness, especially among the generation of young people who are now convinced by the education system that there is no God.

Corruption naturally follows foolishness, as the fool follows the foolish, vain imaginations of his fallen nature.

There are those who try to practice good deed toward their fellow man, but God looks at the heart, and without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: (Heb 11:6)

There are those who give themselves wholly over to unrighteousness, and spend their lives trying to overthrow the Lord and his Christ. It is beyond our imagination what goes on behind closed doors at the very highest levels of society. God “looks at the heart,” and His justice and purpose will be accomplished according to the thoughts and intents of the heart.

**Abominable.** The fool is corrupt, and abhors good. He denies or suppresses all knowledge of God which allows him to think nothing as they eat up my people like bread, vv. 1, 4.

The wicked devour God’s people by persecution, by using unjust laws to plunder their goods as did the Pharisees in Matthew 23:14. The wicked devour the people, or eat them like bread. The wicked have suppressed God, so they have no remorse as they consume not only God’s people, but the general population for their own pleasure.

**As they eat bread...** Their ordinary diet is to consume the little fish in the pond. Generally, the rich men and powerful politicians, bankers and industrialists of this

world have accumulated their great wealth by devouring the substance of those “beneath” them. The life, livelihood and good name of those beneath them mean nothing as they pursue their love of money, power and fame. The wicked, the lovers of money and power eat up all people like bread. The innocent are no more than bread to be eaten to give strength to obtain evil goals. Because of the money and power, the wicked love war. (Ps 120:7)

God has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness; he will judge the secret things of the heart according to the Gospel of Christ as everyone stands before the judgment seat of Christ. We are warned not to judge anything before the time of the Lord’s coming when he will bring to light the hidden things of darkness. (Acts 17:31, Rom 2:16, 14:12, 1 Cor 4:5, 2 Cor 5:10.)

David asks in 14:4, Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? That is, don’t they know that God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil? (Ecc 12:14)

Man is made in the image of God, so every man knows in his inner being that judgment shall come. Yet, being hardened in sin, man willingly rushes madly down the broad road to self-destruction. The Gospel Church is established in the midst of this world of fools, with the command from the Lord to preach Christ, baptize and disciple the blind fools. Have the workers of iniquity lost their wits? (Poole) Actually, sin has blinded them, hardened their hearts, and dulled their conscience.

The lust for wealth and power is a method of Satan’s attack against man who is made in the image of God and especially against Christ through his church. Under the direction of Satan, the wicked are hardened so they see the innocent as no more than a piece of bread to be eaten for their own health.

**V. 4. Do not all the workers of iniquity realize they are consuming God’s Elect,** and He will judge them accordingly? The god of this world has blinded them so they cannot see what they are doing to Christ. (Paul, Acts 9:5. Eph 4:18.)

**V. 5. Wicked men may rage and blaspheme, may boast and be confident;** but they will all prove themselves the veriest cowards at last, v. 5. Not one of them will have boldness in the day of judgment. They can-



not fortify even here against fears the most idle, yet the most terrible. Lev. xxvi. 17, 36 Pr. xxviii. 1 1 Thess. v. 3. Often are they a terror to themselves and their friends. Jer. xx. 4. Dickson “The near conjunction which God hath with the godly is the reason of the greatness of the sin of persecuting them for godliness ; for here it is given as a reason why there they were in fear.” Morison “When least anticipating any sorrowful reverse, and when least prepared to meet it, the wicked are often thrown into a state of consternation as alarming as it is unexpected. Either the dispensation itself is very awful, or their minds, being an easy prey to the first onset of alarming events. The courage of which ungodly men not unfrequently boast, in general forsakes them in the hour of sudden overwhelming calamity. With a heart all corroded with care, and all distracted with bitter anguish and remorse, they are but ill prepared for a transition from sensual ease and pleasure, to a prospect all gloomy and terrific.” (Plumer, Psalms, p. 193.)

V. 6 directly addresses the wicked: They have worked to bring shame on the church, the Kingdom of God, because they, the Elect, have found their refuge in the Word of God. The wicked have worked and are working to destroy any confidence in the Word. If they cannot destroy confidence, they must change the word which they do by attacking historic Received Text.

**V. 7, the fool who lives in his imaginary world of no God has no fear of retribution.** However, the knowledge of the Thrice-Holy God is there, for even the wicked have been created in His image with a conscience. Having no fear of God, the fool attacks God’s people, the Elect, in their effort to shame and mock the New Israel, or those with unshakable faith in the Word.

As Christians, we can make no sense of those who do not believe in God working so hard to attack Him in Whom they do not believe. If there is no God, why attack someone who is a figment of the imagination of a group of people, the church? Over the centuries, more than a few “religious” leaders have made a life-goal of attacking the inspired Word, and the followers of the Word.

Vv. 6, 7 contain the firm hope of deliverance on the ground that the Lord will not fail to give to righteousness the victory over wickedness.

**V. 7, out of Zion.** Or Who will give from Zion the deliverance of Israel? Matthew 28:18, 19, out of the Gospel Church goes the message of salvation and deliv-

erance. The Old Testament prophecy is that He would draw the Elect to himself from all over the world:

### BRINGETH BACK

Romans 8:17ff. All creation is paying the price for Adam’s sin. All creating is groaning and travailing for the redemption brought purchased by Christ. But the full redemption of all creation has not yet been accomplished; that redemption will be realized through the preaching and teaching of the law-word of God.,

**Isaiah 11:9** *They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

**Habakkuk 2:14** *For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.*

How can anyone who is open to the truth read Isaiah and not see the final victory of Christ over the whole earth before the his Second Coming? (1 Cor 15:24)

**Isaiah 5:26** *And he will lift up an ensign to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly:*

**John 12:32** *And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all [men] unto me.*

Conclusion:

Psalm 14 fulfills the words of Christ as found in Luke 4:17-21. He not only promised freedom from the captivity to sin, sight to those blinded by sin, healing to the broken hearted, but in this Psalm, He promises His final victory over the last enemy, death.

Psalms 14 is the promise that all His enemies will be subdued to Jesus Christ

**Psalms 110:1** ¶ «A Psalm of David.» *The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*

How can His people not rejoice in what the future holds?

**Ezekiel 37:27** *My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.* **John 1:14** *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.* **Revelation 7:15** *“Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.* **Revelation 21:3** *And I heard a great voice out of*

*heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

*Dwelt, temple, tabernacle of God.* Refers to God's permanent dwelling among the redeemed in His abiding and gracious presence. (Theological Dictionary of the New Testament.) Ephesians 1 and 2 fit here.

**Proverbs 8:17** *I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.*

