

# The Biblical Examiner

*Seeking first the Kingdom of God and its Advancement*

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Holding to the 1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith

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### Christians and Life

I had articles already chosen and being worked on for this present mailing when I saw the headline on the Drudge Report, January 21, 2014. "55 Million Abortions Since Roe" which linked to an excellent article by a 27 year old young lady of the "Abortion Generation". The article is in this mailing. BTW, Drudge has been identified as the news maker of this generation. Starting from nothing during the Clinton era, he now controls the news of our day.

I had hoped to get this mailing out around the anniversary date, but time hindered that effort. (See "Personal".)

Though we all know the facts about abortion, let me give a short overview.

### STUNNING REPORT: ABORTION LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN AMERICA

*By Suzanne Eovald, 12/30/14*

Barack Obama's administration is "the most rabid pro-abortion administration in US History," according to the recent Christian Action News. As the 41st anniversary of Roe V. Wade approaches on January 22, the question is asked by the editors: "In a nation that regularly polls as majority pro-life, how on God's green earth have we not been able to end the killings?"

Abortion is now the leading cause of death in the US, with 1,310,000 pre-born innocent human beings ripped apart in their mothers' wombs either by hard cold scissors rammed into the back of their skulls or by burning saline baths or by some other horrific method of death. This article, also, points out that "98% of abortions are for CONVENIENCE!" Pope John Paul II best summed up why abortion is so wrong when he said, "It is difficult to imagine a more unjust situation, and it is very difficult to speak of obsession in a matter such as this, where we are dealing with a fundamental imperative of every good conscience—the DEFENSE OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE OF AN INNOCENT AND DEFENSELESS HUMAN BEING." ...

<http://www.westernjournalism.com/abortion-americas-thriving-industry/>

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### ABORTION BY RELIGION

**Protestant, 37.4%; Catholic 31.3%; None: 24.2%; Other, 6.1%; Jewish, 1.0%**

**Thus, 68.7% of American abortions are obtained by "professed Christians".**

20% of abortions take place with girls under 20, and 1/3 of those without the parents knowledge. I do not know where "Wicked Shepherds" got their numbers, but I see no reason to doubt them. See more facts at:

<http://www.wickedshpherds.com/abortioncounterandstats.html>

68% profess "Christianity", a figure that clearly tells us the

root of the abortion problem.

### "FAITH-BASED GROUPS PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROMOTING ACCESS TO FAMILY PLANNING IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Contrary to public perception, faith-based organizations from diverse religious backgrounds are key players in the provision of family planning services around the world, and those based in the United States advocate for increased U.S. assistance in this area to boost global health, according to a new Guttmacher Institute analysis...."

<http://www.guttmacher.org/media/nr/2013/12/17/index.html>

**I.** The reason for a corrupt society is because modern Christianity as a whole is corrupt.

**II.** The Christian attitude toward children is acted out in the abortion mills.

**I.** The reason for a corrupt society is because of a corrupt Christian society. A commonly used passage is 2 Chronicles 7:14.

We hear of all kinds of excuses to dismiss this passage as being applicable today. But when it is ignored, we must also ignore:

Romans 2:6, *To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: 8 But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, 9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; 10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: 11 For there is no respect of persons with God.* (Gal 6:7)

Moreover, Isaiah 24:2 and Jeremiah 5:31 tell us that God gives leaders after the hearts of His people.

There is no way around the fact that the Christian's attitude toward every area of life will certainly be reflected in the general society. When the salt loses its savour and the light goes out, the corruption and darkness fills the void.

**II.** The Christian's attitude toward children will be acted out in the general society — that is, in the abortion mills.

“Why women have abortions”

93% for social reasons.

<http://www.wickedshepherds.com/abortioncounterandstats.html>

Sadly, many Christians see children as an inconvenience, or we would see many large families with many children, as many as the Lord permits. The Christian's view of children is reflected in the world's view of children, and the world now sees children as at least an inconvenience and at the most, a curse.

#### ◇ CHILDREN AND THE WORD OF GOD, Psalms 127

This Psalm is attributed to the Wise Man, Solomon. Psalms 128 is so closely connected with 127 that it was probably also written by Solomon. Follow the implications of these two chapters.

Observe:

**First**, three of the five verses of 127 deal with the joys of having a lot of children.

*“3 Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. 4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. 5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.”*

So we can conclude that the basic teaching of this psalm deals with the blessings of many children. It also deals with the necessity of the Lord building and keeping the family.

**Second**, Solomon's 127th psalm ends with *“Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.”*

(“The enemies in the gate.” Here in WV, just about everyone is related to or knows everyone, and can tell you their family

history, good and bad, of everyone they know. The school even now is quite small, and everyone knows everyone who was and is in school over a period of maybe 10 years while they were in school. In a local election, it is near impossible to defeat those who were born here, went to school here and came from large families. Those from large families can control “politics” here, if they so desire. If envy were permitted, I could envy those who were born and raised in one community, and still have much of their families close at hand.)

Solomon's Book of Ecclesiastes sums up both from personal experience and from careful observation—there is nothing but vanity in the life and labors of man. The wise concludes that there is nothing better for a man in this life than that he should become less extreme or intense in his cares and labors, enjoy what he has, fear God and keep his commandments – to this end he directs all that is debated in Ecclesiastes:

*“12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”*

Keeping in mind his conclusion above, consider what is said in “Psalms 128:1 *Blessed [is] every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways.*”

V. 1 continues the theme of 127, opening with the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep his commandments. Chapter 128 goes on to tell us that the blessings of God upon those “that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways” will be many children, and being able to enjoy his grandchildren, v. 6.

Note v. 4 *“Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD.”*

The theme of 127 & 128 is the blessings of God upon those who fear Him and walk in His ways. That blessing will be many children. Thus, those who turn from having children reject the blessings of God, nor do they fear the Lord.

A logical conclusion we can make here is that Solomon himself said that a house full of children is better than a house full of gold and silver. How many Christians see children as an inconvenience? They see children as a hindrance to their being able to obtain what they consider to be the blessings of God, the good things of life. Their *“God is their belly”*, i.e., their sensual desires, and they serve him to their own destruction. (Phili 3:19.) They consider children as a hindrance to being able to live a life style not possible with many children.

We must conclude that because Christians see children as an inconvenience, the world sees them as a

curse to be killed at a rate of 3,304 a day. (1.3 million a year.)

**Third**, Psalms 127:2, “*He giveth his beloved sleep*” is understood by Thomas Brooks (1608-1680) to mean:

It is a peculiar rest, it is a rest peculiar to sons, to saints, to heirs, to beloved ones. “So he gives his beloved rest”, or as the Hebrew hath it, darling, or dear beloved, quiet rest, without care or sorrow. The Hebrew word *akv, shena*, is written with a, a quiet dumb letter, which is not usual, to denote the more quietness and rest. This rest is a crown that God sets only upon the head of saints; it is a gold chain that he only puts about his children’s necks; it is a jewel that he only hangs between his beloved’s breasts: it is a flower that he only sticks in his darlings’ bosoms. This rest is a tree of life that is proper and peculiar to the inhabitants of that heavenly country; it is children’s bread, and shall never be given to dogs.

Keeping the verse within the context of the chapter, which deals with the blessings of many children, it implies that many godly children will bring rest to the parents in their old age.

I know of children and grandchildren pooling resources to build a debt-free home for an elderly parent.

My first wife’s mother only had one child, and that one died. So when it came time when her mother could not live on her own, her mother became dependant upon those who were not even related to her. She certainly had no rest in her children in her old age.

The Biblical way is that the many children, not the state nor insurance policy, give the parents rest in their old age. God’s welfare system for a Christian’s old age is to have many children. However, many children consider their parents a burden.

**Fourth**, Psalms 127:3 “*Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it:*” How is this house to be built? The context of 127, 128 implies that the house is built by the blessings of God upon those who walk in His ways. That is, by having as many descendants as the Lord will provide to keep the name and family alive upon the earth. Without the many descendants, what is the purpose of accumulating wealth? Why build a house if there is no one to keep the house after we are gone?

#### **Spurgeon tells us that,**

The great Napoleon, with all his sinful care on this point, could not create a dynasty. Hundreds of wealthy persons would give half their estates if they could hear the cry of a babe born of their own bodies. Children are a heritage which Jehovah himself must give, or a man will die childless, and thus his house will be unbuilt. (*Treasury of*

*David.*)

**Fifth**, “*And the fruit of the womb is his reward,*” or a reward from God. It can be read, is His – the Lord’s – reward. Despite the prevalent thought of our day, even among Christians, God gives children not as a penalty nor as a burden, but as a blessing. (Ps 128:4.)

No doubt the happiest moments for my wife, Bettie, is to have as many of her grandchildren around her as possible. I have heard her tell others that her dream from as far back as college days was to have grandchildren around. She does not see them as an old age security, but she certainly sees them as God’s blessings upon her and her first marriage. She sees her grandchildren as the fruit of the womb, and praises God for them. She has said publically that the biggest mistake she and her husband made was to decide to stop having children after three. Years later, they confessed that sin to their children. There are now 33 grandchildren, with 3 more on the way.

#### **Again, quoting Spurgeon:**

They are a token for good if men know how to receive them, and educate them. They are “doubtful blessings” only because we are doubtful persons. Where society is rightly ordered children are regarded, not as an incumbrance, but as an inheritance; and they are received, not with regret, but as a reward. If we are over crowded in England, and so seem to be embarrassed with too large an increase, we must remember that the Lord does not order us to remain in this narrow island, but would have us fill those boundless regions which wait for the axe and the plough. Yet even here, with all the straits of limited incomes, our best possessions are our own dear offspring, for whom we bless God every day.

When our children go out in public with all their children, (who are normally well-behaved) they get all kinds of reactions, and many of those reactions are negative. Even Christians, many times, see children as a curse from God, though Latino Catholics, and Muslims, see children as a blessing from God. Why cannot those who claim to believe Scriptures far more than do the Latino Catholics and Muslims see children as a blessing from God?

[Do you love Children? You must watch this: <http://www.lifesitenews.com/blog/twelve-days-of-christmas-pro-life-family-style/>]

A typical American response to those with large families is, “Don’t you know where babies come from?”

Many Christians see a large family as an inconvenience that prevents them from pursuing the lusts of their own hearts, rather than a blessing from God to be trained up in the ways of the Lord. The result is that the world around us sees children as a curse to be

killed before they are born.

Though it has been several years ago, I easily remember when we attended Bettie's 40th year college reunion in 2007, King College in Bristol TN. Of course, we met many of her former class mates. One couple stood out to us particularly. They said that as time passed, they "woke up" and found they had no children. They were not at all sad about that fact. In fact, were telling of the "joys" of being able to live their life together without the incumbrance of children.

I saw a picture of a family taken in the early 1900s. It was a super large family with parents, children, grand children and great grand children. I did not take time to count all who were in it, but if there were less than 150 in the picture, I would be surprised.

