Session 1 – Pastor Paul Blair

Where the Church went wrong

The Compartmentalization of Christianity

In 2016, we were the driving force behind using the Tenth Amendment to end abortion in the State of Oklahoma - ***Protect Life and Marriage***. A man who we had hired to work with us in media relations was visiting with some men at the church he attends. They were talking about our work and me in particular – that I seemed to be controversial.

- My friend, who had gotten to know me quite well over the prior 12 months, said, *"I have heard that, too. But I have listened to Paul speak at least 20-25 times over the past year. I have never heard him* ***not be absolutely gracious in his delivery and absolutely truthful and accurate in his content****."*
- When pressed further about supporting this effort, one successful businessman who was in the men's group, said, *"Well, I am businessman who happens to be a Christian, but I am not a Christian businessman."*

That is impossible. Either Jesus is the Lord of you…or He isn't. His explanation was telling – he goes to church on Sundays, but doesn't allow the Bible to influence his life the rest of the week.

As nonsensical as that explanation from that businessman sounded, that is not the exception – and it explains why we are in the condition that we are as a country. The American church has adopted a form of "Platonic Greek Gnosticism" into how we practice Christianity.

- That is how an Oklahoma Governor can lead in the National Day of Prayer events, then veto a bill ending abortion.
- That's how Baptists campaign as Conservative Christian Champions then once they are in the legislature champion the expansion of gambling and liquor.

Rather than reading and applying the Bible literally, we have spiritualized the literal, practical instruction given to Believers in the Scripture.

As you know, context is critical to properly understand the Bible. You have to know who is writing, to whom he is writing and what he is writing about.

The books of the Bible were comprised from Jewish authors writing primarily to a Jewish audience about the Jewish Messiah – who also happens to be the God of all creation and the Savior of the world. The Hebrew Worldview was understood. As you know, at Pentecost the ecclesia was 100% Jewish, but also, as you know, over time, the church grew exponentially into Asia and Greece even reaching to Rome. What a great time of evangelism as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob was proclaimed to the Pagan Gentile World.

But with that expansion and those converts, the Greek line of thought invaded the thinking of the church. Much of the New Testament addresses the error of Gnosticism as John and Paul and Peter warned against this heresy in their many epistles. What was that Gnosticism?

- The Greek's viewed the flesh as irredeemably wicked.
- The spiritual is good, but the physical is evil. Only the soul can be redeemed. The body is sinful and earthly.
- This led to the logical conclusion BUT heresy in the early church that Christ did not come in the flesh. After all, how could that which is holy and pure become evil?
- They theorized that Jesus was only a phantom spirit – not a man. If He walked on the sea shore, he would not leave footprints. Or, they theorized that the Spirit of Christ came upon this man named Jesus at His baptism and then left on the cross. Either way, they denied that God became flesh. They denied that our Creator actually gave His life for His creation.

This mentality of separating the spirit from the physical also led to the conclusion that you can separate your spiritual YOU from your physical YOU. In fact, they said "Sin all you want in your body, as long as your heart is pure."

Well, that is nonsense.

- **John said, (1 John 1:6-7)** *"If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."*
- **Paul said, (1Corinthians 6:9-10)** *"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."*

In Greek, thought only the flesh or physical does these things, the real you doesn't. This is absolutely contrary to Hebrew thought.

Paul said:

- **1 Cor 10:31** *Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*
- **1 Thess 5:23** *And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

In like manner, we have adopted the same separation as we have "compartmentalized" our Christianity. Much like the compartments of a picnic plate.

- Christianity is something that we "do" on Sunday morning, but we don't let our "church thing" interfere with the rest of our lives.

- We have our "Spiritual Life" where we place all of our "Sacred" things like going to church – then we have "Reality" our physical life – that is reserved for Secular thinking.

When Thomas fell on his knees as Jesus stood before him in His resurrected body, he cried out "My LORD and my God." He was not asking Jesus to be the Lord of Sunday morning, he was surrendering his entire life – whatsoever he is, was or did – to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Christianity is not something **we do** and the church is not something **we attend** on Sunday mornings.

True Christianity means that a person has come face to face with the Risen Savior –

- recognizing that Christ came because we are sinners,
- that if we die without Him we will be separated forever from Him in the Lake of Fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels,
- but God stepped into His creation as a man - His name was Jesus.
- He gave His own perfect life as a substitutionary sacrifice to pay the penalty that we owe for our sins
- He rose again, to prove that the price paid was sufficient, as the penalty of our sin was death, and the chains of death could not hold Him
- and because He lives, we too will live forever in glorified bodies like His -- in a new Creation – as we are New Creations in Christ Jesus.
- We, like Thomas, fall before Him and cry out to Him "My Lord and my God."

Paul said, (Rom 10:9-10) *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Salvation and subsequent lordship was understood in the Hebrew mentality. You can't separate them. The natural result of one falling to His knees to call upon the resurrected Christ as his personal Savior is to recognize that He is YOUR Lord.

What did Hebrew scholar and Apostle to the Gentiles, Paul, tell the Greek Corinthian Church in correcting their inherent Greek view and reminding them of Hebraic Biblical Truth:

- **1 Cor 6:19-20** *What? know ye not that <u>your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost</u> which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God <u>in your body</u>, and <u>in your spirit</u>, which are God's.*

What did Paul tell the Roman Church correcting their inherent Greek view and reminding them of Hebraic Biblical Truth:

- **Rom 12:1-2** *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable*

> *service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

We are not saved because of a transformed life, but a transformed life is the natural result of being saved.

Alex McFarland is a good friend. He is a tremendous evangelist, apologist and the former President of Southern Evangelical Seminary. One time he was in a debate with a Muslim Cleric named Khalid Griggs, when he asked Griggs, "Does one have to truly believe the Shahada *(the Muslim confession of faith)* to become a Muslim or just say it?" The answer given by the Imam, "He just has to say it."

Saving faith is not simply mental assent. It is not praying an empty prayer. It is not simply a "get out of hell, free" card.

The prayer of faith is a heart's confession that is based upon the revelation that Jesus is Lord and results in a transformation.

It is not the lukewarm rational pistis of the Greek philosophers. It is not just mental ascent. Saving faith is of the Hebraic EMUNAH. It is more than belief that certain statements about God are true; it is…trust and reliance…which call forth behavior consistent with that stance of trust and reliance. (http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Articles/Emunah/emunah.html) (http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/emunah-biblical-faith/)

As James said, "*Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.*"

The Great Commission tells us to go into the world and make "disciples" not church members, not professors of faith, not people who have repeated the "Sinner's Prayer" – but disciples.

To make disciples, we are to teach them to observe "ALL THINGS whatsoever I have commanded you."

And as Acts 11 tells us, those disciples were first called "Christians" at Antioch. And the term means a "disciple or follower of Christ."

I was in Israel just a few months ago, we were walking through the old city of Jerusalem in the Jewish Quarter. One of the members of the tour asked our guide Isaac, why the Jews dressed so differently.

There are some liberal Jews that are Jewish in heritage, but are not religious. You have some, orthodox Jews that are the good, patriotic Jews that practice their faith to some degree, work hard, fight in the military – basically just like your average hard-working middle-class American.

Then there is this group called the "ultra-orthodox" – primarily, the Hassidic Jews. They are dressed in black suits with black hats and white shirts, but so many of them dress with distinct differences. They wear different style hats. They wear their socks differently. They wear different styles of jackets – similar, but different.

I just assumed that these were fashion choices, but the answer Isaac gave shed light on what I am about to teach you. He said, *"They wear hats the way their particular rabbi does. They wear their socks the way their rabbi does."* Their goal was to become like their rabbi in their thought, mannerisms and behavior.

A Jewish Rabbi didn't hand his pupils a syllabus, they were commanded to "follow him" or literally "walk with him". Does that expression ring a bell?

One author likened the maturity of a disciple to be measured by the amount of dust he accumulated on his clothing from following his rabbi so closely - as you watched, imitated, listened, learned and applied his teaching.

- The Hebrew Word for walk his "Halakh" and it means more than simply taking a stroll. Your "walk" in life refers to your overall lifestyle including how you conduct yourself morally. *(Walking in the Dust, Tverberg)*
- A rabbi's interpretation of the Torah was called "halakhah" – how to walk by God's Word. As Jesus' disciples, they knew their obligation was to memorize his words and live according to his "halakhah" – His teaching of God's Word – and again, Jesus taught not as a scribe, but as the author – which He was.

In America, we have redefined what it means to "Live by Faith". We believe that living by faith means that we live our lives the way we want to live our lives, justifying our behavior in light of the world's wisdom – then when we absolutely make a mess out of things – we get on our knees and ask God to fix it.

- That is not living by faith. That is testing God.
- Galatians 2 tells us, "The just SHALL LIVE by faith."
- Romans 10:17 says, "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."

Living by faith means that we listen to what our Lord is telling us in His Word and obey it and apply it to our lives.

- Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it.
- Wives let your inner beauty exceed your outer beauty and let your husband see your love of Christ in the home.
- Parents raise your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
- Children obey your parents in the Lord.
- Avoid the very appearance of evil.
- Don't commit adultery.

- Flee fornication.
- Don't lie. Don't gossip. Don't steal. Don't cheat. Don't covet. Don't murder.
- Be honest in business.
- Be just in judgement.
- Pay your bills on time.
- Be generous.
- Don't be in excessive debt.
- Let your work be an offering and testimony unto the Lord.
- Don't be lazy. Work like the ant and save for lean times.

This is what it means to live by faith. A disciple of Jesus is one who walks with Jesus day by day, studies His teaching of the truth and applying His instruction to your life – since He is the Lord of all.

George Barna completed a survey of Christians and the worldview they possess in 2004. These were individuals who self-identified as "born again" Christians. However, when they were given a test on their life views only 9% possessed a Biblical Worldview. The predominant world view was post-modernism.

We have accepted and believed the lie of dualism. We have compartmentalized our lives between secular and sacred. We may truly be born again, but we think like Darwinian Marxists as that is the doctrine in modern public education and university.

Every issue that we face today has been dealt with in Scripture and the area of responsibility has been assigned by God to one of four realms of government:

1. Self
2. Family
3. Church
4. Civil

We no longer preach on sin, we now are victims of an illness – *"I'm not an adulterer, I'm a sex addict."* (a victim is helpless and hopeless; a sinner can repent). It is not-PC to rebuke, it could damage your self-esteem. Didn't Jesus rebuke Peter? Didn't Paul instruct Timothy to rebuke? Didn't Paul instruct the church to rebuke sin?

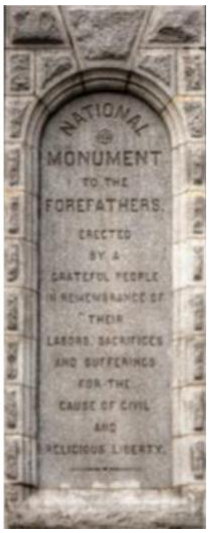
The family has been destroyed with the Sexual Revolution, subsidizing unwed mothers and now the unconstitutional Obergefell decision.

The Church is no longer relevant as we are more concerned about being liked that being upholding truth and righteousness. The Church in Acts was accused of turning the world upside down. Not anymore. We try to blend in with the world.

Civil government is all that's left to take care of everything. Wouldn't Marx be proud?

Notes:

The Biblical Principles of Civil Government – Pastor Paul Blair



Forefathers Monument stands proudly on a hill in the middle of a residential neighborhood in Plymouth. The grand lady of Faith standing 81 feet in the air overlooking Plymouth Harbor. On the front, her dedicatory plaque states:

> *National Monument to the Forefathers, erected by a Grateful People, In Remembrance of their labors, sacrifices and sufferings for the cause of civil and religious liberty.*

All we have known is liberty. In fact, we take what we have for granted. However, we are the only people in history that have enjoyed such liberty and don't realize that we are on the verge of losing it. The point we will repeatedly see made by our founders and noted on this plaque is the close connection between civil and religious liberty. They are twins who travel together. If you lose one, you'll lose both.

John Witherspoon was one of the most influential men of the founding era. As the President of Princeton, 49 future Congressmen were educated by Witherspoon. In addition, 28 future Senators, 12 members of the Continental Congress, 3 future U. S. Supreme Court justices, one future Vice President and on future President all trained in a solid Biblical World View by the REVEREND John Witherspoon.

In fact, Reverend Witherspoon himself served in the Continental Congress and was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Reverend Witherspoon stated:

> *"There is not a single instance in history, in which civil liberty was lost and religious liberty preserved entire."*

Why would a Presbyterian preacher be speaking on such a topic? Remember the day in which he lived. Abortion was not the issue, it was unheard of. Homosexual marriage was not the issue of the day, it was unfathomable. The greatest issue and the greatest threat to Christianity in 1776 was civil and religious liberty.

We know this to be true. True Christianity has always been persecuted. Beginning in Acts 3, we see the church persecuted by the Sanhedrin, then by the pagan Roman Empire, then by the Holy Roman Catholic Empire throughout the Dark Ages. Even around the world today, Christianity is being persecuted in Moslem nations and Communist nations.

Only in America and only for the last 200 years has true Christianity been able to live and worship freely. Why? What has made America the exception?

The Goal of Tyranny—Government becomes Absolute

In order to exercise complete control over a people, you must control the mind. The body is easy to control, if you first control the belief system of that body. That is why in totalitarian societies the government must control education and information (media). There can also be no freedom of conscience as there can be no higher authority to appeal to than the government. The government must become the absolute.

Consequently, in any tyranny, you either have an atheistic communism as once existed in the Soviet Union and currently exists in Communist China where there is no God — consequently, the government becomes god by default. It is the role of government to establish what is right and what is wrong. It is up to the government to provide rights to the people and also take them away. The government is the highest authority and assumes unquestioned, absolute control.

