

# The Biblical Examiner

*An Examination of Biblical Precepts Involved in Issues at Hand*

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## Conservative or Liberal Tyranny

Though this mailing is a little late for the 4th of July, we still think of the month of July as a month to celebrate freedom and liberty. Therefore, let us examine freedom a little.

We are confronted on every side with conservative politics vs liberal politics. Which will provide freedom? Which will protect from tyranny? Modern thinking equates freedom and liberty with conservatism, but will "conservatism" prevent tyranny?

Consider the following facts about the modern conservative movement:

### Conservatives have a standard:

I (& probably millions of others) received a 1993 NATIONAL ISSUES SURVEY from Sen Bob Dole (for the American Conservative Union. Actually, it was a fund-raising letter). The theme of the letter, of course, was liberal vs. conservative, and, according to this letter, with my help of a donation of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more to the ACU, "the ACU will be able to help me take the battle to the liberals... With your help, the ACU will... reunite the political coalition that resulted in three consecutive conservative Presidential landslides..."

Dole's appeal closed:

"Together, we can move forward with confidence and courage. We can prove that we stand united and ready to fight the liberals and take back control of the Congress and the White House. Please join me and the ACU in our struggle to keep America strong, free and proud." (Ed. Free from tyranny?)

And thus, Dole upheld the Reagan years as the conservative standard. But consider:

"U.S. retains title as biggest debtor nation." (Crawfordsville Journal Review, July 1, 1993.) Washington (AP) - To paraphrase a line from the old

## Good News!

### Religious Freedom in Russia?

"League of Prayer is one of 3 ministries from the States registered in Russia! Unregistered ministries, and there are hundreds, are illegal. The Ministry of Justice has announced it will begin closing these in 1993. Until registration is approved, a ministry can't legally rent, lease, buy secure a phone or FAX." From League of Prayer newsletter, PO Box 4038, Montgomery, Alabama 36103

ED-Don't let the "hype" fool you. According to this short statement, things continue as they were in the East. "Religious Freedom" exists only for those willing to register with the state and abide by public policy. (Where does this leave the ministries which are invited into Russia by the government?)

The West also is seeing the same thing: those who refuse to "register" with the state and proclaim public

## ACUC

annual national meeting will be at Indianapolis Baptist Temple, Oct 4-6. □

song, the United States is another year older and deeper in debt.

America's net debtor position — the difference between what Americans own overseas and what foreigners own in this country - deteriorated sharply in 1992, strengthening the United States' hold on the title as the world's biggest debtor nation, the Commerce Department said Wednesday...

As recently as 1983, America was the world's largest creditor, with U.S. funds financing projects around the globe. But the flow of funds reversed as Americans developed an insatiable appetite for foreign goods and their government began to run large budget deficits. (Note: on a whole, the '80s saw foreign goods of higher quality.)

Another "conservative" legacy is recorded in THE FREEMAN (Apl 93):

"In 1992, for the first time in U.S. history, the number of civilian government employees exceeded the number of workers in manufacturing industries.. [This] stems from law and regulation and rests on the backs of the former. It depends on legislators, tax collectors, policemen, judges and jailers."

1983! Reagan was elected in 1980, and thus

began the Reagan Miracle” and the standard for conservative politics. Reagan’s conservative policies sold America into slavery: Pr 22:7 *The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower [is] servant to the lender.*

## Conservatives have a goal:

Bill Bennett prepared a report for The Heritage Foundation, and it was promoted over the Rush Limbaugh program. The report (& evidently Bennett) is as humanistic as any report that any flaming liberal could produce. Bennett proposed three **legislation centered** answers to America’s ills which amounts to *more laws* and bigger government:

First, government should heed the old injunction, Do no harm. ... (Ed. True enough.) Second, political leaders can help shape social attitudes through public discourse and through social legislation. Perhaps the best recent example of how laws can give voice to our moral beliefs is the civil rights legislation of the 1950s and 1960s. Here was statecraft as soulcraft. **We should do more of it.** Third, a reform-minded and thoughtful legislative social agenda should include (Ed. some of his points): \* A more effective and thought-minded criminal justice system, including **more prisons...** \* A radical reform of education through **national standards...** a core curriculum... \* Identification of the father of every child, by having **states ensure** that a document exists at birth to identify the name and social security number of both parents (Ed. this is the Childhood Immunization Bill)... This legislative agenda would have a positive impact... (Emph added. “The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators,” The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave., N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002-4999, pp. i-iii.)

Bennett is clearly calling for increased centralized civil government. Bennett, evidently desiring to carry the conservative flag, says that it is possible to obtain **salvation by law: ie., political salvation**, “statecraft as soulcraft.”

Certainly, we must agree that it is better to live under conservative policies, but we must also agree that the only difference between a conservative and liberal is his brand of socialism. Conservatives have a goal (which, by the way, is the same goal as the liberals): **salvation through the right combination of laws.**

And thus it is obvious! Both the conservative and the liberal agenda are two paths leading to the same

goal - **TYRANNY.**

## Conservative vs. Christian

*Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage, Gal 5:1 (Gen 1:27, 28; 1 Cor 7:22, 23; Ja 1:25; 2:12.) Know you not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? Rom 6:16. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed, John 8:36.*

### • **Observe:**

1) liberty was bought by Christ on the cross. Christ is freedom, and there is no freedom apart from Him.

2) “unalienable rights” are a gift from God and make it possible for us to be free (at liberty) from the bondage of sin and earthly tyranny. “...in proportion as the minds of individuals are made free from sin, the virtues of the Gospel are practiced; oppression and tyranny must cease, and liberty revive and prevail...” Gad Hitchcock, Plymouth, MA, Dec 22, 1774.

3) the soul purpose of liberty must be for God’s service and glory.

4) when liberty is used to pursue man’s desires rather than to bring glory to God with whatsoever he does, tyranny must develop; nothing can stop it.

5) world-wide tyranny increases because individuals have departed from God. As the Christian culture dissolves, tyranny will take its place.

6) the only answer to tyranny is Christian liberty studied (#1 above) and applied; therefore, Samuel Adams, in 1772, said, “...The right to freedom being the gift of God Almighty.., ‘the Rights of the Colonists as Christians’ ... may be best understood by reading and carefully studying the institutes of the Great Lawgiver ... which are to be found clearly written and promulgated in the New Testament.”

There is no short cut, and **every other effort to secure liberty** and freedom other than studying and applying the law of Liberty has God’s curse against it, Ps 119:45; Pro 8:36.