Yes, Americans of the past, particularly farm families, had large families. Look at the old farm houses as you drive through the country. Our community has many large two-story farm houses built on a raised portion of land where the farmer could look out over his livelihood. Many of those houses are falling down.

What happened to the Christian large family mentality? Where did we lose our large families of children to the world? Statist education made pagans out of the children, indoctrinated them with the world's philosophy and with the myth of overpopulation and career women. Statist education made them consumer oriented. Being consumer oriented, they want nothing to hinder their consumption of various things that provide the "good life", and children hinder the "good life".

**Career women:** I have been quite surprised at the pastors who will go to blows over finer points of doctrine, even grey areas, as they see them, yet will not stand against clearly unscriptural things, e.g., career women and statist education as forbidden in Deuteronomy 6, Psalms 78, all of the Proverbs, Ephesians 5 & Titus 2. Strange indeed.

(My oldest daughter graduated from Purdue, with the intent of being a "career woman". She and her husband both worked, and had a very good income between them. But when they had their first child, the "career woman" went out the window and their income cut to less than half as they now live on his income alone. They must now live very frugally, and make every penny count. After the first child, she said, "I cannot imagine a home without a baby in it." She now understands that her Christian career is being a wife and mother. Her career and joy is now in educating their daughter and their son.)

Maybe mothers do not have to work outside of the home, but the parents have been convinced by the enemy that public education is best for their children.

The result has been the removal of Christianity from society, indoctrination about a population explosion, over population, global warming, the glories of socialism, and training up a society based upon the consumer mentality.

Our society can be reclaimed if Christians will again see the blessing of children, and the requirement to give a truly Christian education in their homes.

**Sixth**, Psalms 127:3, "*children are an heritage of the Lord*" implies that children are an heritage belonging to the Lord, given to parents in trust to be trained in the ways of the Lord.

We must stand against the world's view of children. We must encourage those who are able to have large families to trust God to supply their needs. If "*children are an heritage of the Lord*", then there is no reason to be worried about God's supply for our needs. Adam Clarke said, "He who gave them will feed them."

*"Psalms 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."*

Note that children are an heritage of the Lord. Our materialistic society, even among Christians, believes that gold, silver, houses and land are the true heritage to be passed down from generation to generation.

Led by pastors, we must rejoice and joyfully welcome new babies into our families, into the families of Christian friends and into our gospel churches. Pastors and people must make parents feel they have the entire church behind them as they carry out God's purpose of marriage—procreation and populating the earth with many godly generations.

Do the math. Within three generations, Christians who will see Children as a blessing from God can take over our nation simply with the sheer numbers of large families of maybe 8 children per Christian family. However, those children must be faithfully trained in the ways of the Lord, which is where Biblical Christian home education plays such an important role. ("Classical" or education in Plato and Aristotle is not Christian)

◇ **"PANELIST AT PODESTA'S THINK TANK ON COMMON CORE: 'THE CHILDREN BELONG TO ALL OF US'" (1/31/14)**

<http://cnsnews.com/video/cnsnews/panelist-podestas-think-tank-common-core-children-belong-all-us#sthash.15B61r1Q.dpuf>

The next step is obvious. Children being home educated will be confiscated by the State, as is now common in Germany. How much longer will pastors and Christians remain quiet?

Certainly, not every Christian couple will be blessed by God with a quiver full, or they may see the importance of a quiver full too late to do anything about it, but every Christian family can encourage, pray for, support and help those couples who are blessed by God with many children. New babies must be accepted and treated for what they are — GIFTS FROM GOD.

A real problem, however, is that Christian women, by choice and not by dire circumstances, work outside the home, so they do not have time to fulfill their Biblical responsibility to help other Christian women who have many children in their times of need.

**Seventh**, Ps 127:5. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them

Obviously, a large number of children means a large number of trials, and very hard work, but it also means a large number of joys.

The eldest grandchildren in Bettie's three children's families pretty much take care of the household duties, the oldest being 16.

**Eighth**, *"They shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."*

The picture I saw with a multitude of family members in it — who would want to cross even one of those family members, if the family is close knit? Of course, our mobile society has split the families. My brother and all his children live in California.

There are very few people you can talk to here in WV who do not have cousins by the dozens. Thus, the families are well-known in the community, known for their good as well as for their evil. I have met several men who can tell you everything about every one of any importance in our community. Large families united together can have a serious impact on a local community.

One of our men said he was in school with all seven brothers of one family, and had been beatup by all of them at one time or another.

And we must also apply this psalm to a large number of spiritual children. Converts are also the heritage of the Lord, and the Lord's reward for the preacher's hard work and travail.

Just three generations of Christians with large families — families who will train the children in the ways of the Lord — can take over a community and the nation itself.

Is it any wonder that the enemy must work to keep Christian families small by whatever means possible?

He not only uses pressure from expected sources, the world, flesh and the devil, but he uses pressure from the very source that should be encouraging and supporting large families, the Christian community. "Don't you know how many children are enough?" "You need a rest." "Enough is enough."

However, even as Christians might have large families, they many times turn them over to the state to be raised as you would raise a herd of swine. The result is that the children turn out to be a curse, for they have been raised by the Greek pagans. Thus, if the parents are going to produce children to give to the state to be trained in paganism, then the fewer the children the better.

It is interesting that the next Psalm, 128, follows with the same idea: the blessing of a large family.

**Abortion is the logical implication of the Christian's attitude toward children.** Many

Christians see children as an inconvenience that hinders their pursuit of the "good life" of personal peace, prosperity and happiness. There can be

no change in the world's view of children, resulting in abortion, until there is a change in the Christian's view of children.

◇ **WHAT CAN WE DO?**

**First**, examine our own attitude toward children. Start believing God, and recognize that children are a blessing only God can give. And the more children in a family, the more that family is blessed by God.

**Second**, though not every Christian couple will be blessed by God with children, every Christian couple can encourage, pray for, support and help those couples who are blessed by God with many children. That includes helping the mother with many children in her home. Offer your services so the moms can have a break, even if it is a simple break so mom can go grocery shopping without all the children while the fathers earn the living.

**Third**, new babies must be joyfully accepted and treated for what they are — GIFTS FROM GOD.

**Fourth**, treat the parents of many children as being specially blessed by God.

**68.7% of American abortions are obtained by "professed Christians"**. How can we expect the world's view of children to change when we are unable to see the blessings of God in large families, particularly

WHEN THY JUDGMENTS ARE IN THE EARTH,  
THE INHABITANTS OF THE WORLD WILL  
LEARN RIGHTEOUSNESS. ISA. 26:9

when those children are being trained in the ways of the Lord?

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## What Should Be Done To A Country That Kills 56 Million Of Its Own People?

*Michael Snyder, January 14, 2014*

[“Psalms 127:3 *Lo, children [are] an heritage of the LORD: [and] the fruit of the womb [is his] reward.*” What should be done to a country that has killed over 56 million of His children? What should be done to a world that has killed over a billion of His children since 1980? What should be done to a Christianity that produces 69% of all murders of the innocent?]

Do you know how many babies have been murdered in America since 1973? It is a number that is almost too horrible to think about. An astounding 56 million American babies have been killed by various abortion methods since *Roe v. Wade* was decided back in 1973.

So what should be done to a country that kills 56 million of its own people? We rightly condemn other totalitarian regimes throughout history such as Nazi Germany, the USSR and Communist China that have killed millions (or tens of millions) of their own people. But what about us? What do we deserve for slaughtering more than 50 million of our own precious children on the altar of convenience? What kind of punishment would be large enough to fit such a monstrous crime? I hope that you will share what you think by posting a comment at the end of this article. Sadly, most Americans don't even think much about abortion these days. Most Americans consider it to be a “political issue” that has already been “settled”. But of course that is what most Germans thought about the treatment of the Jews during World War II as well. And the truth is that the percentage of Americans that consider themselves to be “pro-choice” has been declining over time. Perhaps it is still possible to see a shift on this issue in the United States. We just need more people to start standing up for those that cannot stand up for themselves. ...

It would be one thing if our nation had already repented for this tremendous slaughter and was looking back in horror on this great holocaust.

But that is not the case at all. In fact, most of the country seems totally unconcerned about it. Only a very small minority of Americans are troubled enough by abortion to do anything about it.

If we continue down this road as a nation, it is inevitable that we will end up paying a very great price.

And from time to time, it seems like we get a reminder

that “someone up there” is not too pleased with us.

For example, on Sunday a “sewage pipe break” spewed black sewage all over the red carpet at the Golden Globe awards in Hollywood.

What do you think the odds are of such a thing happening at that specific moment by chance?

Was “someone up there” sending us a not too subtle message about what He thinks about our behavior?

<http://www.infowars.com/what-should-be-done-to-a-country-that-kills-56-million-of-its-own-people/>

Observe: The State encourages and finances these murders, as well as encourages Sodomy. The logical implication is that there is no evil of which the State is not capable. The State has moved from just encouraging the murder of the innocent unborn, to encouraging the abuse and murder of its innocent citizens. “The State would not bring down the World Trade Towers just to increase its power with the Patriot Act!” But the State is encouraging and financing the murder of 50 million people, so what is a few thousand deaths in the World Trade Center?

Does not the Lord claim the children as His? What should be done to a country that has killed over 56 million of His children? What should be done to a world that has killed over a billion of His children since 1980?

**Study:** Couples Without Children Have Happier Marriages

1/14/14, <http://atlanta.cbslocal.com/2014/01/14/study-couples-without-children-have-happier-marriages/> What world do they live in?

There are European nations, e.g., France, that offer various State benefits for women who have children. Also, it is my understanding that Muslims forbid abortions and have large families. Is it possible that the Lord would subdue Christianity under the Muslims in order to stop the murders?

What should be done to a country that has killed over 56 million of His children? What should be done to a world that has killed over a billion of His children since 1980? What should be done to a Christianity that produces 69% of all murders of the innocent?

Maybe Fukushima!!

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## FUKUSHIMA RADIATION ALERT:

When's It's Time To Leave West Coast And/Or The Northern Hemisphere

*December 31, 2013 13:46*

<http://beforeitsnews.com/health/2013/12/whens-it-time-to-leave-west-coast-and-or-the-northern-hemisphere-due-to-fukushima-radiation-2517376.html>

**Deliberate and Systematic Blackout**

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## U.S. Navy Sailors Sue TPCO over Cluster-Fukushima Snafu

“Why has this not made national headlines??? The Aircraft Carrier Ronald Reagan is nuclear powered. Radiation detection equipment did not pick up on this?? Why have these sailors’ and marines’ medical records been removed from permanent tracking. Criminal implications galore. This should be all over mainstream media. Someone please forward all these reports to the media... . Tepco is the lowest of snakes. Hari Kari for the lot of em!!”