The other form of tyranny comes from a theocracy as exists today in Iran or Saudi Arabia. In this case, government and god are one and the same. The results are the same as in the communist philosophy. The theocratic government determines what is right and what is wrong. The government grants rights to the people and also takes them away. The government and god are one and the same, is the highest authority and assumes unquestioned, absolute control.

That is what Nimrod attempted to establish in ancient Babel. That is what Nebuchadnezzar did establish in Babylon when Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego found themselves in the fiery furnace. And that is what King James 1 had successfully established in old England as he was the political leader, being the king. But he was also, the spiritual leader as the head of the Church of England. He assumed absolute control. If you disagreed with the king, not only was it heretical, but it was an act of treason. One could be imprisoned, tortured or put to death.

It was that that caused a church body in Scrooby, England, to risk their lives and leave the only world that they ever knew to board a little ship called the Mayflower and come to the New World.

Principles of Government in the New World

The Pilgrims of 1620 were soon followed by the great Puritan migration. Our forefathers were free Englishmen. Ultimately, they answered to the King of England, but according to their charters they were free men able to elect their own governors and legislatures, enact their own laws and tax themselves if they deemed it necessary. Where did they go for instruction on principles of government?

Being families with a devout Biblical world view, the Puritans understood that God established three institutions on the earth. It was God who established the home. Consequently, they knew that God would have a lot to say about the form and proper function of the home in His divine Word. They knew that God established the church. Consequently as they were not under the authority of the Church of England, they searched the Holy Scriptures for instruction on the design and function of their local Congregational churches. They also recognized that it was God who established human government. Obviously, God would have much input on the purpose, design and function of a proper human government.

The historian John Palfrey wrote in his ***"History of New England"*** (1859):

> *"The Puritan searched the Bible, not only for principles and rules, but for mandates – and, when he could find none of these, for analogies – to guide him in precise arrangements of public administration, and in the minutest points of individual conduct."*

In fact, Pastors were logically experts in the area of politics. Politics does not mean "Republican" or "Democrat". The technical definition of the word politics even in modern dictionaries is "The art or science of government or governing."

Logically, since God established civil government, He would have a lot to say about its proper form and function. Since pastors were supposed to be experts on the Word of God, they should also be well versed in God's design and purpose for proper civil government. After a new legislature or council was elected a pastor would come to preach a charge and lay out the expectations and responsibilities of that elected in what was commonly called an "Election Sermon." Alice Baldwin, in her 1928 work, ***"The New England Clergy and the American Revolution"*** states:

> *"...these election sermons discussed the government of the ancient Hebrews and its excellencies; many were theoretical, concerned with the origin and end of government; some dealt more particularly with their own charters and the dearly won rights of Englishmen; some, with great freedom of speech, gave practical advice to the Assembly about well-known evils and desirable laws; the majority discussed in greater or less detail the qualities and the responsibilities of magistrates. Year after year the same themes were discussed; often the same phraseology was used...Now and again there was an election preacher who was exceptionally direct and thorough-going in his*

> *discussion either of government of the agitations of the day, or of both...these sermons dealt with matters of government...(copies were distributed widely) where they became 'text books of politics.'"*

Many principles of government that we take for granted were actually Biblical truths unique to American government.

The Fundamental Principle that all men are created equal did not come from the Hindu caste system, Islam or the aristocracy of Old England. It was a Biblical truth emphasized during the Great Awakening that all men are equal at the foot of the cross.

The Concept of Natural Law and the monogamous family unit come from the Bible. Our laws of morality, ownership and rights of Private Property, a right to a fair trial, no conviction without two or three witnesses, a punishment that fits the crime all come from the Bible.

The Republican form of government comes from the Bible. As Moses was leading the Israelites to Canaan, he was stretched too thin. He wound up wearing himself out and was doing a disservice to the people. His father in law advised him that he needed help. Exodus 18:21 tells us, "Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens."

Establishing a defined and written rule of law that was entered into by consent of the people did not originate in Old England. It originated in the Bible where the Law of Israel (The Torah) was their constitution that bound even the King as he was only authorized to govern within those defined boundaries. **Deuteronomy 17:18-20** states:

> *"And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel."*

These principles and many others that we take for granted were Biblical truths incorporated into American civil law.

Why has America been exceptional? The original 13 colonies were built upon a strong Biblical world view.

Three Biblical Principles that Shaped American Thought

Being free to govern themselves and having a solid Biblical World View, there were three basic Biblical Principles through which the founders viewed civil government.

Principle #1: The purpose of government was for the good of the people.

The Puritans believed in the depravity of human nature and that the purpose of all government, whether that be self-government, family government, church government or civil government, was to maintain order and restrain wickedness.

In addition, they believed that since God established civil government, then the purpose of civil government was not to tyrannize or oppress the people, but for their good.

Pastor John Davenport of Boston in his 1663 sermon ***"A Discourse on Civil Government"*** states this about its purpose:

> *"It was ordained of God, and its purpose, like the government of Christ and of God Himself, was the good of the people."*

Pastor Nathaniel Appleton of Boston preached in a public lecture in 1757:

> *"Government was instituted by God for the good of mankind. If a ruler acts selfishly or oppressively, He acts quite contrary to the original Design of Government and contrary to the express Will of Him from whence all Power and Authority are derived."*

Where would these men get such ideas about government? The Bible, of course. Consider the truths explained in Romans 13, one of the most well-known passages on government.

> **Romans 13:1-4**
>
> *Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.*

God is not a God of anarchy and chaos. He is a God of justice and order. It was God that created civil government. Does that mean that every existing government is of his design and in His will? Of course not.

Consider, as an example, the family. God established the family. It is God's design for a man, with his eyes fixed on Jesus, to join together with a woman, with her eyes fixed on Jesus, in the sacred union of marriage, to be faithful to one another until death parts them and to raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Unfortunately, man has a way of making a mess out of things and we see broken homes every day. That is not a problem with God's design or intent. That is a problem with man's disobedience and self-will.

The same holds true for the institution of civil government. God established it. It was His idea. And the purpose, according to **Romans 13** is to punish evil and protect the good.

> *For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? Do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he*

> *beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.*

Peter repeats the same truth in **1 Peter 2:13-14**:

> *Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.*

And Paul puts the finishing touches on the purpose of government in **1 Timothy 2:1-2**:

> *I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.*

Clearly, the will of God for government is to punish the evil and protect the good that we may live peaceably in all godliness. Government is for the good of man.

Principle #2: There is a standard of Absolute Truth. There is right and wrong. Man is Subject to Natural Law.

Thomas Jefferson opens our ***Declaration of Independence*** with this words:

> *When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.*

The whole basis upon which this act of separation was justified is *"the Laws of Nature and Nature's God"*. Is that simply some poetic phrase from an 18th Century author? No. The terms in the Declaration are actually legal terms defined in Blackstone's Commentaries on the Law.

Sir William Blackstone was an English Jurist who published his four volume Commentaries on English Law. This became the cornerstone of American Law.

Regarding Natural Law, Blackstone states:

> *"Man, considered as a creature, must necessarily be subject to the laws of his Creator, for he is entirely a dependent being ... And consequently, as man depends absolutely upon his Maker for everything, it is necessary that he should in all points conform to his*

> *Maker's will. This will of his Maker is called the law of nature… The doctrines thus delivered we call the revealed or divine law, and they are to be found only in the holy scriptures. …no human laws should be suffered to contradict these."*

Natural Law included such things as are observable in nature like the law of gravity or the right to defend your property. Try taking a grizzly bear cub away from its mother and you'll quickly learn a thing or two about defending your family and home. But Natural law also included God's moral law which was contained *"only in the holy scriptures."*

As Blackstone stated, the Biblical World View of our founders believed that when God had spoken the matter was settled. Man was only free to enact law where God hadn't already spoken.

An original member of the U. S. Supreme Court and a signer of the Constitution, James Wilson stated:

> *"…It should always be remembered that this law, natural or revealed, made for men or for nations, flows from the same Divine source: it is the law of God. . . . Human law must rest its authority ultimately upon the authority of that law which is Divine."*

And Alexander Hamilton, signer of the Constitution and a principle author of the Federalist Papers said:

> *[T]he law . . . dictated by God Himself is, of course, superior in obligation to any other. It is binding over all the globe, in all countries, and at all times. No human laws are of any validity if contrary to this.*

No human laws are of any validity if they violate God's law. So, for example, what should the speed limit be on Broadway Avenue? Well, there is no place in Holy Scripture from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22 that tells us what the speed limit should be. Therefore, our civil political body is free to determine what a safe and efficient speed limit should be for Broadway. However, what is the definition of marriage? According the pages of Holy Scripture it is one man and one woman. When God has spoken, the matter is settled and the created has no business or right to overrule the Creator.

What common sense that is!! However, we have seemingly lost our common sense in this day and age. Consider the simple wisdom from yesteryear. The Reverend Joseph Alden authored a public school textbook on government and citizenship in 1869. (Remember: Pastors were experts on civil government since it was God's idea).

Page twelve asks the question:

> *"Do laws which restrain a man from doing wrong infringe upon his liberty?"*

The answer:

"They do not; for he has no right to do wrong."

12 THE YOUNG CITIZEN'S MANUAL,

16. *What should determine the form of a nation's government?*
The character and circumstances of the people.

17. *For what nations is a republic the best form?*
Those in which the people are intelligent and moral.

18. *Why are representatives chosen?*
Because all the people of a nation cannot meet together, and make laws.

19. *For what other reason?*
Because men selected on account of their wisdom are best qualified to make laws.

20. *To whom are the representatives responsible?*
To the people and to God.

21. *Do wise and just laws interfere with liberty?*
They do not. Civil liberty is the result of law.

22. *What can men reasonably claim?*
Liberty to do right, and protection against wrong.

23. *Do laws which restrain a man from doing wrong infringe on his liberty?*
They do not; for he has no right to do wrong.

24. *What would perfectly wise laws require?*
They would require men to do what is just.

25. *What would they prohibit?*
Everything unjust.

26. *What would be the result of perfectly wise laws faithfully executed?*
Every one would be at liberty to do right, and would be secure from wrong.

27. *If one was free to do right, and secure against wrong, what would he have?*
Perfect liberty.

We live in a day of black rights, white rights, women's rights, homosexual rights, etc. The truth is that we are given certain unalienable rights from God, but no one has a right to do wrong!!

What simple, brilliant logic that has been lost on the modern generation.

Along this same line of thought, let me expound upon the term *"pursuit of happiness"* as that is a specific unalienable right from God and articulated in our Declaration of Independence. I have heard that expression used to defend all sorts of perverse and sinful behavior with the defense that they are simply pursuing happiness. That is exactly the opposite of what the term actually means.

Let us again refer to Blackstone's Commentaries on Law:

> *For he (God) has so intimately connected, so inseparably interwoven the laws of eternal justice with the happiness of each individual, that the latter cannot be attained but by observing the former; and, if the former be punctually obeyed, it cannot but induce the latter. In consequence of which mutual connection of justice and human felicity (happiness), he has not perplexed the law of nature with a multitude of abstracted rules and precepts, referring merely to the fitness or unfitness of things, as some have vainly surmised; but has graciously reduced the rule of obedience to this one paternal precept, "that man should pursue his own true and substantial happiness." This is the foundation of what we call ethics, or natural law.*

We have a God given right to life and no government or individual can arbitrarily deprive you of your life. You may forfeit your right to life if you commit some capital crime, but it can't legally just be taken from you.

We have a God given right to liberty and no government or individual can arbitrarily deprive you of your liberty. You may forfeit it if you commit some crime that results in your arrest and incarceration, but you can't simply be deprived of your liberty without due process.

We also have a right to discern and walk in God's will enjoying all the blessings that God has in store for us according to Scripture. This would include our right to own property, buy, sell, work, raise a family, enjoy liberty and most importantly the right to worship God according to the dictates of your heart as revealed in Holy Scripture and no government or individual can deprive you of that right.

There is absolute truth. There is right and wrong. There is a foundation upon which America was built. That is "The Laws of Nature and Nature's God" – a Biblical Worldview. Rights come from God. No one has a right to do wrong.

Principle #3: The Importance of Compact for a Civil Society

If all men are created equal, then who has the right to rule over another man? Obviously, the answer is "no one." If a man lived all by himself, he would have no need of creating a civil government. Let us refer once again to Sir William Blackstone and the world view of our founding fathers for more about the necessity of civil government.

> *"If man were to live in a state of nature, unconnected with other individuals, there would be no occasion for any other laws, that the law of nature and the law of God…But man was formed for society…is neither capable of living alone, nor indeed has the courage to do it."*

In other words, if man lived in alone, then he would have no need for any civil law. For example, if I lived on a deserted island all by myself then I would have no need to put up a traffic light as there is no cross traffic. I am the only one living there. However, I would still be subject to God's laws, such as the law of gravity, and I would still be subject to God's laws of morality.

But free and equal men, when choosing to live in a community (civil body) must create or constitute a law to govern their interaction and delegate few and defined powers to this civil political body. This was why the Pilgrims found it absolutely necessary to draft and sign the Mayflower Compact before disembarking from the Mayflower.

Pastor John Davenport of Boston in his 1669 Election sermon said:

> But man is a social creature and men being *"combined in a Family-Society; it is necessary that they be joyned (sic) in a Civil-Society;...through the manner of Union, in a Political Body. This power of rulers of the Common-wealth is derived from the People's free Choice...for the Power of the Government is originally (originates) in the People...that they may measure out so much Civil Power...that they give it out conditionally, upon this of that condition; so as if the condition be violated, they may resume their power of chusing (sic) another."*

Alice Baldwin summarized the political thought in her classic work ***The New England Clergy and the American Revolution***:

> *"Here is government set up by the people and resting upon their consent; magistrates chosen by the majority and strictly limited in power cannot be used against the rights and liberties of the people, removable by the people if the conditions set by them be violated."*

God gives unalienable rights to man. Man, choosing to live in a community agree to enter into a covenant, charter or constitution, designing the makeup of the political body while delegating and defining certain limited responsibilities to this political body. However, the power always rests in the hands of "We the people." If the political body violates its defined and limited responsibility, it is recallable by the ones who created it.

Consider the words of the founder of Connecticut, Pastor Thomas Hooker in his 1638 letter to John Winthrop:

> *"…the foundation of authority is laid, firstly, in the free consent of the people."*

Who is in charge? We the people.

Consider the words of Pastor Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island:

> *"The sovereign, original, and foundation of civil power lies in the people; and it is evident that such governments as are by them erected and established, have no more power, nor for no longer time, that the civil power or people consenting and agreeing shall betrust them with."*

Who maintains the power? We the people.

It is with this knowledge, that the member of the Constitutional Convention did their work in 1787. The Colonies had just fought to liberate themselves from tyranny. The last thing they wanted to do was create another tyrant. There was strong disagreement between the Federalists who favored the Constitution and the Anti-Federalists who were fearful of establishing a new Federal Government that might grow into a tyrant.

The Federalist Papers were a series of newspaper articles published in New York arguing on behalf of the ratification of the new Constitution. **Federalist #45** tried to give calm assurance to the Anti-Federalists that the Federal Government could never grow outside of its boundaries because its responsibilities were limited and clearly defined.

> *The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government, are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce; with which last the power of taxation will, for the most part, be connected. The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, and the internal order, improvement, and prosperity of the State.*
>
> *The operations of the federal government will be most extensive and important in times of war and danger; those of the State governments, in times of peace and security. As the former periods will probably bear a small proportion to the latter, the State governments will here enjoy another advantage over the federal government. The more adequate, indeed, the federal powers may be rendered to the national defense, the less frequent will be those scenes of danger which might favor their ascendancy over the governments of the particular States.*

The powers delegated to the Federal Government by the states were clearly articulated and limited. In case there was ever any misunderstanding the Ninth and Tenth Amendments put exclamation points on who holds what power.

> **Amendment IX:** *The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.*

> **Amendment X:** *The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.*

But what would happen if the Federal Government began to exercise too much power? Who was to determine what was excessive? Not the Supreme Court, but WE THE PEOPLE. Consider what Federalist Paper #33 has to say about this very question.

> *"And it is expressly to execute these (certain specified) powers that the sweeping clause, as it has been affectedly called, authorizes the national legislature to pass all necessary and proper laws…But it may be again asked, Who is to judge of the necessity and propriety of the laws to be passed for executing the powers of the Union? … If the federal government should overpass the just bounds of its authority and make a tyrannical use of its powers, the people, whose creature it is, must appeal to the standard they have formed, and take such measures to redress the injury done to the Constitution as the exigency may suggest and prudence justify."*

Notice that even a Federalist like Alexander Hamilton clearly acknowledged that the Federal Government was created by and the creature of the sovereign states and it was up to the people (not the Supreme Court) to determine whether an action by Washington was necessary or proper.

Again, consider this thought. The Constitution was an agreement between the sovereign states creating and limiting the Federal government. Would the Founders give sole authority to their new creation to define its own power? Of course not.

Why do we think a branch of the Federal government (the Supreme Court) will be a fair arbiter in determining the authority of the Federal government?

In my younger years, I played football from little league through five seasons in the NFL. I never had the ability to call penalties on the opposing team. If I had been given that power, I can assure you that I never would have lost a game.

How do we justify appealing to a branch of the Federal government to reign in the Federal government?

When you consider the Roe V. Wade and Obergefell decisions we realize an overreaching Federal government generally IS the problem!

Let's summarize what we've learned so far.

1. The purpose of the civil government is not to rule over or tyrannize the people, but for the good of the people.
2. We have a standard of truth - a foundation – natural law.
3. No Law can contradict God's Law. No one has the right to do wrong.

4. God grants rights. The purpose of civil government is to ensure those God given rights. Man, in order to protect his life, liberty and property, and in order to live in a civil society enters into a covenant entrusting certain limited powers to the proper authority – of, by and for the people (Ex. 18:21)
5. A man may not give away something that he does not possess
6. The government derives its power by the consent of the governed and is limited to the powers entrusted to it and cannot break the law nor overstep the powers entrusted to it.

Notes:

Pastor Paul Blair

Does God have an Ideal for Civil Government

The Inspiration and Design of a Federal Constitutional Republic

We live in a day, when man is aggressively trying to redefine the definition of a family. Sex outside of marriage is celebrated, divorce has been accepted as the norm and man is even pushed to legalize same sex marriage.

God has tolerated a lot. But when asked about His intent, His ideal, Jesus responded:

> Matt 19:3-8
>
> *The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?*
>
> *And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*
>
> *They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away? He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.*

God's patience has put up with a lot. But don't confuse what God is tolerating with what His ideal or intent is.

How do we know what God's will is? Look at what He Created. (Family)

We know that God established the realm of Civil government, but is there one type that is more in line with God's design or intent for government?

What was the original form of government that God established?

- When we think of Israel, it is likely that our original conception is wrong – we think of kings and a monarchy.
- Well, it is true that God was to be their king, but Israel in its original form was not a monarchy.
- The nation of Israel was a commonwealth of twelve sovereign, self-governing tribes (or states) with legal boundaries, with a common Worldview operating under a unifying Constitution – Torah.
- We often think of the Law of God – the Torah – in an only spiritual aspect.

The Law consisted of three sections.

- **The Law** – God's morality – which transcends time. Do not murder. Do not steal. Do not commit adultery.
- **Statutes** – God's Ceremonial System of Sacrifice. This system pointed to the "Lamb of God" which was sufficient to take away sin. The sacrificial system of the Law of Moses ended with the sufficiency of the Sacrifice of Jesus – as the veil of the Temple was rent.
- **Judgements** – Civil law for the wellbeing and safety of the people.

Within the comprehensive nature of this Law, there were policies that dealt with basic banking and business, fair weights and measures, fair trade, debt, bankruptcy.

- **A person was limited as to the amount of debt he could assume.** You had the ability to mortgage up to six years of the value of your labor. Or you could mortgage your land, but you couldn't sell it. You could mortgage it or lease it for up to 50 years, then it would be returned to your family.
- They were taught as a people to be productive, prepared to lend – but don't be a borrower.

If you were caught cheating in business, you paid it back with a penalty. If you stole something, you didn't go to jail, you paid it back fourfold or worked off that value.

There were rules for sanitary safety, whether it be the latrine or the proper washing of dishes or the putting of sick people in quarantine. Why? God is concerned with health and wellbeing of His people. Rules so they would not be overworked, they were required to rest on certain days, both employee and employer alike, rules that pertained to taking care of the poor – not handouts, but charity where the poor could work for their food and feel the satisfaction of providing for their own families. Rules that pertained to morality and the family, rules that pertained to military service. No man was found guilty without a fair trial and guilt could only be established at the mouths of at least 2 or 3 witnesses.

God lined up different areas of responsibility for different areas of government:

- **Self-government** – It's up to you to provide for you and take care of your health and welfare.
- **Family government** – It's up to you to train of your children in the way they should go.

  It was up to the parents to care for the kids, train them to be adults and when elderly, it was up to the children to care for their parents. Widows and orphans were cared for – not by the state, but by the individual and the family.
- **Civil government** – to ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens of Israel. To defend their life liberty and property.
- **In their dispensation, certain work was set aside for the priesthood. We still have a fourth area, but not the priesthood – the ecclesia** – has the responsibility of providing humanitarian needs and promoting moral truth.

Israel was not ruled by a king or a giant central government. During major crises, God raised up rulers to whom the people consented -- i.e., Moses to lead them out of tyranny; Joshua - military General to lead the conquest of the Promised Land and divide up the land; and "Judges" to lead them out of oppression – somewhat like the Colonies calling on a “judge” named General Washington to lead the Continental Army.

They were a commonwealth of twelve tribes/states governed by one Rule of Law. No need for major taxes as there was no standing central government and no standing army. There was a militia of every able-bodied man across the twelve tribes. They “trusted in God” by following His instruction and trusting God’s design, rather than putting their confidence in a powerful man or central government.

- They chose out from among themselves "capable men who feared God, loved truth and hated covetousness" – to judge righteously in all matters according to the Law.
- There was an assembly of elders that represented the tribes themselves in national assemblies (Numbers 10:2-4) and elders that judged in the gates of the city (Deuteronomy 16:18).
- Ten’s, fifties, hundreds and thousands. There was to be no favoritism to the poor or rich, bribery was forbidden and the goal was righteousness for the people.

Unfortunately, in 1 Samuel, Samuel was near death, the Philistines were an imminent threat to their security and rather than trusting God and obeying His instruction and following the Law – there was NO security, safety or order as **every man did what was right in his own eyes**.

Originally, they had no king. God gave them a Constitution, the Torah, and they were to be self-governing – but only a righteous people are capable of freedom and we know that Israel eroded morally to where every many did what was right in his own eyes. Rather than trusting God by obeying His directions and enjoying His blessings, they did it their way, made a wreck of things and concluded: ***"We need a strong central government that can take care of us when we have needs and protect us from our enemies and tell us what to do."***

God through Samuel told them that it was not for the best. It was not a good idea, but they did not trust God’s wisdom. They wanted to be protected by and ruled by an earthly monarch like every other nation.

With this Biblical background, it’s important that we remember what America once was and how we were designed to operate.

One of America’s worst Presidents, who led in establishing the Federal Reserve and changing the purpose for which the Senate was created, wrote a column published in the July, 1887, edition of Political Science Quarterly:

> *“Wherever regard for public opinion is a first principle of government, practical reform must be slow and all reform must be full of compromises…With opinions, possession is*

> *more than nine points of the law. It is next to impossible to dislodge them. Institutions which one generation regards as only a makeshift approximation to the realization of a principle, the next generation honors as the nearest possible approximation to that principle, and the next worships the principle itself. It takes scarcely three generations for the apotheosis. The grandson accepts his grandfather's hesitating experiment as an integral part of the fixed constitution of nature."*

In layman's terms, what the first generation would resist but eventually accept, the next generation would accept it because their parents had and every following generation would operate under the assumption that it has always been that way.

Today, we believe that 320 million people are ruled by an all-powerful President with a phone and a pen OR a "SUPREME" court. Neither is true.

On July 2, 1776, representatives of the thirteen British Colonies voted to approve the Lee Resolution and officially secede from the British Empire. After two days of haggling over the final wording, the Declaration of Independence was signed and thirteen states became thirteen sovereign states (nations).

Each state had its own Constitution and government. By the way, they were all very heavily influence by Christianity. For example, consider this excerpt from the Delaware Constitution:

> *ARTICLE 22: Every person who shall be chosen a member of either house, or appointed to any office of place of trust, before taking his seat or entering upon the execution of his office, shall…make and subscribe the following declaration, to wit: "I, ____, do profess faith in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, and in the Holy Ghost, one God, Blessed forevermore; and I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine inspiration."*

After declaring independence, the tyrant king of England wasn't planning to let them go. The thirteen states constituted a formal union called the *Articles of Confederation* for securing their common defense, their liberties and their mutual and general welfare.

Each state clearly retained its "sovereignty, freedom and independence." In fact, when the Treaty of Paris was signed after the war, it was between Great Britain and each of the "free sovereign and independent states" which made up the voluntary union called the United States.

In 1787, representatives of the thirteen United States gathered in Philadelphia for the stated purpose of strengthening the Articles of Confederation. Instead, they drafted a new constitution "In order to form a MORE PERFECT UNION."

Since all men were created equal and there was no divine right of kings, who has the authority to rule over another? No one. The states constituted a limited central government to take care of their "general welfare" and their "common defense", delegated few and very specific powers

to this new entity retaining all other powers to themselves and rather than vowing to be ruled by a supreme monarch, they pledged to submit to the law which was specifically and clearly defined and limited in the Constitution.

Knowing the sin nature of man when power is concentrated, power was divided between each sovereign state and what was delegated to the new Federal government. Then the power was divided within the Federal government.

The House of Representatives was proportional and represented the people. All spending measures originate in the House, because the government had no money. The only money they had was the people's as it was derived from taxes or from limited loans which obligated the people to repay.

Senators were appointed by the state legislatures and they represented the states. Each state was equal with equal representation.

Only Congress had the power to make laws and their power was defined and limited by Article One, Section Eight of the Constitution. Federalist Paper #45 addresses this very issue:

> *The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former (federal government) will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce; with which last the power of taxation will, for the most part, be connected. The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, and the internal order, improvement, and prosperity of the State. The operations of the federal government will be most extensive and important in times of war and danger; those of the State governments, in times of peace and security.*

The President was charged with the responsibility of carrying out the will of the people as decided by Congress. The first five Presidents (Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe) are referred to as the "Founding Era Presidents" as all were alive during the founding era. During their combined 36 years in office, they issued a total of 15 executive orders and 10 vetoes. They did not believe it was their responsibility to rule over the people, but to enforce the law.
The Supreme Court had very limited jurisdiction as defined in Article Three, Section Two.

Israel's original design was a commonwealth of righteous, self-governing people in their sovereign tribes unified and governed not by an all-powerful man, but by their written Constitution (the Torah).

America's original design was a was a voluntary union of righteous, self-governing people in their sovereign states unified and governed not by an all-powerful man, but by our written Constitution.

The concept of the Constitution is the only way 320 million people can possibly coexist. Liberal states have the right to be liberal. Conservative states have the right to retain their conservatism. However, we agree to work together for our common defense and our general welfare.

America has been exceptional! We have been the freest, most prosperous, most respected & most sought after country in world history. We are the only country in 2000 years to provide Christians with Civil and Religious Liberty! It has not been an accident.