Fukushima lawsuit of 2012 comes as news to too much of the public.

The story referred to in the enenews.com comment above has had some coverage by Energy News, Turner Radio Network, Stars and Stripes and a few others, but coverage, if any, by mainstream media is scant to none. All the same, it’s a real story, with real villains (TEPCO, Japanese government, U.S. Navy for starters), and real victims (a growing number of American service personnel put in harm’s way and abandoned by their government when things got tough).

The core of this story is the lawsuit filed December 21, 2012, by attorney Paul C. Garner of Brooks & Associates of Encinatas, California, on behalf of nine plaintiffs (including a one-year-old), all of whom “were among the members of the U.S. Navy crew and attached to the U.S.S. Ronald Reagan (CVN-76), whose home port was San Diego, California, when they were exposed to radiation off the coast at Fukushima prefecture, Japan, whereat the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant is located, on and after March 11, 2011, during the mission known as “Operation Tomodachi.” ...

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/u-s-navy-sailors-sue-tepco-over-cluster-fukushima-snafu/53624>

The article also gives an account of the horrible radiation poisoning these crew members are experiencing. There is an astounding US government coverup of the resulting radioactivity on US citizens from Fukushima.

What should be done to a country that has killed over 56 million of His children? What should be done to a world that has killed over a billion of His children since 1980?

A simple search for Fukushima radiation will produce

more disturbing links than you care to read.

What should be done to a country that has killed over 56 million of His children? What should be done to a world that has killed over a billion of His children since 1980? What should be done to a Christianity that produces 69% of all murders of the innocent? Particularly when none will repent and turn from their wicked ways.

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On the Other Hand, take your choice

## Fukushima, Fear and Fallout

Pundits warn that radiation from a damaged Japanese nuclear power plant could require mass exodus from the Northern Hemisphere. Should we start packing?

[This New American article says that those who are crying “Wolf, Wolf” are actually major players in the “antinuclear power” movement. The closing paragraphs are below.]

Media sensationalism spawned this nuclear crisis; the facts prove there is little danger. Why the exaggerations, vituperation, and lies? The attack on nuclear energy is part of a larger war on industrial society.

“The antinuclear movement has become part of the political establishment,” says Beckmann, and is peopled with radical environmentalists using “clean air and clean water only as a bait to mobilize the gullible” in their campaign to stifle economic growth and control population. Access to energy promotes a prosperous society and stymies environmentalists’ goals. Government interference in energy markets is the surest way to restrict access to clean, plentiful, safe, and affordable sources such as nuclear.

A fearful public cowers to this bureaucratic bullying because radiation is an enigma to most. Unfortunately, fears have grown ridiculously out of control. Instead of ridiculing the absurd notion of evacuating a hemisphere, the manipulated public is willing to sacrifice liberty for a false sense of security — a harbinger of tyranny. In order for liberty to prevail, so must reason. Though Fukushima now implies nuclear peril, let us hope in years to come it is not the poster child of 21st-century lunacy.

*The New American, 2/3/14.*

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## Dead Bees and Dead Babies

About 60 Pay Tribute To Bees Killed At Wilsonville Target Parking Lot

*Contributed By Cassandra Profita, 7/1/14*

About 60 people gathered in Wilsonville Sunday for a memorial of the thousands of bumblebees recently

killed by pesticides in a Target parking lot.

The group huddled in the shade outside the Target store. They carried signs lamenting the lost bees and opposing pesticides. They made prayer flags, and they sang songs together.

Dozens of European Linden trees in the store parking lot remain shrouded with bee-proof netting. Two weeks ago, the blooming trees were sprayed with insecticide. It was intended to kill aphids that drip sap on parked cars.

None

But the pesticide also killed an estimated 50,000 bumblebees. Memorial organizer Rozzell Medina invited people attending his event to share a moment of silence in their honor. He said he collected dead bees around the property Sunday and found some bees are still dying inside the tree netting.

Medina said, "After this service, this memorial, I would encourage you to walk around and look in the trees. If you look inside the nets, you'll see hundreds of bees still in there, dying or dead."

The Oregon Department of Agriculture has banned certain uses of the pesticide while it investigates whether the bee kill violated state or federal regulations.

Some at the memorial service called for a ban on the type of pesticide used in Wilsonville while others advocated for more education about the risks of using any pesticide at all.

Barbara Robins said attending the ceremony gave her hope that there could be a solution to the problem of pesticides killing beneficial insects. She's now committed to writing a letter to the White House every day asking for stronger pesticide regulations.

"When I heard that 50,000 bumblebees had been killed here, I felt helpless and I felt so hurt," she said. "I love bumblebees especially. Our yard is full of them. I had to do something, I didn't know what. I made about eight signs and 12 little flags and came down here with my husband."

Bobbo Bernstein wrote two songs for the occasion, one of which was an adaptation of Bill Withers' "Ain't No Sunshine." The group joined in to sing along and add call-outs of edible foods that are pollinated by bees:

"Ain't no honey when they're gone. That's the price we're going to pay. Ain't no honey when they're gone, and we're poisoning our home. Better put that spray away.

Bee-less flowers when they're gone. Bee-less birdsong when they're gone. Bee-less apples when they're gone. Bee-less peaches when they're gone ...?

[Note: Though they provide necessary pollination, Bumblebees do not produce honey.]

<http://www.opb.org/news/blog/ecotrope/about-60-pay-tribute-to-bees-killed-at-wilsonville-target-parking-lot/>

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## Personal

Sorry about the lateness of this issue, but we mail as we have time and money.

Of course, it has been cold up here as it has been over much of the nation, with an inordinate amount of snow, although three years ago, we had a total of over 72 in. Our lowest temperature to this point of the winter was -7 with winds over 40 mph.

Late mailing. A group of us have taken two county commissioners to court over their violation of the "Sunshine Law", as well as serious "Ethics Violations". Our trial date was set for 1/22-23. Snow and cold postponed the trial a day to 23-24. Then we got word that the trial has been put off until 3/17-19, three days rather than two. So for the last two months, my time has been eaten up with that cause. (See [facebook.com/hardycountyinformed](http://facebook.com/hardycountyinformed))

[Certainly, honesty in local government is not the answer to our local problems. Only the gospel can change men's hearts so they desire integrity on the local level. But God requires Christians to speak against wickedness in high places, Ps 50:16ff, Rom 1:32. We are in our current ungodly state because Christians refuse to "be involved in politics".]

Bettie noticed a growth on her neck just below her thyroid. After several doctor visits, on 1/28/14, she had it removed along with a parathyroid. All went well. No evidence of cancer, and the doctor was pleased with the outcome. It will take time to stabilize her medications, however.

I had an MRI on my right shoulder which gets so sore it keeps me awake, even with my CPAC on. I have had the problem for a year or so, so the doctor finally ordered a MRI, and found bone spurs that are cutting a ligament, and a partially torn rotator cuff. I have a nuclear stress test 2/14 to make sure my heart will tolerate the 3-4 hour operation in March.

Sad news. We have now lost three grandchildren to miscarriages. That is 3 families out of 5 families have had a miscarriages. Fallout? "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord". Corrupt manufactured food? GMO, which are in everything we eat that is not "Organic"? "**All Natural**" means absolutely nothing, but is a marketing ploy to keep the consumer consuming GMOs. Chemicals of all kinds are "All Natural", for man can make nothing out of nothing. ("GMOs cause horrible deformities, birth



defects in piglets.”)

[http://buzz.naturalnews.com/001126-The\\_Natural\\_Effect-food\\_industry\\_misinformation-USDA\\_Organic\\_Seal.html](http://buzz.naturalnews.com/001126-The_Natural_Effect-food_industry_misinformation-USDA_Organic_Seal.html); [http://www.naturalnews.com/043208\\_GMOs\\_farm\\_animals\\_birth\\_defects](http://www.naturalnews.com/043208_GMOs_farm_animals_birth_defects)

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**\*\*Adolf Hitler wrote, “In the primitive simplicity of their minds [the broad masses of a nation] more readily fall victims to the big lie than the small lie, since they themselves often tell small lies in little matters but would be ashamed to resort to large-scale falsehoods. It would never come into their heads to fabricate colossal untruths, and they would not believe that others could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously.” This is called the Big Lie Technique.**

In the news today Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke defended quantitative easing, saying it has helped the economy and shows no immediate sign of creating a bubble in assets.

*(Franklin Sanders, The Moneychanger daily comments, 1/16/14.)*

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## 2013 Man of the Year

*Laurence M. Vance, lewrockwell.com, January 1, 2014*

It was never my intention that my first blog post of 2014 be about the military. But how can it not be when the Washington Free Beacon names The American Solider as a “Man of the Year” for 2013.

Which soldier could this be? Is it the rapist, the drug addict, the singer of filthy cadences, the one who committed suicide, or the one who joined the military because he couldn’t find a job? Or is it just the typical soldier who invaded and occupied Afghanistan while declaring that he was defending our freedom to celebrate Christmas and watch an NFL game?

I guess the Man of the Year includes women too: “As these brave men and women fight for our freedom overseas, it is worth taking a moment to recognize their valor, salute their bravery, and mourn the 119 members of the armed services killed in Afghanistan this year.”

(I spent 4.5 years doing my fair share in defending the “Banker’s” various interests around the world, the Navy, ed.)

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Matt Drudge Issues Warning:

### “Have An Exit Plan”

*Mac Slavo, January 27th, 2014. SHIFTplan.com*

His web site may consist of just a single page, but Matt Drudge is arguably the most influential media personality in the world. Garnering nearly one billion

readers monthly, the Drudge Report is able to literally shift public sentiment, making it an essential read for D.C. insiders, Wall Street professionals, and anyone who wants to stay on top of the latest global issues.

If Matt Drudge headlines a story its viral spread to millions of readers in near real-time is guaranteed.

With his established connections to critical spheres of influence that include everything from politics and government to finance and entertainment, when Drudge speaks, people listen.

Over the weekend, as noted by Steve Quayle and Susan Duclos, the self made media behemoth took to his Twitter account with a simple warning consisting of just four words? Have an Exit Plan

◇ **DRUDGE INCLUDED NO OTHER DETAILS WITH HIS TWEET.**

The warning, while cryptic, may be the result of direct insider information. Considering he once nearly brought down the Clinton administration by revealing the President’s indiscretions with a White House intern, one could make the case that if anyone has legitimate sources pouring in from across the world it’s Matt Drudge.

Could his warning be for stock market investors regarding foreknowledge of an imminent collapse of financial markets in the United States, China and Europe?

Or has Drudge’s access to insiders in key positions given him the ability to connect the dots for an event that may occur in the near future? Few may recall, but just three weeks ahead of the September 11th attacks, Drudge headlined warnings of possible strikes on US-based targets, so there may well be a credible insider source for his most recent warning as well.