The closer you get to doing it God's way, the better it works out. America has never been perfect and never will be, but we have been exceptional when compared to the rest.

Notes:

Romans 13 and *unlimited* submission to government

Exegesis and Application
By: Dan Fisher

"No government is to be submitted to, at the expense of that which is the sole end of all government – the common good and safety of society."
Pastor Jonathan Mayhew, 1749

"A slavish submission to tyranny is a proof of a very sordid and base mind." Pastor Samuel West, May 29, 1776

"Is there no case in which a people may resist government? Yes, there is one such case; and that is, when rulers usurp a power oppressive to the people, …" Pastor Joseph Lathrop, Dec 14, 1787

"You are a Christian and it is your duty under God to submit to government; no matter what – and you are sinning of you don't!" How often have you heard someone, especially in the church, make that declaration? Are they right? I do not believe so.

Let me begin by stating the obvious: submission to authority is unquestionably a central tenet of Christianity and is clearly taught in Scripture. A couple of passages that teach this immediately come to mind:

"Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, **2** for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. **3** For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior," (1 Tim. 2:2-3, NKJV)

"Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, **2** to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men."
(Titus 3:1-2, NKJV)

According to Scripture, *all* authority ultimately finds its source in God and in submitting to God, Christians must be known for their respect for and submission to *proper* authority. But, must Christians submit to every dictate of authority – especially that of their state/national government?

Like you, I suspect, I have grappled with this question for most of my life. I have found that balancing my responsibility to submit to governmental authority while equally balancing my responsibility to defend the truth and the innocent who are often abused by those who wield power with no apparent concern for life and/or personal rights is no easy

task. Because I am a Christian, must I submit to governmental authority when it mandates evils such as human slavery or the murder of the unborn by means of abortion? Would it be a sin to stand against such evils? Many in the church believe so and use the Bible (mainly Romans 13) to bolster their position.

Sadly, the majority of preachers/pastors and politicians have been ignorantly or intentionally shackling the people for years with what I believe to be a flawed interpretation of Rom 13 – especially as it applies to the form of government we have in these United States. Consequently, people have generally come to believe that they would be sinning if they ever defied the government, no matter how evil it may have become. They mistakenly believe that they, especially if they are Christians, owe *slavish*, *unlimited* submission to all authorities. Is this actually what Paul was teaching in Rom 13?

Oddly enough, the Bible actually provides numerous examples of committed believers not only defying governmental authority but also receiving the approval of God in the process. Consider these examples:

- The Hebrew midwives defying the command of Pharaoh by saving the Jewish baby boys – including Moses's parents saving him (Ex 1:15-21, 2:1-10)
- Moses refusing Pharaoh and siding with the Jews (Heb 11:27)
- Queen Esther approaching the king uninvited in order to save the Jewish people from annihilation (Est 4:10-16)
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego refusing to bow to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar (Dan 3:1-23)
- Daniel defying the king by refusing to stop praying to the God of Israel (Daniel 6:1-13)
- Jesus refusing to abide by the Jewish Sabbath laws (Matt 12:1-14, Jn 18:31)
- The apostles and early Christians refusing to stop preaching the Gospel (Acts 5:27-29, 12:1-4, 16:19-24)
- Believers throughout the ages defying ungodly authorities (Heb 11:35-38)

Even more perplexing, I have heard many of the same preachers and politicians who believe that Rom 13 requires *unlimited* submission, applaud the above- mentioned biblical heroes for their courage to defy the evil authorities of their day. But how do they justify this apparent contradiction in their thinking? Obviously, they cannot have it both ways – either the Bible requires *unlimited* submission to governmental authority, thus making the likes of Daniel and the apostles' sinful rebels, or there must be something wrong with the generally accepted *unlimited submission* understanding of passages like Rom 13.

So, were men like Daniel sinning when they defied the evil authorities of their day? Certainly, the Bible does not condemn them. Was Jesus sinning when He defied Jewish laws, laws that were just as authoritative as those of the Romans? Of course, not – at least not if He was the *sinless* Son of God. To even suggest that Jesus sinned is itself heresy. (Passages such as 2 Cor 5:21, Heb 4:15, 9:14, and 1 Pet 1:19, among others, clearly teach that Jesus was sinless.) There must be some reasonable way to make sense out of what *appears to be* a glaring contradiction in God's Word.

The solution must begin with our admission that the ways of God are beyond our limited ability to completely understand. The book of Isaiah actually says this:

> "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord.
> **9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." (Is 55:8-9, NKJV)

God sometimes works in ways that baffle the wisest among us. Although He never contradicts Himself or acts against His own holy nature, He does, at times, use evil men and disasters to further His eternal plan – though He may not have elevated those men to their lofty positions or have caused those disasters to occur. The honest fact is God sometimes allows evil men and governments to rule and good people to sometimes suffer in the process. In the midst of this, God promises to care for those who love and serve Him – regardless of whether we understand it. The ways of God are often mystical to us at best.

A simple exegesis of Romans 13:1-5 and how it applies to those living in a representative republic

Since Rom 13:1-5 seems to be the *passage of choice* for those who teach *unlimited* submission to government and thus, creates the greatest amount of consternation and confusion for Christians, it is helpful to take a closer look at these verses and see how those living in a representative republic like ours should understand them. When we do this, everything begins to make sense.

Thankfully, there is a systematic way to understand God's often "mysterious ways and words." By carefully following the science of biblical interpretation known as Hermeneutics we can solve dilemmas we often encounter in Scripture. In addition to observing things like textual/historical context and grammatical constructs, one of the critical rules of Hermeneutics that helps us immensely is the "Analogy of Faith" principle. Simply stated, this principle declares that since all Scriptures are harmoniously united with no essential contradictions, every interpretation of a passage must be compatible with what the other passages in the Bible teach. If our interpretation does not harmonize with the totality of Scripture, we have gotten something wrong. So, when attempting to properly understand what Rom 13 is teaching about submission to government, we must consider other passages that deal with that subject as well.

Honestly, this is the area of greatest concerns for Christians in Oklahoma, and everywhere else for that matter. Since most have had little training in the "art" of proper Bible study, they find themselves resorting to taking a passage of Scripture and arbitrarily deciding what it says – often taking it out of context and reading into it an incorrect meaning. Unfortunately, Romans 13 is a classic example. Since we do not want to make this mistake, we must adhere to the rules of hermeneutics if we are to properly understand Rom 13.

The best way to begin our examination of Rom 13 is by carefully considering the context of the entire book. Only by understanding the reason Paul wrote Romans and by recognizing to whom he was specifically addressing it, can we hope to develop a correct interpretation of the whole book and chapter thirteen specifically. When we follow this process, we discover that Rom 13 unequivocally does not teach that Christians owe *slavish, unlimited* submission to government.

In considering the context of Romans, we will examine three components: time and place or authorship, the reason for its writing, and its theological implications.

- **Time and Place:** Paul writes the letter to the Church in Rome in 56-57 A.D. while he is in Corinth during his third missionary journey. At this time, Paul had not yet visited Rome and would not until he delivered the love offering, he had collected to the impoverished believers in Jerusalem. Assuming the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus occurred in 33 A.D., then the church in Rome, if it had been started shortly thereafter, would have been only some 23 years old when Paul wrote them the letter we know today as the book of Romans. We know that the Roman church dates back at least to 49 A.D. because the Roman historian Suetonius wrote that same year, **"**As the Jews were making constant disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, he expelled them from Rome." Paul's letter would have been a wealth of new knowledge to the Roman believers since at this time the books that make up the New Testament were just beginning to be written. Up until this time, the fledgling church in Rome had been completely dependent on the Holy Spirit's enlightenment of the Old Testament, information from travelers from Jerusalem, and those with particularly unique spiritual wisdom like the husband and wife team of Aquila and Priscilla. So, Romans was truly a breath of fresh air to these early Christians.

- **Reason for writing:** In Rom 1:11,15, Paul says that his reason for writing the letter was threefold: to encourage the Roman believers, establish their faith, and to impart to them some spiritual gift. As he wrote the thirteenth chapter, Paul must have been aware of some developing problem within the small church in Rome (chapters 12-15). It is plausible that Priscilla and Aquila, who had been deported from Italy by Emperor Claudius sometime between 49 and 52 A.D., may have informed Paul of the troubles in the church once they met up with him in Corinth (Acts 18:1-3). Having learned of the "troublesome" Jews in Rome who were the cause of the Claudius's mass deportation of Christians and Jews, it is reasonable to conclude that Paul felt compelled to instruct the believers in Rome as to how they should co-exist with Roman rule.

  In 54 A.D., Nero had ascended to power after Claudius had experienced an untimely death from eating poisonous mushrooms and Paul would have most likely been aware of this development. It is helpful to note that at the time Paul wrote Romans in 56 A.D., Nero's close adviser Seneca was still alive and had not retired, so Nero had not yet turned into the tyrant he would eventually become around 64 A.D. when Rome was decimated by a fire that he blamed on the Christians. Even

so, it was under Nero's totalitarian reign that Paul instructed the Roman believers to submit for "conscience's sake." Rome, and the Christians living there, obviously held a very special place in Paul's heart and mind.

- **Theological Implications:** Romans, as a whole, is a letter of instruction on doctrine and is central to the Christian faith. In chapter 13:1-5, Paul tells the young Christians, who may have been closely tied to the Jewish community in Rome, to submit to the Emperor's rule. Remember, things were not too difficult for the Christians during the early years of Nero's rule, so we have to wonder what these believers were doing that necessitated Paul's admonition to submit to their earthly rulers. Interestingly, although there are numerous unproven theories, the Scriptures are silent about the controversy. But one thing is certain – Paul believed Christians should be known for their *general* respect for authority.

So, with this analysis as a backdrop, the church in Rome is instructed by Paul to obey their Roman governmental authorities.

Romans 13:1-2

In verses 1-2, Paul begins by saying:

> "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves." (Rom 13:1-2, NKJV)

Carrying this 1st century admonition to the 21st century, there is no getting around it – if Paul wrote this passage by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, then Rom 13:1-5 clearly teach that God is sovereign over governments and that Christians must submit to their governmental authorities. Frankly, Paul is not the only apostle who makes this argument; the Apostle Peter took the same position when he wrote:

> "Therefore, submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, **14** or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. **15** For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men –" (1 Pet 2:13-15, NKJV)

The unavoidable question is how do we reconcile what Paul and Peter teach with the examples we have already seen where believers "righteously" defied governmental authority? Ironically, by refusing to remain silent about their own faith, even Paul and Peter were themselves often at odds with the authorities of their day. In fact, their defiance was so strident; it eventually led to the martyrdom of both. Therefore, it would seem extremely hypocritical for these two apostles to demand *unlimited* submission to government when they, themselves, lived and ministered a good deal of the time in open

defiance of it. And since we know that Paul and Peter were no hypocrites, how do we solve this dilemma?

The answer is actually simpler that it may seem. If we compare passages like Rom 13:1 and 1 Pet 2:13-15 to other passages where believers honored God by defying authority, it becomes clear that, while the Bible teaches a principle of *general* submission to all in positions of authority, it also teaches that when those authorities violate God's higher laws, believers have no choice but to resist. This, I believe, is what happened in the cases of the Hebrew midwives, Esther, Daniel, etc. If these believers had submitted to the authorities of their day, they would have been disobeying God's higher laws such as protecting innocent human life, not worshipping false gods, and being faithful to preach the Gospel. And this is the critical point to understand – there is a higher law to which believers must submit than earthly authority. This is the key to properly understanding Rom 13:1-2.

When we then consider how Rom 13:1-2 apply to those of us living in a representative republic, there are a number of things we must understand. First, we must remember that in 1776-1783, God, in His sovereign providence, allowed a representative republic to be formed in the American colonies. According to the *Declaration of Independence*, our foundational document, government derives its just powers from the "consent of the governed." Therefore, in our representative form of government, the PEOPLE are the governing authorities and it is to the "consent of the governed" that Christians must submit
– not to the governing bodies per se, unless those bodies are acting in accordance with God's principles and are executing the will of the people.

In these United States, we, therefore, have the luxury of insisting that God's higher law be determinative for the Christian. Thus, in our constitutional republic, when a branch of the federal government, such as the U.S. Supreme Court, issues an unconstitutional ruling that makes the murder of the preborn "legal," the Christian is duty bound to defy that ruling – mainly because God's higher law commands, "Thou shall not murder."

Of course, the question naturally arises, "How do we have the authority, and the responsibility, to defy the Supreme Court and other laws that are not consistent with God's higher law and our founding principles?" The answer is found in a deeper understanding of our unique system of government here in the states.

Our system of government is based on an organizing principle known as *federalism.* James Madison, known as the "chief architect of the Constitution," writing in *Federalist #45*, provides us a succinct and salient definition of federalism, as the Framers understood it in 1776-1788:

> "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce; with which last the power of taxation will, for the most part, be connected. The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the

> objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, and the internal
> order, improvement, and prosperity of the state."

Generally, the states intended for the new federal government they were creating to have very limited powers – called the "enumerated powers," found in Sec. I, Art. 8 of the U.S. Constitution. The Framers believed that the government closest to the people should be the strongest. Therefore, the states, where the people actually live, work, raise families, etc., retained the greatest amount of power and delegated (not surrendered) to the federal government "few and defined" powers. This would ensure that if the federal government ever abused its power by overreaching and became tyrannical or totalitarian, the people in the states would be able to interpose and stop it. Although this may be a revolutionary thought in the 21st century, it is completely consistent with the principles of our founding. James Madison actually wrote this in the *Virginia Resolution* in 1798:

> "… in case of a deliberate, palpable, and dangerous exercise of other powers, not granted by the said compact, the states who are parties thereto, have the right, and are in duty bound, to interpose for arresting the progress of the evil, …"

In *Federalist Paper #33*, Framer Alexander Hamilton added:

> "If the federal government should overpass the just bounds of its authority and make a tyrannical use of its powers, the people, whose creature it is, must appeal to the standard they have formed, and take such measures to redress the injury done to the Constitution as the exigency may suggest and prudence justify."

We must recognize that America was not a "monolithic nation" at its founding – it was thirteen distinct and sovereign colonies uniting together to resist an overreaching central government in England. The critical thing to understand is that in doing so, the colonies had no intention of surrendering the entirety of their sovereignty to the alliance – and the same goes for the states when they formed the Union and the federal government later after the War of Independence was won. (See *Federalist Papers 33* & *45,* the *Virginia Resolution* & the *Kentucky Resolution*)

When the *Declaration of Independence* was written and signed by the 2nd Continental Congress, these thirteen colonies became thirteen separate and sovereign states with these words:

> "That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved;"

Nothing has changed since those words were penned. The "Free and Independent States" have never surrendered their original sovereignty to the federal government in Washington D.C. It naturally follows then, that since the states *delegated* the federal government's powers to it, they could, in cases of serious federal abuse of power, take those delegated powers away.

Consequently, Oklahoma (and every other state for that matter) is not subservient to Washington D.C. If Washington oversteps its enumerated powers, "the free and independent" people of Oklahoma have no obligation to obey. This *revolutionary* thought was actually articulated by Thomas Jefferson:

> "… that whensoever the general government assumes undelegated powers, its acts are unauthoritative, void, and of no force …"[1]

Sadly, we have allowed the federal government to "assume" so many "undelegated powers," specifically through the federal courts, that we must honestly ask, "How could anyone say today that Washington D.C.'s powers are "few and defined" as Madison and the other Framers intended?" I believe our federal government has so utterly violated the *Madisonian* definition of federalism that it has truly lost its legitimacy to govern. Only by restoring a proper and dignified relationship between the state and federal governments can we step away from the *tyranny of the courts* and actually honor the original intent of our founding principles and the blood shed in securing our independence and freedom.

So, when Rom 13:2 warns that resisting governmental authority is tantamount to resisting God and that those who do so will be judged, then when government acts within its proper, godly role, and the people refuse to submit, they *are truly* sinning and *will* face the appropriate judgment from the government and God. But, in a representative republic where the people, under God, are the ultimate "authority," when their state/federal government or the U.S. Supreme Court issue unrighteous, unreasonable laws/decrees that resist the authority of the People and violate the righteous principles of God, then it is the government that is "resisting the ordinance of God" – not the people. In this instance, the governmental authorities are the ones "bringing judgment/condemnation upon themselves."

Applying Rom 13:1-2 is only possible, of course, in a *moral* and *religious* culture – an immoral and irreligious culture naturally has no regard for God's principles. Our Framers, believing that only a moral and religious (the Framers would have been referring primarily to Christianity) people is capable of self-governance, openly articulated this principle. For example, Pres. George Washington wrote in his 1796 farewell address:

> "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of Patriotism, who should labour to subvert these great Pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of Men and citizens. … where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the Oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in Courts of Justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion. … reason and experience both forbid us to expect that National morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."[2]

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[1] Jefferson, Thomas, *Kentucky Resolution,* 1798.

[2] Washington, George, "Farwell Address, Sept. 19, 1796," University of Virginia, The Washington Papers, http://gwpapers.virginia.edu/documents_gw/farewell/transcript.html

Pres. John Adams agreed by writing in Oct. 11, 1798:

> "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. … Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."[3]

But someone may ask, "What happens when the people are *immoral* and *irreligious*? Framer Benjamin Franklin answered that question in 1787:

> "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters."[4]

According to Franklin then, those societies that abandon morality taught by religion will, generally, lose their freedom and be ruled by ever-increasingly powerful government.

Essentially, I believe it is really no more complicated than that. In our representative republic, if the People of some states understand abortion to be wrong, they have the authority to stop it; and the state government, federal government, or the U.S. Supreme Court does not have the authority to force the evil upon them. If the government will not cooperate, then according to the *Declaration,* the People have the authority to "alter" their government to reflect their will. This is not sinful disobedience to Scripture, rebellion, or anarchy – it is living in accordance with our founding documents and our finest American traditions.

Romans 13:3-5

Additionally, it is important to realize that Rom 13:3-4 makes a clear distinction between *godly* and an *ungodly/tyrannical* government:

> "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. **4** For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. **5** Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake." (Rom 13:3-5, NKJV)

Clearly, Paul believed *proper* government, one worthy of a Christian's submission, is the kind of government that *rewards* the doers of good and *punishes* the doers of evil. Only

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[3] John Adams, *The Works of John Adams, Second President of the United States:* with a Life of the Author, Notes and Illustrations, by his Grandson Charles Francis Adams (Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1856), Vol. 9. Chapter: To the Officers of the First Brigade of the Third Division of the Militia of Massachusetts.

[4] Franklin, Benjamin, The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, Vol. 9, (Macmillan, 1906), p. 569, Letter: To Messrs. The Abbes Chalut and Arnaud, Philadelphia, April 1787

this kind of government could legitimately be called “God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.” Who would be so ridiculous as to claim that a government that punishes the *doers of good* and rewards the *doers of evil* is a minister of God? This, indeed, would stretch credulity beyond the breaking point.

It is also helpful to note that Paul teaches the principle of submission in passages other than Rom 13. For example, in Eph 5:22 Paul teaches that wives are to submit to the authority of their husbands, in Eph 6:1 Paul teaches that children should submit to the authority of their parents, and in 1 Tim 3:5, 5:17 Paul teaches that the congregation must submit to its pastor(s). But, I know of very few who believe this means that wives, children, and church congregations must submit *without limits* – no matter what is required of them. Therefore, I believe, to be consistent, we must interpret Paul’s use of submission in Rom 13 to be *limited* rather than unlimited in nature.

Additionally, Paul realized that cooperation is not always an option. In Rom 12:18 he writes, “If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.” The “if it is possible” phrase clearly implies that *unlimited* cooperation or submission is not always the proper response – especially in the case of ungodly authority that is committing unconscionable acts of evil such as Pharaoh’s order to murder all the Jewish baby boys or the Nazis’ slaughter of the Jews in 1930s-40s Germany.

So in summation, a balanced, reasonable interpretation of Rom 13 teaches that citizens, especially Christians, should submit to their government. But when doing so brings them into conflict with God’s higher laws, believers not only have the *right*, they have the *responsibility* to defy that authority and attempt to stop the evil – especially if they live in a *representative republic* like ours where all political power ultimately rests in “the people.” Of course, when they do so, they must anticipate the possible negative consequences that may come because there is an inherent risk involved when the people of God resist ungodly and evil totalitarian governments – like the Roman government under Nero. With all of the biblical heroes listed earlier, each was subject to the consequences of their overt or clandestine acts of defiance. Thus, each Christian, when choosing to defy a totalitarian regime must be willing to accept the consequences. Thankfully, by the grace of God, we who live in these United States do not live under a totalitarian regime – at least not yet.

Other heroes who defied their government

Interestingly, history outside of the Bible also provides numerous examples of good people, whose courage we celebrate today, who refused to submit to evil laws and boldly disobeyed them – fully prepared for whatever consequences came. Our Framers clearly fall into this category. Abolitionists living in 19th century America, who saw slavery as unconscionable and defied the law by using options like the Underground Railroad to assist runaway slaves, are such heroes. The citizens of Wisconsin are heralded by many for their refusal to submit to the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and for offering sanctuary to any runaway slave who could make it to their state. We rightly honor people like Corrie Ten Boom and her family, Oskar Shindler, and Dietrich Bonheoffer for defying the law to

save Jews and other political dissidents from the evil clutches of the Nazis. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his followers are considered heroes for defying the Jim Crow laws to establish justice for all people. Are we now prepared to declare these (and many others who acted accordingly throughout history) sinners, rebels, and anarchists for their defiance to evil decrees?
Are those who claim that we must obey government (specifically the U.S. Supreme Court) in all instances, prepared to say that believers should have obeyed *Dred Scott v. Sanford* where the Supreme Court said that Black people were property instead of people and could be owned and sold like chattel? Do they believe that Christians must obey *Buck v. Bell* where the Supreme Court said that it is constitutional to force sterilization on American citizens? Would they insist that Christians support *Korematsu v. U.S.* where the Supreme Court said that it was constitutional for the government to round up citizens of Japanese descent and force them into interment camps, causing many to lose homes, businesses, and sometimes families – even though they had done nothing wrong?

Must those who believe the Bible is God's Word bow in *unlimited* submission to court rulings like those while offering zero assistance to the oppressed? Is there no recourse for the people when their government becomes evil? Is waiting *patiently and prayerfully* until a wayward government sees the error of its ways the only biblical option? These are critical questions and the way we answer them will have far reaching ramifications on how we will live in Oklahoma and whether or not we will remain a free people. (**Remember:** in a representative republic like ours, the people, not the government, hold all of the political power.)

What our Framers actually believed

Thankfully, the Framers of our republic understood that the people, not government, are the *sovereigns*. They believed that people, not governments, are "endowed by their Creator" with unalienable rights – including the right to create and correct their own governments. They did not view defiance to tyrannical government as sinful rebellion. In fact, the *Declaration of Independence*, our national birth certificate, opens with a statement of respectful defiance:

> "When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them,"

Obviously, the Framers did not believe in *unlimited* submission to the English Crown. Indeed, they had attempted to work out their differences with the King and Parliament, but once the British proved unwilling, the Framers boldly declared their independence. Were they wrong to do so? We should be thankful they did not believe they were.

Thomas Jefferson wrote in the *Declaration*, "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed," thus clarifying that the seat of governmental authority is "the people." Therefore, proper government answers to the

people – not the other way around. Jefferson then went on to list the options available to the people if their government ever ceases to fulfill its proper role:

> "That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness."

According to our Framers, if a government ever becomes *improper*, it is the "right" and "duty" (stated later in the Declaration) of the people to "alter," "abolish," or "throw it off" (stated later). So much for unlimited submission. In 1928, Alice Baldwin, PhD. and Duke University historian, explained the prevailing philosophy of government in America's founding era:

> "Probably the most fundamental principle of the American constitutional system is the principle that no one is bound to obey an unconstitutional act. … No single idea was more fully stressed, no principle more often repeated, through the first sixty years of the eighteenth century, than that governments must obey law and that he who resisted one in authority who was violating that law was not himself a rebel but a protector of law."[5]

She is absolutely correct, and many examples could be provided to prove it. For example, after the Colonies declared their independence, the task of designing a seal for the new government was assigned to Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin. They presented their proposed design to the Continental Congress on August 20, 1776. Although not adopted, the design depicted a circle with a drawing of the drowning of Pharaoh's army in the Red Sea with Moses and the Israelites looking on in its center and the phrase "Rebellion To Tyrants Is Obedience To God" around the circle's perimeter. Clearly, those three Framers did not believe in *unlimited* submission.

Resistance to tyranny has always been in the finest traditions of our culture. Ironically, it was not until preachers and politicians started preaching their *unlimited submission to government* message that Americans embraced a slavish posture toward their government. I am convinced that our Framers would be rolling over in their graves if they could see us now!

Critical to our understanding of why our ancestors saw things the way they did is the considerable influence of the preachers of their day. That's right – there was a time in America when preachers/pastors did not preach *slavish*, *unlimited* submission to government. Instead, they stood in their pulpits railing against British tyranny and urging their congregations to stand for liberty, freedom, and independence. Consequently, the British hated them, calling them the "Black Robed Regiment," and treated them as dangerous enemies to the Empire.

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[5] Baldwin, Alice M. *The New England Clergy and the American Revolution*. (New York: F. Ungar Pub., 1958, chapter 12, p. 169.

These "patriot preachers" were confident that if the British government was intent on trampling the God-given, unalienable rights of the people, it had forfeited its legitimate claim as a "punisher of evil," and had, itself, *become* that evil. Convinced that the illegitimate actions of the King and Parliament were forcing them into conflict, they believed that the Church had a responsibility to do something about it. And since God had not forbidden the Colonists from defending themselves, numerous pastors and spiritual leaders of high moral character/reputation encouraged a stand. It seemed abundantly clear to them that standing *for* what is right sometimes requires standing *against* what is wrong. Their conclusion: if the sword could be justly used to punish an evil individual, it could also be justly used to punish an evil ruler/government as well – be he king or Parliament.

The following sermon excerpts from leading American preachers of the 18th century illustrate how a good number of the preachers understood the subject of submission to governmental authority in their day:

Joseph Lathrop's sermon, "A Sermon On A Day Appointed For Publick Thanksgiving," preached in Springfield, Massachusetts, Dec 14, 1787:

> "Perhaps it will be asked, 'Is there no case in which a people may resist government?' Yes, there is one such case; and that is, when rulers usurp a power oppressive to the people, and continue to support it by military force in contempt of every respectful remonstrance. In this case the body of the people have a natural right to unite their strength for the restoration of their own constitutional government."[6]

Elizur Goodrich's sermon, "The Principles of Civil Union and Happiness Considered and Recommended," preached in Hartford, Connecticut in 1787:

> "When a constitutional government is converted into tyranny, and the laws, rights and properties of a free people are openly invaded, there ought not to be the least doubt but that a remedy is provided in the laws of God and reason, for their preservation; nor ought resistance in such case to be called rebellion."[7]

Jonathan Mayhew's 1749-50 multi-discourse sermon**,** "A Discourse Concerning Unlimited Submission And Non-Resistance To The Higher Powers":

> "No government is to be submitted to, at the expense of that which is the sole end of all government – the common good and safety of society. … The only reason of the institution of civil government and the only rational ground of submission to it is the common safety and utility. If therefore, in any case, the common safety and utility would

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[6] Lathrop, Joseph, "A Sermon On A Day Appointed For Publick Thanksgiving," Sandoz, Political Sermons of the American Founding Era: 1730-1805, 2 vols, Foreword by Ellis Sandoz (2nd ed. Indianapolis: Liberty Fund, 1998). Vol. 1. Chapter: 29.