In recent years the mogul has expanded his news distribution service to include alternative news powerhouses like Alex Jones’ Infowars, which researches and analyzes key events and happenings globally. As of late, Drudge has made it a point to link to a variety of topics at Infowars that include the militarization of America’s domestic policing apparatus, Constitutional transgression at the highest levels of our government, and other insider reports often ignored by the mainstream media. While establishment news media shuns the rapidly growing alternative media, a warning to “have an exit plan” is one that the alternative news sphere has consistently suggested, while often being laughed at in mainstream circles.

Given Drudge’s massive following, reach, and

credibility, perhaps we shouldn't be laughing any more.

Something has spooked Matt Drudge and he's not alone. Last year one of America's leading talk show hosts, Mark Levin, warned that the U.S. government has been simulating the collapse of our financial system and society with the potential for widespread violence. There are countless such examples of highly influential media personalities who are issuing similar warnings.

Within the realm of the alternative media, the last several years have yielded incredible insights into the inner workings of the U.S. government, political system and economic machinations. Everything from manipulations of our monetary system to the sometimes unbelievable expansion of the American police state has been extensively studied and reported by thousands of independent journalists, broadcasters and bloggers operating outside of the mainstream establishment's sphere of influence.

There have been insider reports indicating that a crisis of unprecedented magnitude is coming to the United States. Contrarian economists, who are almost completely ignored by mainstream media, have warned of dire consequences to the continued operation of our systems of commerce, including our domestic food distribution networks. And though it has not been reported on the alphabet news channels, the U.S. military has been actively war gaming collapse scenarios and engaging in highly suspicious exercises across U.S. metropolitan areas.

While Matt Drudge's latest comments could be referring to anything, given the types of stories he's covered in recent years we could make the case that he is referring to worst-case scenarios.

His exit plan warning may encompass any number of potential scenarios such as a coming shock to financial markets, evacuating major cities in an emergency, preparing for the destruction of our currency, or having a way to get out of the United States in the event of a Soviet-style purge.

Whatever the case, Matt Drudge understands that his views and comments are followed by hundreds of millions of people worldwide, thus we are confident that he would not publicly issue such a warning unless he has access to credible information that supports his claims.

That being said, we urge readers to remain vigilant. And, in the off chance that some terrible event is in our near future, we strongly suggest having a preparedness plan that includes emergency food storage, barter

supplies, medicines, precious metals, and a strategic relocation plan in case you are forced to evacuate your current residence.

[http://www.shtfplan.com/headline-news/matt-drudge-issues-warning-have-an-exit-plan\\_01272014](http://www.shtfplan.com/headline-news/matt-drudge-issues-warning-have-an-exit-plan_01272014)

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Life in the Emerging American Police State:

## What's in Store for Our Freedoms in 2014?

*The Rutherford Institute Commentary By John W. Whitehead, 12/30/13*

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” — George Santayana, *The Life of Reason*, Vol. 1

In Harold Ramis' classic 1993 comedy *Groundhog Day*, TV weatherman Phil Connors (played by Bill Murray) is forced to live the same day over and over again until he not only gains some insight into his life but changes his priorities. Similarly, as I illustrate in my book *A Government of Wolves: The Emerging American Police State*, we in the emerging American police state find ourselves reliving the same set of circumstances over and over again—egregious surveillance, strip searches, police shootings of unarmed citizens, government spying, the criminalization of lawful activities, warmongering, etc.—although with far fewer moments of comic hilarity.

What remains to be seen is whether 2014 will bring more of the same or whether “we the people” will wake up from our somnambulant states. Indeed, when it comes to civil liberties and freedom, 2013 was far from a banner year. The following is just a sampling of what we can look forward to repeating if we don't find some way to push back against the menace of an overreaching, aggressive, invasive, militarized government and restore our freedoms.

**Government spying.** It's hard to understand how anyone could be surprised by the news that the National Security Agency has been systematically collecting information on all telephone calls placed in the United States, and yet the news media have treated it as a complete revelation. Nevertheless, such outlandish government spying been going on domestically since the 1970s, when Senator Frank Church (D-Ida.), who served as the chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence that investigated the NSA's breaches, warned the public against allowing the government to overstep its authority in the name of national security. Church recognized that such surveillance powers “at

any time could be turned around on the American people, and no American would have any privacy left, such is the capability to monitor everything: telephone conversations, telegrams, it doesn't matter. There would be no place to hide." Recent reports indicate that the NSA, in conjunction with the CIA and FBI, has actually gone so far as to intercept laptop computers ordered online in order to install spyware on them.

**Militarized police.** With almost 13,000 agencies in all 50 states and four U.S. territories participating in a military "recycling" program, community police forces across the country continue to be transformed into outposts of the military, with police agencies acquiring military-grade hardware—tanks, weaponry, and other equipment designed for the battlefield—in droves. Keep in mind that once acquired, this military equipment, which is beyond the budget and scope of most communities, finds itself put to all manner of uses by local law enforcement agencies under the rationale that "if we have it, we might as well use it"—the same rationale, by the way, used with deadly results to justify assigning SWAT teams to carry out routine law enforcement work such as delivering a warrant.

**Police shootings of unarmed citizens.** Owing in large part to the militarization of local law enforcement agencies, not a week goes by without more reports of hair-raising incidents by police imbued with a take-no-prisoners attitude and a battlefield approach to the communities in which they serve. Sadly, it is no longer unusual to hear about incidents in which police shoot unarmed individuals first and ask questions later, such as the 16-year-old teenager who skipped school only to be shot by police after they mistook him for a fleeing burglar. Then there was the unarmed black man in Texas "who was pursued and shot in the back of the neck by Austin Police... after failing to properly identify himself and leaving the scene of an unrelated incident." And who could forget the 19-year-old Seattle woman who was accidentally shot in the leg by police after she refused to show her hands? The lesson to be learned: this is what happens when you take a young man (or woman), raise him on a diet of violence, hype him up on the power of the gun in his holster and the superiority of his uniform, render him woefully ignorant of how to handle a situation without resorting to violence, train him well in military tactics but allow him to be illiterate about the Constitution, and never stress to him that he is to be a peacemaker and a peacekeeper, respectful of and subservient to the taxpayers, who are in fact his masters and employers.

**The erosion of private property.** If the government can tell you what you can and cannot do within the privacy of your home, whether it relates to what you eat or what you smoke, you no longer have any rights whatsoever within your home. If government officials can fine and arrest you for growing vegetables in your front yard, praying with friends in your living room, installing solar panels on your roof, and raising chickens in your backyard, you're no longer the owner of your property. If school officials can punish your children for what they do or say while at home or in your care, your children are not your own—they are the property of the state. If government agents can invade your home, break down your doors, kill your dog, damage your furnishings and terrorize your family, your property is no longer private and secure—it belongs to the government. Likewise, if police can forcefully draw your blood, strip search you, and probe you intimately, your body is no longer your own, either. This is what a world without the Fourth Amendment looks like, where the lines between private and public property have been so blurred that private property is reduced to little more than something the government can use to control, manipulate and harass you to suit its own purposes, and you the homeowner and citizen have been reduced to little more than a tenant or serf in bondage to an inflexible landlord.

**Strip searches and the loss of bodily integrity.** The Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was intended to protect the citizenry from being subjected to "unreasonable searches and seizures" by government agents. While the literal purpose of the amendment is to protect our property and our bodies from unwarranted government intrusion, the moral intention behind it is to protect our human dignity. Unfortunately, court rulings undermining the Fourth Amendment and justifying invasive strip searches have left us powerless against police empowered to forcefully draw our blood, strip search us, and probe us intimately. For example, during a routine traffic stop, Leila Tarantino was allegedly subjected to two roadside strip searches in plain view of passing traffic, while her two children—ages 1 and 4—waited inside her car. During the second strip search, presumably in an effort to ferret out drugs, a female officer "forcibly removed" a tampon from Tarantino. No contraband or anything illegal was found.

**Invasion of the drones.** As corporations and government agencies alike prepare for their part in the coming drone invasion—it is expected that at least 30,000 drones will occupy U.S. airspace by

2020, ushering in a \$30 billion per year industry—it won't be long before Americans discover first-hand that drones—unmanned aerial vehicles—come in all shapes and sizes, from nano-sized drones as small as a grain of sand that can do everything from conducting surveillance to detonating explosive charges, to middle-sized copter drones that can deliver pizzas to massive “hunter/killer” Predator warships that unleash firepower from on high. Police in California have already begun using Qube drones, which are capable of hovering for 40 minutes at heights of about 400 ft. to conduct surveillance on targets as far as 1 kilometer away. Michael Downing, the LAPD deputy chief for counter-terrorism and special operations, envisions drones being flown over large-scale media events such as the Oscars, using them to surveil political protests, and flying them through buildings to track criminal suspects.

**Criminalizing childish behavior.** It wouldn't be a week in America without another slew of children being punished for childish behavior under the regime of zero tolerance which plagues our nation's schools. Some of the most egregious: the 9-year-old boy suspended for allegedly pointing a toy at a classmate and saying “bang, bang”; two 6-year-old students in Maryland suspended for using their fingers as imaginary guns in a schoolyard game of cops and robbers; the ten-year-old Pennsylvania boy suspended for shooting an imaginary “arrow” at a fellow classmate, using nothing more than his hands and his imagination; the six-year-old Colorado boy suspended and accused of sexual harassment for kissing the hand of a girl in his class whom he had a crush on; and the two seventh graders in Virginia suspended for the rest of the school year for playing with airsoft guns in their own yard before school.

**Common Core.** There are several methods for controlling a population. You can intimidate the citizenry into obedience through force, relying on military strength and weaponry such as SWAT team raids, militarized police, and a vast array of lethal and nonlethal weapons. You can manipulate them into marching in lockstep with your dictates through the use of propaganda and carefully timed fear tactics about threats to their safety, whether through the phantom menace of terrorist attacks or shooting sprees by solitary gunmen. Or you can indoctrinate them into compliance from an early age through the schools, discouraging them from thinking for themselves while rewarding them for regurgitating whatever

the government, through its so-called educational standards, dictates they should be taught. When viewed in light of the government's ongoing attempts to amass power at great cost to Americans—in terms of free speech rights, privacy, due process, etc.—the debate over Common Core State Standards, which would transform and nationalize school curriculum from kindergarten through 12th grade, becomes that much more critical. These standards, which were developed through a partnership between big government and corporations and are being rolled out in 45 states and the District of Columbia, will create a generation of test-takers capable of little else, molded and shaped by the federal government and its corporate allies into what it considers to be ideal citizens.