[7] Goodrich, Elizur, "The Principles of Civil Union and Happiness Considered and Recommended," preached in Hartford, CN, 1787, Sandoz, Political Sermons of the American Founding Era: 1730-1805, 2 vols, Foreword by Ellis Sandoz (2nd ed. Indianapolis: Liberty Fund, 1998). Vol. 1. Chapter: 31.

not be promoted by submission to government, but the contrary, there is no ground or motive for obedience and submission, but for the contrary. … [But] the duty of unlimited obedience, whether active or passive, can be argued neither from the manner of expression here used, nor from the general scope and design of the passage [Romans 13:1-7].

If rulers are a terror to good works, and not to the evil; if they are not ministers for good to society, but for evil and distress, by violence and oppression; if they execute wrath upon sober, peaceable persons, who do their duty as members of society; … it is plain that the apostle's argument for submission does not reach them; they are not the same, but different persons from those whom he characterizes; and who must be obeyed according to his reasoning. …

Rulers have no authority from god to do mischief. If those who bear the title of civil rulers, do not perform the duty of civil rulers, but act directly counter to the sole end and design of their office; if they injure and oppress their subjects instead of defending their rights and doing them good; they have not the least pretense to be honored, obeyed and rewarded, according to the apostle's argument. … It is blasphemy to call tyrants and oppressors, God's ministers. They are more properly the messengers of Satan to buffet us. … The argument here used [Rom 13] no more proves it to be a sin to resist such rulers, than it does, to resist the devil, that he may flee from us. … No rulers are properly God's ministers, but such as are just, ruling in the fear of God. … [N]o civil rulers are to be obeyed when they enjoin things that are inconsistent with the commands of God: All such disobedience is lawful and glorious; … All commands running counter to the declared will of the supreme legislator of heaven and earth, are null and void: And therefore disobedience to them is a duty, not a crime. …

The king is as much bound by his oath, not to infringe the legal rights of the people, as the people are bound to yield subjection to him. From whence it follows, that as soon as the prince sets himself up above law, he loses the king in the tyrant: he does to all intents and purposes, unking himself, by acting out of, and beyond, that sphere which the constitution allows him to move in. And in such cases, he has no more right to be obeyed, than any inferior officer who acts beyond his commission. The subject's obligation to allegiance then ceases of course: and to resist him, is no more rebellion, than to resist any foreign invader. …

When once magistrates act contrary to their office, and the end of their institution; when they rob and ruin the public, instead of being guardians of its peace and welfare; they immediately cease to be the ordinance and ministers of God; and no more deserve that glorious character than common pirates and highwaymen.

Not to discontinue our allegiance, in this case, would be to join with the sovereign in promoting the slavery and misery of that society, the welfare of which, we ourselves, as well as our sovereign, are indispensably obliged to secure and promote, as far as in us lies."[8]

Samuel West's election sermon, "Discourse VI," preached to the Massachusetts Legislature in Boston, MA, May 29, 1776:

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[8] Mayhew, Jonathan, 1749-50 multi-discourse sermon, "A Discourse Concerning Unlimited Submission And Non-Resistance To The Higher Powers", Thornton, John Wingate (1860). *The pulpit of the American revolution: Or, The political sermons of the period of 1776 With a historical introduction, notes, and illustrations (*Boston: Gould and Lincoln), pp. 39-104.

> "A slavish submission to tyranny is a proof of a very sordid and base mind. … all good magistrates, while they faithfully discharge the trust reposed in them, ought to be religiously and conscientiously obeyed. … The reason why the magistrate is called the minister of God is because he is to protect, encourage, and honor them that do well, and to punish them that do evil; therefore it is our duty to submit to them, not merely for fear of being punished by them, but out of regard to the divine authority, under which they are deputed to execute judgment and to do justice. … if magistrates have no authority but what they derive from the people; … if the whole end and design of their institution is to promote the general good, and to secure to men their just rights, it will follow, that when they act contrary to the end and design of their creation they cease being magistrates, and the people which gave them their authority have the right to take it from them again. … when a people find themselves cruelly oppressed by the parent state, they have an undoubted right to throw off the yoke, and to assert their liberty, … for, in this case, by the law of self-preservation, which is the first law of nature, they have not only an undoubted right, but it is their indispensable duty, if they cannot be redressed any other way, to renounce all submission to the government that has oppressed them, and set up an independent state of their own, … No man, therefore, can be a good member of the community that is not as zealous to oppose tyranny as he is ready to obey magistracy. …
>
> Further: if magistrates are no farther ministers of God than they promote the good of the community, then obedience to them neither is nor can be unlimited; for it would imply a gross absurdity to assert that, when magistrates are ordained by the people solely for the purpose of being beneficial to the state, they must be obeyed when they are seeking to ruin and destroy it. This would imply that men were bound to act against the great law of self-preservation, and to contribute their assistance to their own ruin and destruction, in order that they may please and gratify the greatest monsters in nature, who are violating the laws of God and destroying the rights of mankind. Unlimited submission and obedience is due to none but God alone. … Whenever, then, the ruler encourages them that do evil, and is a terror to those that do well, i.e., as soon as he becomes a tyrant, he forfeits his authority to govern, and becomes the minister of Satan, and, as such, ought to be opposed. … Reason and revelation, we see, do both teach us that our obedience to rulers is not unlimited, but that resistance is not only allowable, but an indispensable duty in the case of intolerable tyranny and oppression."[9]

Conclusion

In conclusion, both a proper exegesis of Scripture and a careful study of history show that *unlimited* submission to government is completely unreasonable and is not required of Christians – or any one else for that matter. To argue otherwise, as I mentioned earlier, stretches the bounds of credulity.

Consider: had we been alive in the 19th century, would we have done nothing while our neighbors were trapped in slavery? Had we been living in Germany in the 1930s-40s,

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[9] West, Samuel, election sermon, "Discourse VI," preached to the Massachusetts Legislature in Boston, MA, on May 29, 1776, Thornton, John Wingate (1860). *The pulpit of the American revolution: Or, The political sermons of the period of 1776 With a historical introduction, notes, and illustrations (*Boston: Gould and Lincoln), pp 259-322.

would we have submitted to the Nazis and allowed millions of our neighbors to be wrongfully imprisoned and slaughtered without lifting a finger in defiance?

If the answers to those and similar questions is a resounding “No,” then how can we argue today that we must submit to ungodly, unjust laws and decisions of the Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court? Are we required by Scripture to submit to *Roe v. Wade*, a Supreme Court decision that has allowed millions of innocent unborn babies to be murdered? How can anyone argue that we should submit or “bide our time” until that *magical justice* is appointed to the Court who will reverse the killing – all while millions continue to be murdered in the meantime? Given the evil of this single Court decision, how can anyone argue that it would be *sinful*, *illegal* or *anarchistic* to defy it? I am convinced it would be the highest act of wickedness not to do so!

To borrow a few words from the Christian patriot, Patrick Henry, “I know not what course others may take, but as for me,” I refuse to bow in blind servitude to the state or federal government. I believe it is time for Christians in America (where governmental authority resides with *the people*) to decide if we will be governed by the “consent of the governed” or the “consent of the courts.”

Notes:

Biblical Economics

Politics: Easy as P.I.E.

A political guide for the rest of us

Bob McEwen

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Introduction

Have you ever wondered why some people are rich, while others seem to struggle financially?

Have you ever wondered why some nations' docks are filled with cargo, their stores brimming with goods, while other nations are filled with starving people, abandoned stores and empty shelves?

Well, there are a few fundamental principles that, when understood, bring prosperity, but if ignored, bring poverty. They are the indispensable ingredients of wealth.

While these principles are not complicated, they are very important. This book will identify and explain these principles.

Fundamentally, the wealth of a nation and the resulting prosperity of its citizens hinges upon one thing: it's politics.

"But I don't understand politics, and besides, I'm not really very interested." If these are thoughts you share, then you have come to the right place, for you will discover that understanding is as "easy as P.I.E.!" And once you understand, you will care.

As you will soon see in the pages that follow, politics is simply a question of whether people are allowed to make decisions for themselves. We make that choice when we cast our ballot.

Thus, we select our political leaders on primarily two criteria: integrity and economics. That is, the politician's integrity and his economic philosophy. Hence, the formula:

Politics = Integrity + Economics

or

P.=I.+E.

Just as a finished apple pie is a melding together of simple parts, so too is politics. Here's the difference: While I won't promise to teach you how to make a great apple pie, I will promise to teach you how to intelligently and responsibly participate in politics.

After all, as citizens who are empowered with the privilege of electing our political leaders, we are ultimately accountable for the success or failure, wealth or poverty of our country. If we wish to pass to future generations a free country with its riches and power intact, we must choose leaders who will protect freedom and build prosperity. Let us learn how to do just that.

CHAPTER ONE: POLITICS

"BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE LABELS!"

P*rinciple*: The higher the taxes, the greater the government's control.

I*mpact*: The more money that is taken away from you through taxes, the more limited are your individual choices

E*xplanation*: Thomas Jefferson once said that "Freedom is having choices." When the government takes your money through taxes, it reduces your choices, thereby reducing your freedom.

The labels "Free Enterprise" and "Socialism" merely identify whether a country or an individual is in support of more or less freedom. While these may be terms that you cannot currently define, they are concepts that you currently know. That is, there are only two basic economic ideas, and you already understand them both.

THE POLITICAL YARDSTICK

Picture, if you will, a large yardstick. On one side, all the way to the left, is government control of the tools of production. In other words, the government controls the businesses.

ECONOMIC IDEA #1:

Socialism Is government control of the tools of production

On the far right is complete freedom. The government takes nothing. You can own anything you want to own, earn anything you want to earn. You get to keep it all.

Along the gamut of this imaginary yardstick, you will find all of the various governments throughout the world. Those on the far left are Socialist. In countries such as North Korea and Vietnam, the government controls everything. We should note that it is not a coincidence that all of the countries on the far left are also the poorest countries in the world.

As you move along this virtual yardstick towards the right, the wealth of the nation's increases. As we will see, the more freedom citizens have from government control, the greater the wealth of the nation.

On the far right we find pure Free Enterprise. Here, a person my wake up in the morning and decide to sell his hog. He finds a willing buyer, they agree on the price, and he sells his hog. All of this is done without a government official being involved.

ECONOMIC IDEA #2:

Free Enterprise is enterprise free of government interference

In other words, Free Enterprise is the natural order of things. It is a willing buyer and a willing seller freely engaging in the transaction of a business enterprise.
Thus, the term "Free Enterprise." It is enterprise free of government interference.

Of course, very few transactions are completely independent of the government. After all, government money makes the exchange work more smoothly. So, perfect free enterprise is rare.

On the other hand, only in a prison does the government control all exchanges, so pure Socialism is also rare.

As a result, the economic environment in which we work is somewhere on this spectrum between Free Enterprise and Socialism. Political elections are the tool we use to decide where on that spectrum you and I will live. Over the next few pages, you will be able to judge for yourself which system you prefer.

Over the next few pages, you will be able to judge for yourself which system you prefer.

OUR NUMBER OF CHOICES DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF OUR FREEDOM

Let us return to our principle: **the higher the taxes, the greater the government's control.** And remember, the greater the government's control, the fewer the choices.

The best rule of thumb to judge where a nation falls on the political yardstick is to look at its overall tax rate. The question is, how much of all that is produced in a country is taken by the government? As you may well have guessed, those governments on the left of the political yardstick take the most; those on the right take the least.

In the United States, up until the 1950's, we were at the 20% mark. That is, government took 20% of a person's income. People put 80% of what they earned into their pocket.

Today, we are at the 40% mark – just about 40% of everything we make goes to the government, and we put the other sixty percent in our pocket. While we are still on the side of freedom, we have spent the last several decades inching ever closer to the side of Socialism.

And so, over the course of every election, you and I very simply do this: We decide whether or not to move that scale towards tyranny and government control, or towards Free Enterprise.

There is a widely told story of a frog in a pot. As the story goes, if you put a frog into a pot of boiling water, it will immediately sense danger and it will jump out. However, if you place this same frog in a pot of room temperature water and then place the pot over a flame, the frog until contentedly sit in the pot until it boils to death. The moral of the story? The frog only recognized a threat to its survival if the threat was violently abrupt.

It is no different for you and me and the freedom we enjoy as Americans. It is for this reason that the framers of the Constitution warned us of the discreet threats to our liberties. "I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of the freedom of the people by gradually and silent encroachment of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations." Such were the words of James Madison at the 1788 Virginia Ratification Convention. Such is the threat we face today.

In a free country such as ours, the gradual and silent encroachment to our liberties – the ever-warming water – come in the form of taxes.

"How does that happen?", you ask. Let us suppose that after a full week's work, you are given your just pay. You have earned $100.00. Now, there are only two people that can take this money away from you. The first is a criminal. A criminal may have a gun and take some or all of your money, thereby reducing your choices as to how you will use that $100.00.

The second is the government. It also has a gun and can take your money away from you. It also infringes upon our freedom of choice. The result? Fewer choices, less freedom and ultimately, a lower standard of living.

UNCLE SAM:
OUR SILENT PARTNER

The typical family in the 1950's consisted of a husband who went off to work every day and supported the family, and a wife who filled the vital role of homemaker.

In the 2000's, the typical family consists of two working spouses who, combined, earn barely enough to make ends meet. The woman tends to make less than the man. She generally contributes 40% to the household, while he contributes 60%.