**The corporate takeover of America.** The corporate buyout of the American political bureaucracy is taking place at every level of government, from the White House all the way to the various governors' mansions, and even local city councils. With Big Business and Big Government having fused into a corporate state, the president and his state counterparts—the governors, have become little more than CEOs of the Corporate State, which day by day is assuming more government control over our lives. The average American has no access to his or her representatives at any but the lowest level of government, and even then it's questionable how much really gets through. Never before have average Americans had so little say in the workings of their government and even less access to their so-called representatives. Yet one of the key ingredients in maintaining democratic government is the right of citizens to freely speak their minds to those who represent them. In fact, it is one of the few effective tools we have left to combat government corruption and demand accountability. But now, even that right is being chipped away by laws and court rulings that weaken our ability to speak freely to the politicians who govern us.

James Madison, the father of the Constitution, put it best: “Take alarm,” he warned, “at the first experiment with liberties.” Anyone with even a casual knowledge about current events knows that the first experiment on our freedoms happened long ago. Worse, we have not heeded the warnings of Madison and those like him who understood that if you give the government an inch, they will take a mile. Unfortunately, the government has not only taken a mile, they have taken mile after mile after mile after mile with seemingly no end in sight for their power grabs.

If you're in the business of making New Year's resolutions, why not resolve that 2014 will be the year we break the cycle of tyranny and get back on the road to freedom. As I've said before, it's time for a second American revolution.

[https://www.rutherford.org/publications\\_resources/john\\_whiteheads\\_commentary/life\\_in\\_the\\_emerging\\_american\\_police\\_state\\_whats\\_in\\_store\\_for\\_our\\_free](https://www.rutherford.org/publications_resources/john_whiteheads_commentary/life_in_the_emerging_american_police_state_whats_in_store_for_our_free)

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## "Bank Run Fears Escalate as Russian Lender Bans Cash Withdrawals"

... As we reported back in November, Chase Bank also recently imposed restrictions which prevent its customers from conducting over \$50,000 in cash activity per month, as well as banning business customers from sending international wire transfers. Financial expert Gerald Celente said the news was a sign that Americans should prepare for a bank holiday.

Questions were already being asked of Chase after an incident last year when customers across the country attempted to withdraw cash from ATMs only to see that their account balance had been reduced to zero. The problem, which Chase attributed to a technical glitch, lasted for hours before it was fixed, prompting panic from some customers. ...

<http://www.infowars.com/bank-run-fears-escalate-as-russian-lender-bans-cash-withdrawals/>

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The "Childrenization" of Christianity

## A Religion of People Control

*By Thomas Williamson*

One of the principal characteristics among some evangelical Christians in America is the emphasis on establishing, and enforcing, various degrees of control and manipulation of church members.

This is a trend that cuts across denominational lines, affecting Baptists and non-Baptists, Fundamentalists, New Evangelicals, Charismatics, Campbellites and other groups. Within all of these groups, there are some churches and pastors who practice tight control of their members, and others that do not attempt to practice such control and in many cases vocally deny and repudiate any intention of controlling their members.

Among those churches that practice people-control, this control takes various forms. Some churches emphasize what is known as "preacher rule," in which the senior pastor exercises tight control over the faith and practice of all his members. In some cases, this

control also extends to all corporate decision-making by the congregation. Any voting, if allowed at all, is only for the purpose of rubber-stamping the decisions that the pastor has already made.

In other churches, the pastor does not directly exercise control, but delegates the controlling duties to trusted laymen who serve as "disciplers" who "shepherd" the newer and weaker members. Members are assigned to a leader to whom they must be accountable, consulting with them on all major life decisions.

(Not all who use the terms "accountability," "discipling," and "shepherding" are actually practicing strict control of their followers - these are good terms and concepts but are misused by those who do practice controlling ministries).

Depending on the interests of the pastor and leadership, church members may find themselves dictated to on such issues as required or forbidden reading material, dress codes, diet, and management of their personal finances, consumer preferences and material level of living.

Married men in the church may find that the preacher is actively usurping their leadership role in their families, by dictating on such matters as where they should live, whether they can take a job in another city, whether or not the wife can work outside the home, how many children to have, what schools the children may or may not attend, where to send them to college, etc.

Single women may be told that they are not permitted to live away from their parents, they may not work outside the home or attend college, they are not allowed to date or have friendly relations with men, etc. In some cases, some of these restrictions are placed on single men also. Single men and women are discouraged from seeking a mate - their elders will arrange a marriage for them later on, but only if they fully demonstrate their worthiness, by slavishly obeying whatever they are told to do.

Musical preferences are sometimes dictated to the members. One pastor, a fan of the Bill Gaither Trio, ordered all of his members to attend a Gaither concert in a city 46 miles away from the church. Some of the members did not care for that style of music, but they all went to the concert anyway, not daring to disobey the pastor's decree.

Members will be pressured to support and identify with various celebrity megachurch preachers, televangelists and radio personalities. The implication is that ordinary church members are too immature to

think for themselves and must allow the designated big-shot celebrity to do the thinking for them. Church members are not even allowed to pick which big-shot they will follow - the leadership will do that for them.

Members are sometimes coerced as to their political opinions. Some pastors will pass out voter's guides in church, which in itself is not improper, but then they will tell their members that they must vote only for the candidates endorsed on the voter's guide. In 2004, a prominent pastor in Texas warned his members that they would be excommunicated if they voted for Bush (Republican) or Kerry (Democrat) - all members had to vote for the Constitution Party candidate for President, or else.

Young people are pressured to attend certain Christian universities. In some cases, these colleges practice an extremely strict control over their students, enforced by demerits and expulsions for the most trivial offenses. Students who manage to survive and even thrive, in such habitats, come out with the notion that this is what true Christianity is all about - finding fault with the brethren, catching them in error, turning them in, and harshly punishing them. That is all they know, based on their experiences in the churches and colleges they have been brought up in.

They bring these attitudes with them, as pastors or prominent laymen in their churches, wherever they go. Church members who are not accustomed to such treatment tend to scatter and flee from such a harsh, arrogant "Gotcha" mentality, and of course, when they leave, they are branded as rebels against the Lord who just couldn't stand strong preaching.

In some churches, there is an attitude that the ordained clergy, sometimes joined by like-minded laymen, should do the thinking for everyone else in the church. Grown men and women are treated like incompetent and unruly children who are not trusted to determine their own affairs.

Successful men who have done well, financially and otherwise, in the real world, find that when they come to church, they are treated like children who are allowed no input in the affairs of the church, or even to lead their own families. Could this help to explain the low levels of male membership and involvement in some evangelical churches, which tend to have more females than males in the membership?

Men are herded into movements where they must attend small groups and show themselves to be "accountable" and "transparent" by confessing their secret sins and "attitudinal sins," all of which is recorded

and used against them. This is justified as a way to mold "real men." Men, women and young people who refuse to submit to control and manipulation are branded as rebels against the Lord and are accused of "pride," but of course the leaders who try to control them are not prideful not at all.

Does the Bible teach that the clergy and/or prominent laymen in each church have a duty and responsibility to dominate and control the other members of the church, keeping them in line and telling them what to do? What does the Bible say about this?

Galatians 3:24 to 4:7: "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. . . . We, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. . . . Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son: and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."

Under the Old Testament Law, the Jews were tightly controlled and treated like children, as if they had been followed around at all times by a tutor or nursemaid, and kept on a short leash. With the coming of Christ, we are set free from the constraints of the Law, and are now invited to enjoy Christian liberty, as mature adults who no longer need to be kept under such tight control.

Churches and movements that emphasize tight control of their members are reducing adult believers to the level of children, unable to make decisions for themselves, dependent on their betters to steer them through the complexities of life.

In some control systems, like that of Bill Gothard, unmarried men and women of whatever age are officially regarded as children and under the control of their parents until they are married. Relatively few single men, however devout, will submit to such treatment, which may help to explain the scarcity of men, especially single men, in evangelical churches.

Systems of people control will tend to attract people who are less successful in life, more dependent and indecisive - these are the types who are more willing to let someone else call all the shots for them. Meanwhile, these types of churches will repel and systematically run off those who are more successful, decisive, talented and able to provide leadership and to think for themselves.

Here is an interesting question for sociologists of religion: Will a church or religious movement tend to be more or less vibrant and self-perpetuating, by driving away successful and talented believers, while gathering

a crowd of dependent, unsuccessful people who are willing to accept the role of overgrown children and to allow other, more domineering people to make all the decisions for them?

Controlling churches do not want to develop new leadership from within their membership. There are already plenty enough leaders jockeying for position, and their Prime Directive is to enforce obedience on the members, not to encourage competition for leadership. Any member who displays the potential to be a leader, a teacher, a spiritual influence, is regarded as a threat and an enemy who must be either brought under control or else booted out of the church on whatever trumped-up charges may be necessary.

Matthew 20:25-27: "But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister: And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant."

This command of Christ would appear to militate against the teaching that there are some clergy and leaders in the church who are endowed with the power to control the lives of others and tell them what to do.

The Greek word for "authority" is *kataxousiazō* which refers not to a misuse of authority, but any exercise of authority. Admittedly, in Titus 2:15 Paul tells Titus to "rebuke with all authority," but the Greek word here is different: *epitagē*, or "authoritativeness," or impressiveness based on the authority of Christ's teaching. This was not an intimation that Titus was to control the private lives and decisions of his followers.

1 Peter 5:3, "Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock" The Apostle Peter here states that the elders of the church are to lead by example, not by command or dictatorial control. The word for "lord" here is *katakuriō*, the same word that is translated "dominion" in Matthew 20:25. In Acts 19:16 it is translated "overcame." Elders are not to see their role as one of overcoming, dominating or lording it over their members.

Romans 14:4-5: "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? . . . Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." This is part of a lengthy passage in which Paul states that Christians should allow each other to differ on non-essential issues, rather than demanding conformity and uniformity. The context refers to questions of dietary restrictions and observance of holy days.

The Church of Rome included Jewish members whose total religious identity, for the previous 15 centuries, had been wrapped up in strict observance of Jewish holy days and dietary customs, as well as Gentile members who were indifferent to such traditions. Paul wanted both members to be able to coexist and have fellowship in the same congregation, without trying to impose their convictions on others. This is contrary to the modern emphasis on pressuring and coercing church members to conform to the leadership on peripheral matters on which the Bible has not spoken.

Galatians 5:1: "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." The immediate context is with regard to observance of circumcision, which some believers were pressuring the Galatians to observe. The emphasis here is on liberty, not bondage to manmade rules and controls.

1 Corinthians 16:12: "As touching our brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time: but he will come when he shall have convenient time." Here again the emphasis is on the liberty of the believer. Apollos regarded himself as free to disregard the preference of Paul that he travel to Corinth at that time, and Paul does not rebuke him for insubordination or refusal to follow orders. In general, Paul did not order people around but he "beseeched" them.

Philemon 14: "But without thy mind would I do nothing: that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly." Paul did not presume to order Philemon as to what to do with regard to the runaway slave Onesimus - he respected Philemon's privilege to make up his own mind on the matter.

Acts 5:3-4: "But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold, was it not

in thine own power? " Peter recognized that Ananias had a right to manage his own finances and decide how much to give to the church - he was not pressured or obligated to give any particular amount.

2 Corinthians 9:7: "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." Here again, the apostle disclaims any intention of managing the personal finances of church members, or pressuring them to give more than they want to give. In some churches, members are pressured to pledge money that they don't even have, contrary to Paul's statement in 1

Corinthians 16:2 that Christians should give from what God has already prospered them with.

What about Hebrews 13:17? “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” Those who believe in controlling church members point to this as a proof-text, saying “You see, there it is - church members must do whatever the preacher tells them to do.”

The word for “submit” here is *hupeiko*, meaning “to retire, to withdraw, to yield, to keep out of the way.” The idea here is not that of following orders from the spiritual leaders, but rather of not hindering or obstructing the leaders from doing their job. Church leaders will have to give an account to God, not as to whether their members obeyed their commands; rather, they will have to give an account as to what they taught the members.

The word for “rule” in Hebrews 13:17 is *hegeomai*, which means to lead and guide, not to order people around. In the original 1611 edition of the King James Version of Hebrews 13:7, “Remember them which have the rule over you,” the margin says “are the guides.” Likewise, the original 1611 KJV margin for Hebrews 13:17 has “guide” for those who “have the rule” over us. The same Greek word appears in Hebrews 13:24 for those who have the rule over us. Those who “rule” are to lead and guide by their teaching and example - they are not empowered to bark orders or tell church members to “do this” or “don’t do that.”

What about the command to obey our rulers in Hebrews 13:17? Doesn’t this mean we have to do whatever the preacher or discipler tells us to do?

The Greek word for “obey” in Hebrews 13:17, is *peitho*, meaning “to convince (by argument), to assent (by evidence or authority), to rely, agree, assure, believe, have confidence, trust, yield, to be persuaded or won over.” According to Vine’s Dictionary, “the ‘obedience’ suggested here is not by submission to authority, but resulting from persuasion.”

In Romans 12:8, “he that ruleth, with diligence,” the Greek word for rule is *proistemi*, which means “to stand before, to lead, to attend to, to preside.” The same word appears in 1 Timothy 5:17, “Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honour.” Here again, in these verses there is no hint that elders who “rule” in the church are given any authority to dictate to the members or meddle in their private affairs.

In my own personal study of the New Testament, I have not been able to find any basis for the modern movement of strict control of church members. Christianity, in its beginnings, appears to have been intended as a lifestyle of liberty, not control.

The Jerusalem Council sent this message to new Christians who were Gentiles: “For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.” (Acts 15:28-29) Missing here, and everywhere else in the New Testament, is any mention of accountability groups, or the need for all believers to consult a discipler or shepherd for all major (or minor) life decisions.

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## Vladimir Putin Says America Is Godless And Moving Away From ‘Christian Values’

Russian President Vladimir Putin condemned the West, including the United States, for eschewing Christian values and opting instead for a “path to degradation.”

In his State of the Nation speech last month, Putin asserted that, “Many Euro-Atlantic countries have moved away from their roots, including Christian values... Policies are being pursued that place on the same level a multi-child family and a same-sex partnership, a faith in God and a belief in Satan.” Russia has adopted new laws that ban homosexual propaganda and criminalizes the insulting of religious sensibilities.

...  
*<http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Peace/2014/01/29/Vladimir%20Putin-AmeBill> Gothard follower? Check this website: <http://www.recoveringgrace.org/rica-is-Godless-Turns-Away-from-Christian-Values>*

To be totally frank, Putin is right; and while it may be hard for some of us who are children of the Cold War to believe, it’s rather ironic that Russia is starting to acknowledge its Christian heritage and is starting to slowly move away from socialism as the United States is dashing in the direction of secular totalitarianism. Perhaps, in the foreseeable future, they’ll be calling us the “Evil Empire.” ...

*[http://conservativeamericaonline.blogspot.com/2014/01/vladimir-putin-says-america-is-godless.html?utm\\_source=America%27s+Conservative+News&utm\\_campaign=c360ae31a1-RSS\\_EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_c28c63c891-c360ae31a1-255830569#more](http://conservativeamericaonline.blogspot.com/2014/01/vladimir-putin-says-america-is-godless.html?utm_source=America%27s+Conservative+News&utm_campaign=c360ae31a1-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c28c63c891-c360ae31a1-255830569#more)*

Putin, a public relations ploy??



# CHRISTIANS AWAKEN FOR DUCK DYNASTY FLAP

*By Chuck Baldwin, January 1, 2014*

America is tumbling out of control toward a crash-and-burn impact with disaster, and, for the most part, pastors and churches are asleep--I mean in a coma. Both major parties in Washington, D.C., are selling-out our liberties faster than Chris Christie can swallow a Big Mac, and Christians don't even roll over; George W. Bush and Barack Obama have created the largest surveillance society in the history of mankind, and pastors lie comatose; Dianne Feinstein and her Constitution-hating collaborators in Congress try their best to expunge our right to self-defense, and Christian organizations don't open an eyelid; the right of Habeas Corpus, the Fourth and Fifth Amendments, and our very right of privacy have, for all intents and purposes, been eviscerated by the miscreants in Washington, D.C., and most pastors and Christians remain fast asleep. But let a Christian TV star get the axe for telling a magazine reporter that he views homosexuality as sinful, and Christians storm out of their beds like firemen answering the bell for a five-alarm fire.

Don't get me wrong. The politically-correct entertainment and news industries are hyper-paranoid about anything deemed to be "anti-gay." Homosexuals currently enjoy more protected status than the spotted owl. That A&E would attempt to suspend a long-bearded, redneck Christian for saying homosexuality is a sin should shock no one. Liberal actor Alec Baldwin (no relation to this writer)--a darling of the left-wing establishment--lost his TV show on MSNBC for comments he spoke that were considered to be anti-gay.

Am I glad so many people rallied to the support of Phil Robertson? Yes, of course. Was the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain stupid to pull Duck Dynasty products from their stores as punishment for what Robertson said? They sure were. Are Christians who want to boycott Cracker Barrel and other companies that cater to political-correctness within their rights to do so? You bet. People such as Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton have made careers (not to mention millions of dollars) intimidating private companies with all kinds of boycotts. But I must be honest: this whole episode burns the stew out of me.

In the first place, it doesn't seem to dawn on the vast majority of pastors, churches, and most of these non-profit Christian organizations what the source of all of this politically-correct bull manure really

is. The source of all of this dung is that Cesspool by the Potomac: Washington, D.C. It is the policies, laws, and public statements from the White House, Congress, and Supreme Court--not to mention all of the politically-correct propaganda being taught in the government schools and universities--that pressure private companies (especially big companies) to stay on the smiley side of Washington. The IRS can make life a living hell for anyone--and that includes big companies. It wasn't that long ago when the federal government almost closed down Cracker Barrel for what it perceived as acts of discrimination. Take away the intimidation of Washington, D.C., from most of these companies, and the majority of these politically-correct issues (including the homosexual issue) would disappear.

If Christians really wanted to boycott the institution with the biggest pro-homosexual agenda in the world, they would boycott paying taxes to the IRS. Through the US State Department and Pentagon, the homosexual agenda is not only being advanced domestically but internationally. Our State Department hires open homosexuals as diplomats and sends them to countries that hold deep religious and cultural aversions to that lifestyle. More than one country has the homosexual lifestyle thrown in their face through the diplomatic corps of the US State Department. The Pentagon has put homosexuals in the closest of confines with US troops in virtually every military assignment and theater. Various agencies and departments of the federal government spend billions of taxpayer dollars advancing or even demanding a militant homosexual agenda.

Plus, a little intellectual honesty is in order at this point. Not every individual homosexual is a proponent of the militant homosexual agenda. In fact, many homosexuals joined in the chorus of those who were insulted by A&E's flagrant disregard for Mr. Robertson's freedom of speech.

I read Robertson's controversial comments in GQ magazine, and he did NOT single out homosexuality any more than many other acts of immorality. The reporter asked him, "What, in your mind, is sinful?" Robertson simply answered the question by noting a variety of acts he deemed to be sinful by Holy Writ, including sins which he, himself, had committed earlier in his life. He also said that no sin was greater than another sin. He then went on to say that Christ came to redeem men from all of their sin--whatever it was. Has this not been the message of the Gospel for over 2,000

years?

But I remind you that it has been the federal government that has done more to expunge Christian ideology from US society than any other entity in the world--especially since 1962 and '63. And, unfortunately, the CEOs and CFOs of most major corporations are mostly government toadies who will do anything to avoid falling out of the good graces of Washington. Yet, all of this seems lost to the vast majority of pastors, churches, and Christian organizations.

In the second place, it seems to me that the vast majority of pastors and churches only get exercised over two issues: abortion and homosexuality. And lately, most pastors and churches won't even break a sweat opposing abortion. Where are they on the right of self-defense? Where are they on the right to own property? Where are they on the right of privacy? Where are they on the right to be secure in their own homes? Where are they on the Biblical Natural law principles of self-determination, limited, jurisdictional government, and personal liberty? Every one of these issues is a moral issue. Every one of these issues is a fundamental tenet of Biblical Natural Law. Yet, for the most part, none of these issues warrant even the slightest peep of exhortation from the vast majority of pastors, churches, and Christian organizations today.

Christians by the millions verbally descended upon A&E and Cracker Barrel for the politically-correct firing of one man over his personal opinion. But where are they when the politically-correct culture in Washington, D.C., turns into the force of law? Where are they when unconstitutional and, yes, un-Biblical federal mandates threaten the existence of our liberties and our very way of life? Where are they when the politically-correct usurpers in DC abuse the power and force of law that results in the violation--not just of one man and one man's opinion--but of the liberties of every man, woman, and child in the United States? Where are they? They are sound asleep.

If pastors, churches, and Christian organizations would be as vocal and vehement in opposition to turning our country into a giant police state, we would have our privacy back almost overnight. If pastors, churches, and Christian organizations would be as vocal and vehement in their opposition to DC's attacks against our right of self-defense, there would never be another gun control bill put forward and the vast majority of prohibitions against the Second Amendment already in place would be overturned almost immediately. If pastors, churches,

and Christian organizations would be as vocal and vehement in their opposition to the rampant misuse of our military and police, justice would be restored almost at once.

Let's be brutally honest: the reason this country is in the dung heap it is in is directly due to the sluggish indifference of America's pastors, churches, and Christian organizations. And I think the flap at A&E and Cracker Barrel proves it.

The massive outcry of millions of pastors and Christians around the country influenced A&E to rehire Phil Robertson. This same outcry influenced Cracker Barrel to return Duck Dynasty products to their stores. If the same kind of massive outcry from millions of pastors and Christians would target the destruction of our Natural God-given liberties emanating from Washington, D.C., the course of our country could be turned around almost overnight. But now that Phil is back on the show and Duck Dynasty products are back on the shelves at Cracker Barrel, I'm confident most of these pastors and Christians are already back in their beds.