Coincidentally, the tax rate in the U.S. is roughly 50%. As a result, a woman will work an entire year and at the end of the year, what will she have to show for her dedication and effort? In effect, she will place every penny she earns in to Uncle Sam's coffers. She will work an entire year to fund the many government programs which, in their inception sound wonderful, but in their implementation, require more taxes to make them work.

OUR FREEDOM OF CHOICE DETERMINES OUR STANDARD OF LIVING

Think of a menu in a restaurant. Suppose that the most expensive item on the menu costs $50.00 and you have a $50.00 bill in your pocket. You have complete freedom to choose anything on the menu. Your choices are unlimited.

Now let us assume that either a criminal or the government takes $10.00 away from you. There will now be some items on the menu that you can no longer afford. Assume, $30.00 was taken from you, leaving you with only $20.00 – fewer choices

still. What has happened? Your freedom has been restricted. Though you would like to choose the $50.00 item on the menu, you cannot. Try though you might, you cannot increase the quality of the meal you will receive because your choices have been limited by the government.

While you may not be distraught over the loss of choices on a menu, the principle applies in all areas. If money is taken away from you, your loss of choices results in a lower standard of living. The size home in which you live, the kind of car you drive, the length of vacation you can take – all of these are directly related to your income and how much of it you are allowed to keep.

Thus, we see that your standard of living is directly impacted when either the government or the force of a criminal element takes your money from you.

It naturally follows that whenever a politician uses the police powers of the state to take money away from you, you are left with fewer choices and a lower standard of living. Conversely, the more money that people are permitted to keep, the greater amount of choices, the greater their freedom, and ultimately, the higher their standard of living.

One government tilts toward the right of the political yardstick, conferring on its citizens the freedom of choice to increase their standard of living.

THE SHIFTING STANDARD OF LIVING

In the 1950's, the typical American family rarely ate out – it was considered an activity in which only the rich regularly participated. The typical family had one television and one telephone – it was black and sat in the middle of the home. Rarely did the typical family purchase a new vehicle. If someone did, it was a novelty item for all in the neighborhood to inspect. Air conditioned homes were rare and airconditioned cars were virtually non-existent.

The standard of living in America is ever-shifting. Today, the average person in America who is on welfare nets $2000 per year more in equivalent dollars than did the average family in 1950. No country in the world has a greater standard of living than do we Americans. Western Europe is the closest, and the average resident of Western Europe lives on less square footage, is less likely to have a telephone or air conditioning, than the average American on welfare, who by our definition is considered poverty-stricken!

One government tilts towards the left of the political yardstick, restricting its citizens' freedom to choose a greater standard of living and in fact foisting upon them a low standard of living.

As we discussed earlier, it is up to you and me to choose which system we prefer. It is up to you and me to protect that system when we cast our vote.

RECOGNIZING THE LABELS

Since people do not walk around with signs that say, "Free Enterpriser" or "Socialist" on them, it is important that we learn to recognize a person's belief system through his words. Now that you know what the characteristics of each system are, you will for the rest of your life be able to recognize that, "This person thinks like me," or "This person thinks in a way that I believe is destructive to our system."

When you hear a politician promoting free housing and universal medical care, you will immediately know that he is inclined towards government control. When you hear a politician speak of lower taxes and warn against "big government," you will immediately know that this person favors Free Enterprise.

Thus, the left side will always want more taxes; the right side will always want less. The left side believes government should have its hand in health care, utilities, and the operations of private industry. Fundamentally, the left believes that government is more capable of making the best decisions for people than are the people themselves.

The right believes the opposite. They believe that government should only do that which we cannot do for ourselves. The right looks to the Declaration of Independence for the government's authority: "For this cause, governments are instituted upon men…for the preservation of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." The right therefore only supports taxation for activities that meet this standard, such as the development of a strong national defense to preserve our liberty.

We could continue with example after example, but here is the point: once you understand the two radically different ways of thinking, you can assess whether the politics that a particular candidate advocates will lead our country towards

Socialism, or towards Free Enterprise. As was mentioned just a few short moments ago, you must determine which system you prefer.

CHAPTER TWO: ECONOMICS

"WHY DO SOME POLITICIANS MAKE THEIR CITIES AND NATIONS POOR?"

P*rinciple*: The greater the freedom, the greater the wealth.

I*mpact*: The more a country attempts to distribute wealth through government control, the more impoverished the country will become.

E*xplanation*: In addition to believing that government must make decisions for people because people are inherently incapable of making decisions for themselves, the left also believes that there is a set amount of wealth. They therefore favor government control and believe that it is up to the government to distribute it so that everyone can share it fairly.

Here is the problem**. If you have a fundamental failing in your understanding, you will come to wrong conclusions**. If you think you can get to Los Angeles from Memphis by driving East, no matter how fast you go, you will not get there because you have just such a fundamental misunderstanding.

The people on the left have a fundamental misunderstanding about wealth. They do not understand that wealth comes when free people under free enterprise *create*. They *create* a fax machine, *create* a telephone, create all of the wealth that in and of itself, whether it be coal or iron or steel, has no value. This is why the former Soviet Union was number two in the *world* in gold but was dreadfully poor. They had the resources. They did not have freedom.

Only in a free system are people able to create wealth

Only under freedom are people able to *create* wealth. The right never fears poverty because they know that whatever they encounter, they can always *create*, so they are in constant fear of running out of what they currently see, because they believe there is nothing that can be done about its depletion.

Just as you can identify a person's political philosophy through his words, so too can you identify his understanding of wealth. Those who fret endlessly that we are

going to overpopulate or run out of energy do not understand wealth. They do not understand that a country's wealth comes from *innovation* and that it is *unlimited*.

THE ECONOMY

Let us examine wealth in the context of the economy. The dictionary defines economics as "the social science concerned with the production, distribution, and concerned of goods and services." It is all of the stuff that we buy and sell in the whole country. The sum total of everything that is bought and sold is the country's economy.

Thus, if the news reports that we are experiencing an economic slump, it means that we are buying and selling fewer things. An economic upturn would be just the opposite. It's people buying and selling more things.

This ties in directly with what we discussed in the last chapter. Remember the menu? The more money we have, the more choices. The more money we have, the more things we can buy. The more money we have, the better our economy.

Most importantly, vibrant economy is the one that allows free people to be free to create way for us to do things that were previously impossible.

Have you ever wondered why America is the richest, most powerful nation on earth? It isn't that we work harder or that we're smarter. It isn't by accident that we create every year more inventions than the rest of the world combined. It isn't by accident that we have won more Nobel peace prizes than the rest of the world combined. We create more jobs, more music, more books, more community plays, and more symphonies than the rest of the world combined, because we have the most freedom to do so. Remember our principle: **The more freedom, the more wealth.**

THIRD PARTY PURCHASING

There is also more abundance in a free society because there is far less waste. For example, let us suppose that tomorrow afternoon you go to buy something for yourself. You care about two things – price and quality. In a restaurant, you scrutinize the menu and assess your hunger; you wonder

There is also more abundance in a free society because there is far less waste.

whether the entrée is worth nine or ten dollars. You may look at a car or even a bottle of water and evaluate how cold, how pure it is. You make all of those judgements about the price and the quality of an object and when those two meet, you purchase it.

But let us suppose that you are not buying something for yourself. you are in fact buying it for someone else. Since you are still paying for it, you care very much about the price. But you are a little more flexible on the quality. You think to yourself, "Mustard yellow" Yeah she'll like it!" We have all done it. We have all purchased things that we would not have bought for ourselves. We cared about the price, but we were much more flexible about the quality.

Let us take it one step further. Let us say that at your office there is a jar and for each time that a person is late, he is to deposit $5 into it. It fills with money all month long and finally at the end of the month there is $150 in it. Your boss notices that you are going out to lunch and asks if you wouldn't mind buy a prize for the end of the month drawing with the $150. You are happy to do so.

You embark upon the journey with the $150 in your pocket and lo and behold you spy a horrendous four-foot-tall green frog in the store window. Unable to resist the utterly useless gag gift, you purchase it and take it to the office store room.

The office raffle is then held and they open the door and present the prize: the frog. Everybody has a good laugh and it is fun. You spent money that was not your and you cared neither for the quality or the price.

Your office party purchase is called a "third party purchase." It is the purchase of something you will not consume with money that is not yours.

By definition, all government purchases are third party purchases. They are the purchases made with money that is not theirs and they are purchases made on behalf of someone else. So, will there be waste? You bet your bottom dollar there will – plenty of it.

By definition, all government purchases are third party purchases.

Again, that is why Abraham Lincoln said, "We want government to do only those things which we cannot do for ourselves." AS we discussed earlier, we cannot defend ourselves. So, will there be waste in the Department of Defense?

Absolutely. There will be waste in anything government does. Therefore, we wisely limit what it does.

Nations that fail to limit third party purchasing p that is, government control of the money – witness the wealth of their countries dissipate. The more money that goes to the government, the more third party purchasing, the poorer the nation. It is as predictable of a formula as is E=MC2.

While many compassionate voters support candidates who favor the programs, which tug on their heartstrings, they fail to recognize the equivalent tug on their purse strings. They simply misunderstand. Since they believe there is a limited amount of wealth (fundamental misunderstanding), they truly believe that the compassionate, caring thing to do is to elect the guy who favors government control (wrong conclusion). **To repeat, a fundamental failing in understanding will lead to wrong conclusions.** A pattern of such wrong conclusions will lead to greater government control, increased third party purchasing, and less freedom. It will suffocate the entrepreneur and deplete the wealth of any nation who follows it.

A fundamental failing in understanding will lead to wrong conclusions.

GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

The Ten Commandments contain 297 words.

The Bill of Rights is stated in 463 words.

The Lord's prayer has only 67.

The story of creation in the Bible uses only 200 words.

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address contains 271 words.

On the other hand, a recent Federal directive to regulate the price of cabbage contains 26,911 words.

PRICE SIGNALS

Let us return to our principle: **the greater the freedom, the greater the wealth.** Another reason a free economy increases wealth and government control decreases wealth is because of price signals.

A price signal operates in a free market and tells you if your product is of good quality and if it is well-priced. Unlike an entrepreneur, whose success or failure depends largely on price signals, the government is not equipped to accept price signals.

Suppose there is a parade and everyone is out on the street. It is hot and you, the entrepreneur, see cokes for sale down the street for one dollar. You know all of the people along the parade route are hot and thirsty and you think that people will be willing to pay some money for those cokes. You therefore buy twenty of them for a dollar each and you then walk along the curb and try to sell them for four dollars. Nobody buys. You lower your price to three dollars. Still, no takers. Finally, you reduce your price to two dollars and people start to hand over their money. Why? It was worth it for them not to have to leave their chairs and to walk the distance to buy the coke at a cheaper price.

What happened? The price mechanism showed what was the proper price to charge. Since government is not susceptible to that mechanism, under Socialism the government does thing over which you have no control. When you want to get your license plate, the government decides what it is going to charge and you have no choice: you must pay.

Whether it is health care or housing, the government is not susceptible to price signals.

Whether it is health care or housing, the government is not susceptible to price signals. As a result, they waste money and nations become poor.

THE ENTREPRENEUR

An entrepreneur is the person who accepts the risks and the responsibility for the operations of a business enterprise. It is the entrepreneurs who create wealth in a country. When government attempts to fairly distribute its country's wealth by

increasing taxes and engaging in third party purchasing, it hinders and often eliminates the activities of entrepreneurs.

Let us consider the example of Mr. and Mrs. Free Enterprise. Mr. and Mrs. FE both work full-time and decide that they would like to increase their standard of living. After all, they live in a Free Enterprise system and are thus free to do so.

Since Mr. and Mrs. FE have not had a profitable partnership with Uncle Sam, they must borrow money to start their business. That is, they must **assume risk**. They develop a business plan according to which they must quit their jobs, solicit customers, maintain accounting, maintain equipment, and hire laborers.

For the latter, they decide to hire Joe College. He is on his summer vacation and is looking for a way to make some extra cash before returning to school.

Mr. and Mrs. FE determine that they must make enough profit to do five things:

1) Pay back their lenders;
2) Provide for raw materials E.g. gas and oil;
3) Pay their laborers;
4) Pay themselves so that they can continue to provide for their family; and
5) Set some profit aside into a seed corn account i.e., **capital account**, so that when the lawn mower wears out they can replace it.

The lawn mower is called a **tool of production** and is a **capital investment**. If Mr. and Mrs. FE work hard enough and put enough in their **capital account**, they can then buy a second mower and hire a second laborer.

This is a fundamental fact: the capital account is there for the sole purpose of replacing equipment. If they use the money for something else, they must pay income tax on it. If they use it to replace their worn-out lawn mower, it is called a capital gain.

Who is allowed access to that account? Only two people. The first is Mr. Politician. He can pass a capital gains tax, which every year gets into that account and takes money away.

There is one other source that can access that account. Our friend Joe College is out mowing lawns and should step out from behind the bushes but Mr. Union Organizer. He says, “Joe, you pay me $15 per week and I’ll go negotiate your

agreement with Mr. FE. Because, you know Joe, if it weren't for us, you wouldn't have this job."

Joe College says, "Oh! I thought it was because of Mr. FE that I had this job." "No, no," say Mr. Union Organizer, "if it weren't for the Lawnmower Union, you wouldn't have a job at all. Listen, Joe, you pay me $15 per week and I'll get you a raise." The prospect of a raise sounds good to Joe, and so he hands over his $15.

Mr. Union then goes to Mr. FE. "Mr. FE, I've looked over your books and see that you have money in that capital account and we believe our people deserve more." Mr. FE is astonished. "Your people! Your people? Where were you and Joe College was wandering up and down the street looking for a job?"