<http://www.newswithviews.com/baldwin/baldwin786.htm>

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## His Workmanship

*"Ephesians 2:10. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."*

*"Philippians 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of [his] good pleasure."*

*"Unto good works..."* God's work in the believer is to produce good works that glorify Himself, for He is the One who did the work, vv. 8, 9. Good works cannot save, but the call and work of the Father is "unto good works". The purpose of the new creation in Christ Jesus is for good works "that glorify your Father which is in heaven". (Matt 5:16.0)

Over the years, pastors meet more than a few people who professed Christ with the hope that God would do a good work for them rather than in them. That is to say, they professed Christ with the hope that God would give them their heart's desire, e.g., physical healing, material prosperity. Then when God did not perform the good work for them as they expected or hoped for, they at the least became greatly discouraged and depressed. At the most, they abandoned their profession of Christ.

Paul clearly tells us that the call of Christian to Christ is to equip the believer "unto good works" that glorify God. The Christian call is not so God can do good

works for the believer.

The Salvation call is to produce in the heart of His people the desires to do good works that will glorify God, and equip him to do those works. The Salvation call is not to so God can do good works for us.

*“John 9: 1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.”*

Was it necessary for this blind man to be healed in order to glorify God? Certainly, in Christ’s unique case, it certainly was. But this case was unique, for Christ was confirming that indeed He was “God with us” in the form of a man.

(How many “alter calls” to come to Christ are “Come to Christ, and He will heal your infirmities”, or “provide prosperity”? “He has a wonderful plan for your life. Come find out what it is.” We have all heard them. See Matt 7:15-20. “Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved”. But instead of submitting to the Lord, the individual expects the Lord to submit to him, and fulfill his own desires or needs.)

But since Christ, is supernatural healing required to bring glory to God, the key word being required? I know of no place in Scripture that even implies such a thing. Bringing glory to God is always connected with doing good works, e.g., Matthew 5:16.

Over the years, one of our men has been troubled with neurological problems that have grown worse. Every test he has had confirmed the problems. He was contacted recently by the VA about the root of his problem. He was stationed for a year at Camp Lejeune, as were thousands of other Marines. The VA told him that a landfill where many dangerous chemicals had been deposited leaked into the drinking water on the base, and the neurological problems were showing up in those who had been stationed there for 30 days or more during a certain time frame. The results of that seriously polluted drinking water clearly match the problems he has experienced since that time.

Question: Is it necessary for a supernatural healing for this man to be able to Glorify God? Which glorifies God more, and will influence the most people for the Lord. A supernatural healing of the neurological problems, or him continuing to praise the Lord and serve God with “good works” despite of the problems?

Was the great Apostle Paul promised healing if he would yield to the Gospel Call? Was he not told what

was expected of him, and that God’s grace would be sufficient? Did he not take pleasure in his infirmities, for through them, the power of God was revealed? (Acts 9, 2 Cor 11:30, 12:5, 9, 10)

The Gospel Call today of responsibility to God, many times, has been replaced with an evil call of God’s responsibility to the individual if he will only accept Christ, or some similar wording.

We know of many physically and mentally handicapped Christians today who greatly glorify God with their good works in their handicap.

### **The first question of the Catechism,**

1 Q. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man’s chief end is to glorify God, {#1Co 10:31 } and to enjoy him for ever. {#Ps 73:25,26 }

But how many people have come to Christ with different expectations, still cling to today?

### **“What is the chief end of God?”**

“To glorify man by fulfilling his desires, and then enjoy man forever”.

They have professed Christ, and would never admit even to themselves that their motive was personal gain. “God will do this for me, if I will only profess Christ and do good works”.

*“Matthew 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.”*

Those who pay attention to what those individuals say will understand their motives for being a “Christian”. (Matt 7:15-29.)

We are saved to do good works for Him, not for Him to do good works for us. Is a person saved who came to Christ hoping for good works from God?

Next, we must understand that we were recreated in Christ Jesus to do the good works that are required of us.

There are basic “good works” found in the moral law of Moses. These works are required of every child of God. But each person has additional “good works” required of him according to his unique gifts and abilities. (1 Cor 10:31, Col 3:17, 23, 1 Pet 4:11, “... if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: ...”)

“Before ordained...” Multiple times, the authors of the letters to the new Gospel Church emphasized the individual call to Christ in eternity past.

### **Two points:**

**One**, the Elect have been ordained to eternal life:

*“John 17:2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that*

*he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.” (Acts 13:48.)*

**Two**, the Elect have been ordained to good works:

*“1 Peter 1:15 “But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”*

Here we understand that the call to eternal life is just as much a call to the new life in Christ, a call to “good works” as defined by Scripture.

There is an old song which those of my generation should remember very well. It was a very popular song for maybe 10 years. “*Love and Marriage*”. It was written by Sammy Cahan, and was recorded by Frank Sinatra in 1955. The song won the Emmy for Best Musical Contribution in 1956. Peggy Lee recorded it in 1961. As time went on, it became a song of derision against marriage.

**Love and marriage, love and marriage,**

Go together like a horse and carriage.

This I tell ya, brother, you can’t have one without the other.

**Love and marriage, love and marriage,**

It’s an institute you can’t disparage.

Ask the local gentry and they will say it’s elementary.

Try, try, try to separate them, it’s an illusion.

Try, try, try and you only come to this conclusion:

**Love and marriage, love and marriage,**

Go together like a horse and carriage.

Dad was told by mother you can’t have one

You can’t have none.

You can’t have one without the other.

All of that to say this: Love and marriage were inseparable in the public mind until the early ‘60s. New life in Christ also meant a firm call to good works until about the same time. Since then, both “love” and eternal life have become stand alone ideas. In an apostate age, love does not require marriage, nor does salvation require good works. (After we were married, Bettie told me that she told all the young girls she had contact with that when a young man said “I love you”, the next words out of his mouth must be “Will you marry me”. I did not know about that until after we were married, but I met her requirement.)

We see that every New Testament author gives us the required connection between eternal life and good works as defined by the Word of God.

Paul held firmly to the doctrine of election or predestination, and he held just as firmly that the purpose of election or predestination is “unto good works”.

What are the “prophets” offering the sinner? Can there be salvation if one comes to Christ not in submission to

God’s will, but with the hope that God will submit to his will?

*Bro Need*

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Headline on Drudge Report, January 21, 2014

## **I Am Overwhelmed by 55 Million Babies Killed Since Roe v. Wade**

*by Kristan Hawkins. LifeNews.com, 1/22/14*

What can I say that hasn’t already been said about today?

Yesterday evening, I was sitting in my living room working while watching my sons play. I began to think about what my life would have been without them. How different I would be. How their lives have already made this world a different place since they were born. How much I would hurt if I had chosen abortion.

Then, I thought of the more than 55,000,000 lives that have been taken in the U.S. since 1973, and I became overwhelmed at the tragedy. Tragedy for the babies, their mothers, their fathers, families, and us.

Who is our nation missing? What price is our society paying for the ultimate deceit of abortion?

40 years ago today, seven men on the Supreme Court decided in favor of a case presented to them from a 27 year-old, unknown, post-abortive lawyer, Sarah Weddington. That case was Roe v. Wade and, along with its companion Doe v. Bolton, it legalized abortion in all 9 months of pregnancy, for any reason, in the United States.

Today, this 27 year-old is writing to you as a survivor of that decision. The undeniable fact is that nearly a third of my generation is missing. We are missing brothers, sisters, cousins, friends, husbands and wives.

You see, Miss Weddington’s generation got it wrong. In attempting to correct gender inequality in the workplace and in our society, they set into motion the ultimate act of discrimination – abortion. Instead of glorifying motherhood, they pitted the mother against her child, creating an endless cycle of selfishness, pain, and deceit.

But this generation is determined to set it right. We’ve seen the ultrasounds of our siblings, googled “abortion” and seen the bloody images, and sat with a friend as she cried about her abortion. This youth generation is the most pro-life generation of young people since 1973; we’re even more pro-life than even our parents’ generation. And this week our presence will be known as this generation will be the predominant participants

in Wednesday's March for Life in Washington, D.C. and pro-life rallies across the nation.

This week, we will be proudly carrying our "I am the Pro-Life Generation" signs, and Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry will watch their target audience slip away.

In fact, we already have. When Nancy Keenan, the former president of NARAL/Pro-Choice America, announced her resignation last year, she cited the lack of young pro-abortion leaders as the reason she wanted to step down. This month's Time magazine headline story dealt with the same problem, claiming that the pro-abortion movement has been losing since 1973.

And last week's new Planned Parenthood video and talking points on abortion confirm this fact. They don't want to use the term "pro-choice" anymore because it's too negatively associated with abortion. You see, they know when abortion is mentioned, their favorability falls. Their goal? Never bring it up.

So, what should be our goal? To bring up abortion in every conversation we can – in church, the grocery store, at school, and at the neighborhood party. To never forget about abortion, no matter how busy our lives may get or how sad or immobilized we become by this immense, overwhelming tragedy.

Friend, it's time to rise up. Rise up off of your couch, out of your dorm room, or pew. Rise up and dedicate your life to something bigger than yourself.

It is the time for us to tell our stories to our friends and family about how abortion has hurt us. It's time to paint the vision by telling people what our nation will look like without abortion and how it's possible. It's time to seek real justice with those young women and men facing unplanned, crisis pregnancies. It's time to shine the light of truth, to expose Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry for what they really are.

It's the time to stand courageously for Life.

Friends, I believe this generation of survivors will see abortion abolished in our lifetime. But it won't be easy.

"Never give up, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn." – Harriet Beecher Stowe

I hope today, on this day of overwhelming sorrow, you will join us. There's so much you can do.

*Kristan Hawkins is the president of Students for Life of America and a LifeNews blogger. <http://www.lifenews.com/2013/01/22/i-am-overwhelmed-by-55-million-babies-killed-since-roe-v-wade/?pr=1>*

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## The Real Purpose of War: Social

## Change

"Of all the enemies of public liberty, war is perhaps the most to be dreaded, because it comprises and develops the germ of every other. War is the parent of armies. From these proceed debts and taxes. And armies, debts and taxes are the known instruments for bringing the many under the domination of the few. . . . No nation could preserve its freedom in the midst of continual warfare." - Future president James Madison, 1795.

"War costs money. That means taxes and bonds and bonds and taxes. It means cutting luxuries and other non-essentials." - President Franklin Roosevelt, State of the Union address, January 6, 1942.

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. . . . This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron." - President Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1953.

"We're not in the business of imperialism, aggression, or conquest. We threaten no one. . . . Our country has never started a war. Our sole objective is deterrence, the strength and capability it takes to prevent war. . . . We Americans don't want war and we don't start fights. We don't maintain a strong military force to conquer or coerce others." President Ronald Reagan, various speeches, 1982 and 1983.

**BILL GOTHARD FOLLOWERS NEED TO CHECK THIS WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.RECOVERINGGRACE.ORG/](http://www.recoveringgrace.org/)**

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## "Free" Books

Which Bible Version: Does it Really Matter?

(Based on an address given by the Rev. David Blunt to the TBS Day Conference held in Inverness, Scotland, October 2003)

Copies of this 28 page booklet are available from us upon request. It is a very easy and informative read. It is not a study of various manuscripts. It is a very practical study that anyone can follow.

Also we still have available "God has a Wonderful Plan for your Life", & "Identifying Identity's Gentile Corruption".

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Drudge

Scalia Predicts Return of Internment

## Camps

Justice Antonin Scalia says World War II-style internment camps could happen again

“You are kidding yourself if you think the same thing will not happen again,” Scalia told the University of Hawaii law school while discussing *Korematsu v. United States*, the ruling in which the court gave its imprimatur to the internment camps...

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/justice-antonin-scalia-says-world-war-ii-style-internment-camps-could-happen-again/article/2543424>

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### The Promise of Hope

*Joel 3:16 The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.*

The promise of “God with us” as found in Isaiah 7:14, 15, is given as a promise of godly hope in our day of the shaking of the heaven and earth. (Representative of all human authority. Heb 19:18, Isa 2:19, 13:13).

Haggai 2:22 *“And I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms, and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the heathen; and I will overthrow the chariots, and those that ride in them; and the horses and their riders shall come down, every one by the sword of his brother.”* comes after the promise that *“the desire of all nations shall come”*, that is, the Messiah-King, whose name is Jesus.

In Isaiah 7, the king of Syria and the king of Israel had taken counsel together to come against Judah where Ahaz was king. In the move against Judah by this confederation, total destruction appeared to be imminent. The enemy was ready to make his move to destroy God’s people.

Ahaz was fearful of what the enemies of the covenant-people were going to do to him and his nation, Judah. The result of that fear of what man could do, he made a deal with Assyria. Isaiah warned Ahaz that Assyria would be a far worse enemy than what he now faced, 7:17. Assyria would do even more damage to him than the ones he currently feared.

The Lord warns Ahaz not to make the deal with the enemies of God. He even warned him of the disastrous results of such a confederation. However, the current difficulties Ahaz faced seemed to far outweigh any warning about Assyria and any future deliverance from his present adversities. From all appearance, the total destruction of Judah was eminent, and something had to be done NOW. Anything, that is, except turn to the

Lord and accept His means escape—humility, faith and obedience to His word.

Note: As a pastor over the years, I have been amazed at the extent to which people who are facing imminent destruction of their families or their own persons will go, and even the money they are willing to spend, to solve their “problems”. They will do anything and spend anything except spending themselves. The answer they ignore is to turn to the Lord, and practice His means of deliverance, e.g., humility before God, trust in Christ, and unreserved obedience to His Word.

V. 11, the Lord offers Ahaz whatever he would desire as proof of the deliverance by the Lord from his current situation. V. 12, Ahaz’s refusal to ask for anything reveals the depth of the hardness of his heart, using the law of the Lord to hide his hardness. Vv. 13, 14, the Lord rebukes Ahaz for his hardness.

Regardless of Ahaz’s refusal to ask for anything, the Lord makes a promise to Ahaz anyway. In this promise was the assurance that the present enemies who had counseled together against him would not be victorious, so there was no need to make a deal with Assyria for protection.

This promise to Ahaz was of a glorious future for the covenant people of God. It said that one day there would be a Deliverer born, and His name would be Immanuel, being interpreted into the common language, “God with us”. This promise to Ahaz corresponds to the promise delivered by Micah in chapter 5.

Total destruction appeared eminent to Ahaz. It was just a few more days at the most before the nation of Judah and the house of David would be history. In light of Ahaz’s problem of faithlessness, let us look at some things that this promise of “Immanuel” contained.

1. The promise was Ahaz’s assurance that the present efforts of the enemy would not succeed. The fulfillment of the promise would be in the far distant future, in fact, several hundred years into the future. The promise required a remnant left of both Judah and the house of David, so total destruction was not possible.

2. The promise, when taken with other passages, contained the promise of a future glory through Judah and the house of David, vv. 2 & 13. This meant that Ahaz’s present distresses that were directed toward the house of David, would not succeed.

3. The promise was the assurance that no matter what the present discouraging circumstances might be, the hope of God’s people is in the future. *“God with us”* means that the enemies of God cannot be victorious

over His people. The enemies certainly can and do cause serious present discomfort and even warfare, but the promise to Ahaz means the enemy cannot win.

*“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.”*

◇ **CONSIDER.**

The hope which Ahaz had for present survival and the defeat of his present and pressing enemy, was a promise that would not be fulfilled for many years, which is consistent with “Immanuel”. Consider Moses:

*“Exodus 3:12 And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this [shall be] a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.”*

The Lord gave a promise, which was to equip Moses to do the humanly impossible task against overwhelming odds. The Lord did not make some supernatural appearance. He did not do some supernatural feat. He did not show Himself strong in any way once He got Moses’ attention. All the Lord did was give Moses a promise, and Moses was expected to act on that promise.

The only sign that God gave to him was the promise of the Lord’s presence, *“Certainly I will be with thee.”* The proof of the presence of the Lord would be the success of his mission, *“When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt.”* And the success was the future return to *“this mountain”*, *“ye shall serve God upon this mountain.”*

Observe. The sign of God’s presence, protection, prosperity, provision and success in Moses’ most treacherous of situations in Egypt was a sign in the future—they would serve God at this location.

We are like Moses, desiring, and even demanding, more than just a promise to be fulfilled in the future. We want something we can “take to the bank” here and now.

Ahaz and Moses and the promise. Their present security of God’s very present help in trouble (Ps. 46:1) was based on a present promise of future victory, not at all in their present circumstances.

◇ **NOW, TWO APPLICATIONS.**

**First**, the call to the Christian is to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. The command is to make followers of Christ out of all the nations. Obedience to His command is not based in the

circumstances around us, nor the receptiveness of the people to whom we speak. Obedience to that command is found in the promise of Matthew 18:20, *“lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”*

His promise to be with His people is proof of the success of His Kingdom in history.

**Second**, the promise of a victorious church is found in the promise of the future victory in Christ. It is the promise that the gates of hell will not prevail against the church. It is a promise similar to what was made to Ahaz, and like Ahaz, the church as a whole refuses to act on it. Better than Ahaz’s future promise of *“Immanuel”*, we have the present *“Immanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”*

◇ **“VICTORY IN JESUS”.**

**First**, a future literal, physical victory in human history. The future promise is found in Psalms 110:

*“1 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”* (This promise is probably the most quoted promise in Scripture: Matt 22:44, Mark 12:36, Luke 20:43, Acts 2:35, Heb 1:13, 10:13.)

Paul tells us of the fulfillment of Psalms 110:1 in Ephesians 1:19-23. Because we do not presently see the enemies of Christ subdued *“under His footstool”* in obedience, we do not want to *“tempt God”* by saying that He shall subdue all powers under the Son before “the end” of history. However, Christ’s final words were that *“All power has been given to me...”*

Notice the promise: The Father speaking to the Son said *“Until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”* How will the Father fulfill His promise to the Son? Clearly not by physical or even a bloody warfare, for it is a spiritual warfare. The Father subdues and makes Christ’s enemies His “footstool” through the drawing of and conviction by the Spirit of God—that is, Holy Spirit conversion. (Jn 12:32, Isa 5:26, 7:18, Zech 10:8.)

Our problem is that we observe the present disconcerting events around us, and the strength of the enemy. The result is that we take our eyes off the Lord and His promise of victory in human history over all His enemies.

**Second**, an individual spiritual victory.

*“Romans 8:35-39 (v. 35 “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...”)*

When we take our eyes off of the promises of His presence and the future victory of our Lord, we cannot

claim our promised present “Victory in Jesus”. As a result, we join with the enemy, hoping for some kind of a victory through compromise.

How much money and time have pastors seen wasted by professed Christians who join with secular – without God – people, yes, even enemies of God, as they desperately seek victory over their darkness, desperation and depressions? They are willing to dedicate themselves to anything except godly and Biblical counsel that forces them to confront and deal with sin through Christ.

People spend many years getting into their distressing conditions, yet many expect a pastor to say a few magic words, point out a few applicable Scriptures, and all their problems will be solved—they will be at peace with themselves, with God and with those around them. When the victory is not delivered to them in their expected time frame, they give up. Then the promised victory of Christ in their personal lives is yielded to their enemy—the world, flesh and the devil.

The Lord has given the sign for His covenant-people today, and His name is Immanuel, the hero-God. The promise is found in Isaiah 9:6, 7. The government is His and it will never end. Because this is not evident today, this promise is disbelieved.

Ahaz faced imminent destruction, and the promise of future glory was far off. Because of this, he refused to believe the promise and made his alliances with the heathens. Because he could not see how God could work it out, or he refused to believe that God would work it out, the only chance he saw was to make his deals with the world. He sought to use human means to provide for his protection, and the Lord judged him for it.

The church as a whole, is in the same condition. The promise of the victory of Christ over every name that is named is far off. The promise of the glory of the Gospel Church seems to be impossible to fulfill, just as it appeared impossible to Ahaz. The average believer has the same reaction as did Ahaz: make peace with the world, and make the best deal that you can.

And as with Ahaz, the promise will be fulfilled in spite of the unbelief.

The important conclusion here for us:

When we get our eyes off of the future promises of God, and on the present discouraging circumstances around us, we also will fall into unbelief. We will want to make the best deal with the enemies that we can. The result is that all of our efforts are wasted.

Certainly, what we do may fail today, but that will not make the promises of God of none effect. The promises of God will still come to pass. The promises of God cannot be viewed in the light of our failures, or in the light of troubling circumstances.

God’s plan is to expand His kingdom through the preaching of the Gospel. No matter how many failures we experience, that is still His plan. We cannot allow failures to discourage us.

Our responsibility is to find our place within those promises. The Lord worked in spite of Ahaz’s faithlessness. He will work in spite of our faithlessness, but how much better if we would be found faithful in His work.

And the same holds true for us today. The future promised glory for the church is the assurance that the present church will be preserved. There must be a faithful remnant in the present for God to have something to build on in the future.

The only thing the Lord has given to us is the command to trust Him and the promise of His presence. The promise of success is off somewhere in the future, maybe even the distant future. But the promise is there. When we take our eyes off of the promises we will fall to unbelief.

And actually, our promise is the same as the one given to Ahaz—the promise of the future victory of the Son of God. The circumstances do not look favorable right now, and the first thing that we are tempted to say is that the Spirit of Grace cannot do the work. The promise that we are to act on is of future victory.

Present faith is the evidence of things not seen now, but is trusting God to bring His plan to pass in His time.

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