"Listen," say Mr. Union, "if you don't pay Joe an extra $10 per day and give him Fridays off we'll quit working." Mr. FE thinks about this. "Well, then, we'll just hire someone else." "No, no, no," replies Mr. Union, "You can't do that. We got a law passes against you doing that. So, you make your decision by Sunday night or as of Monday, you'll be mowing lawns yourself." What happens? Mr. FE caves in to the coercive power of Mr. Union and takes money out of the capital account to pay Joe College $10 more per day. This is a critical lesson in wealth creation**. Nations that**

want to create jobs protect capital gains and discourage capital gains tax. That is why the capital gains tax in Japan, Hong Kong, Germany and South Korea are zero. In rich, smart countries capital gains tax is zero and entrepreneurism thrives.

WORDS TO THE WISE

When a plague of poverty decimated an ancient land, the King called in his wisest economic advisors and demanded to be shown a short textbook on economics so the he might devise a remedy.

A full year later, the Kings advisors returned bearing not one but eighty-seven volumes. Enraged at having his order ignored, the King ordered his guards to execute half of the advisors.

Fearful for their lives, the remaining advisors culled the economics texts down to four volumes. To this, the angry King responded by ordering his guards to execute all but one of the remaining economic experts.

Finally, trembling, the last royal economist bowed before the King and said, "Sire, in five words I will reveal to all the wisdom that I have distilled through all the economists who once practiced their science in your kingdom."

"Quick," replied the impatient King. "What is it?" Answered the counselor, "There ain't no free lunch."

GOVERNMENT BEHAVES EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE OF FREE ENTERPRISE

Mr. and Mrs. FE were willing to assume the risk of business ownership because they understood this principle: **the greater the contribution, the greater the reward.** They understood that in a free market, they could increase their standard of living by increasing their contribution.

In a free market, a brain surgeon receives a greater financial reward than does an elevator operator because the brain surgeon contributes a more valuable service.

It follows that in a free market, a person is rewarded for good behavior and punished for bad behavior. If an entrepreneur gives people a good cup of coffee at a good price, they will reward him by frequenting his store and contributing to its success. If he gives a rotten cup of coffee at a rotten price, the next week the coffee bar will be out of business.

All government operates on the opposite scale. Government rewards bad behavior and punishes good behavior. If you choose to get married, have a job and have a child, the government will punish you by taking money away from you in the form of taxing that behavior. If you choose to not get married, not get a job, and have a

child, the government will reward you by giving you housing, food and medical care.

Again, if you fix up your house – paint it, mow the lawn, plant shrubbery – your house's value increases. What does the government do? It places a higher tax burden on your home. However, if you let your home fall apart, the government will reward you with lower taxes.

The reason that America is the richest nation on earth is because it does less of that than any other nation. Ludwig von Meses, from Austria, said, "In America, they have the highest standard of living because the government of that nation embarked later than the government of other nation upon a program of interfering with free enterprise."

Since government behaves exactly the opposite of Free Enterprise, it is no surprise that Socialism has been an utter failure. It has never, ever worked. Not in any country, not at any time.

While the Soviet Union was intact, it was number two in gold in the world, yet it was in total abject poverty. Hong Kong is literally built on a rock. It has absolutely no natural resources. Yet because it was under British Colonial Rule for 155 years before its recent return to China, its economy developed under a free system. As a result, its output per person is forty times as great as China. Likewise, West Germany had a standard of living ten times as high as East Germany, even though the two shared the same language, that same culture, the same climate.

Free Enterprise, on the other hand, is the natural order of things. It has proven itself successful in nations throughout history. Why? Because when there is a need to be filled, there is not government restriction. When there is a need to be filled, an entrepreneur a risk taker, a private individual, will seek to fulfill that gap. In the process, wealth proliferates.

We must recognize that when we restrict an individual's ability to create, we take a giant step towards Socialism. It is for this reason that economics are such a vital ingredient in the political P.I.E.

CHAPTER THREE: INTEGRITY

"WHY DOES INTEGRITY MATTER?"

P*rinciple*: If a person does what is wrong, the he will not do what is right.

I*mpact*: Our choice of any important partner, business or political, requires the vital ingredient of Integrity in order to be trusted.

E*xplanation*: When we choose political leaders, we are electing people to represent our values and interests. We elect them to do the things that we would like to see done.

But how do we know that what we want, and what they will do, will coincide? The answer is found in one word: Integrity.

Webster defines integrity as meaning soundness, reliability. You think of a structure that has integrity as being solid. You can put your trust in it.

Perhaps the most revered President in our history was George Washington. Unanimously elected, George Washington embodied integrity. As Benjamin Franklin said of him, "He errs, as other men do, but he errs with integrity."

While we know what integrity of a structure is, what is integrity in a person? It is two things. Morality and Character.

Morality is refraining from doing what is wrong.

Character is doing what is right.

The Ten Commandments are the most widely accepted standard of Morality. "Thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not bear false witness (lie), thou shalt not commit adultery." Morality governs the basic standards of a civilized society. Contracts are honored because the person signing them has given his word, and will not lie. It is the short hand foundation of all successful economies and governments.

Character includes and goes beyond morality. Character is doing what is right. Suppose your daughter comes home from school and reports that the other

children in her class were picking on Sally. They made fun of her appearance or her weight or her speech. Your daughter then says proudly, “but I didn’t do it.”

Naturally it is good that she did not do anything wrong. Her direct actions, in and of themselves, were not immoral. But, did she have the character to do what was right? Did she protect or defend her abused classmate to the degree she was able?

Thus, Integrity consists of both Morality, not doing what is wrong, and Character, doing what is right. People operating under this standard can be relied upon. They can be trusted. They have Integrity.

Integrity consists of Morality, not doing what is wrong, and Character, doing what is right.

You can turn your back and feel confident that even when you are not looking, they will do what is right.

This is at odds with those who are merely Moral. That s they are principled enough to not do things that are wrong, or illegal. but, on the other hand, you cannot rely upon them to do what is right when the times are difficult. On such occasions, they wilt into the shadows and cannot be counted upon to stand firm. As Abraham Lincoln so aptly stated, “To sin by silence when they should protest makes cowards out of men.”

“I WILL”

The Greek sculptor, Phidias, had high standards when he was carving the statue of Athenia for the Acropolis.

He was busy chiseling the strands of her hair at the back of her head when an onlooker commented, “That figure is to stand 100 feet high, with its back to a marble wall. Who will ever know what details you are putting behind there?”

Phidias replied, “I will.”

They are not doing anything wrong, but neither are they doing what is right. Perhaps all of us have had the occasion to be disappointed when someone we admired lacked the character to do what was right.

Logically one can see that one must first be moral in order to be a person of character**. Simply put, by definition if a person is doing what is wrong (immoral) he cannot do what is right (character).**

That is why many Americans were left scratching their heads when defenders of the immoral activities of former President Clinton would say things similar to the statement by former New York governor Mario Cuomo to the effect that, “I would not trust him with my sister, but I would trust him with the nation’s secrets.”

Many Americans found it profoundly confusing that a person who could not be trusted because he did wrong things, would nevertheless in matters of politics do what was right.

Any parent that upon discovering that her daughter is dating a repeatedly convicted thief would take little solace in the statement “but mom, he doesn’t steal from me.” The fact that he does what is wrong preempts our capacity to expect that, in time of stress, he would do what is right. **In other words, he lacks integrity.** His lack of morality (doing what is wrong) precludes his being relied upon to do what is right (character).

Our choice of any important partner, business or political, requires the vital ingredient of Integrity in order to be trusted.

Unfortunately, however, history tends to lead us to the conclusion that Economy is more important than Integrity. The election of Hitler in Germany is a perfect example. He improved the economy in Germany, but he was lacking in Integrity. Disaster resulted.

This is true even when the electorate is fully aware of the lack of integrity. The choice is often “It’s the economy, stupid” that trumps the question of Integrity.

That should not deter us, however, from establishing as the standard for secure political leadership the well-balanced combination of both Integrity and Economics. Without them both, we will surely watch our nation crumble.

CHAPTER FOUR: OUR HISTORY, OUR LEGACY

It was August 24, 1814. The First Lady of the Land Dolly Madison was preparing a spread for lunch for her husband President James Madison and his commanders. Just as the table spread was being completed a military messenger came rushing into the White House to report that President Madison would not be coming for lunch, but that the British were.

Five days earlier, the British had entered Chesapeake Bay and had begun their attack on Washington. Now they were entering the burning city. President Madison, the last President to command troops in the field, had commanded a portion of the city's defenses. Since he was not going to make it back to the White House, a messenger had been sent to warn the President's family and staff that they too were about to be overrun.

Dolly had only moments to escape. She chose to take just two things with her. She tore out the full-length oil portrait of George Washington that had been painted by Gilbert Stuart, and the portrait of herself that she had recently received. These were rolled and delivered to her carriage as the staff beat a hasty departure.

Moments later, the British soldiers entered the White House, ate the lunch prepared for the President and proceeded to enjoy the amenities of the mansion until nightfall. Then they "Laid the torch to it," as had been done to the rest of the City. The great house, so lovingly procured by George Washington and inhabited by every President since Adams, was destroyed with none but the four fire scorched stone walls surviving.

The present White House carries only three artifacts from the period prior to this day. The Gilbert Stuart painting of General George Washington. Now hangs in the East Room of the reconstructed home. The portrait of Dolly Madison with its red backdrop is currently used to identify the shade of red that covers the red room in the White House, where her likeness now hangs. There is also the Adams' silver service today seen in the Green Room.

And finally, during the 1989 repairs to the outside of the White House, the several layers of white paint were removed down to the stone. On the Truman Balcony

chose to leave the area under one of the windowsills painted, in order that visitors could see the charred makings and be reminded of this day.

As the British continued to sack and bun the city, the flames from the blazing Capitol Building could be seen in the nation's third largest city, Baltimore 40 miles away.

The war had broken out in 1812, over Britain's attempts to regulate American shipping and dictate other activities to the young United States while Britain was at war with France. As the ruler of the seas, the British Navy believed themselves free to steal (impress) sailors onto their warships if they felt they had need. The independence minded United States was willing to endure war rather than submit to such oppression.

While the British soldiers were withdrawing from Washington they took as a prisoner of war Dr. William Beanes, who resided in the nearby town of Upper Malboro. Dr. Beanes was much revered in the area, and was a friend of the young Washington lawyer Francis Scott Key.

The townsfolk of Upper Marlboro asked the talented Mr. Key to petition the British for return of Dr. Beanes, fearful that otherwise he would be hanged.

Learning that the doctor was being held on the flagship, Key asked permission of the President to negotiate with the British for his return. President Madison approved the mission and sent along Colonel John Skinner as an official American agent for prisoner exchange.

On the morning of September 3rd, Francis and Col. Skinner set sail from Baltimore harbor to meet the British fleet, flying a flag of truce. The found and boarded the flagship Tonnant to confer with General Ross and Admiral Alexander Cochrane.

At first, the commanders refused to release Dr. Beanes. But Key and Skinner produced a pouch of letters written by wounded British prisoners, praising the care they were receiving from the Americans, particularly Dr. Beanes.

Finally the British officers relented, but would not release the three Americans immediately, fearing rations for the attach on Baltimore. So, they were placed under guard and told that they would have to wait out the battle behind the British fleet.

Now let's go bac for a moment a year earlier to the summer of 1813.

Americans knew that if they refused to capitulate to the various demands of the British, that Britain would again invade and attack our young country.

Fort McHenry was the star shaped military protection overlooking Baltimore harbor America's busiest seaport. Its commander, Major George Armistead felt confident that if the Americans did not capitulate to the British, that they would assuredly attack his country. And when they did attack, Major Armistead was certain that Fort McHenry would be in the middle of the battle.

So, in anticipation of the coming struggle, he ordered a flag so big that "the British will have no trouble seeing it from a distance."

Two officers were sent to the Baltimore home of Mary Young Pickersgill, a "maker of colors," and commissioned a flag large enough to meet the Commander's needs.

Mary and her 13 year old daughter, Caroline, immediately went to work, using 400 yards of the best quality wool bunting. They cut 15 starts that measured 2 feet from point to point. Eight red and seven white stripes each two feet wide. By August, the banner was finished. It measured 42 feet by 30 feet and cost $405.90.

Now, back to the following year and the three Americans leaning on the ramparts of the ship where they were under guard.

At 7 a.m. on the morning of September 13, 1814, the British bombardment of Fort McHenry began, and the flag was ready to meet the enemy. The bombardment continued all day and all night. The British fired 1,500 bombshells that weighed as much as 220 pounds and carried lighted fuses that were supposed to explode when they reached their target. However, they weren't always dependable and would often blow up in mid-air.

From special small boats, the British also fired new Congreve rockets that would trace a wobbly arc of red flame across the sky.

Now hear this.

The Americans, not soldiers, not sailors, just Americans had sunk 22 of their own vessels in the entrance to the harbor. This mad a close approach by the British fleet impossible.

That evening the shelling stopped. This was a great source of concern for Key and the other Americans trapped in the midst of the British warships. Then around 1 a.m. on the 14th, the fleet again roared to life, lighting the rainy night sky with its grotesque fireworks.

Francis Scott Key, Col. Skinner and Dr. Beans stood at the ramparts and watched the battle with apprehension. They knew that as long as the shelling continued, Fort McHenry had not surrendered. But, long before daylight, there came a sudden and mysterious silence once again. What they did not know was that the British assault on Baltimore, as well as the naval attack, had been abandoned. The same patriots that had sunk their own vessels in the harbor entrance had then positioned themselves in the low-lands where the enemy would be forced to land its troops. Giving the invading forces a greater opposition than they could handle the British officers ordered a retreat.

In the predawn darkness, Key waited for the sight that would end his anxiety; the joyous sight of Major Armistead's great flag bowing in the breeze.

When at last by the early light of dawn, they could begin to make out that indeed, our flag was still there!!

Being an amateur poet and hymn composer, and feeling uniquely inspired, Key began to write on the back of a letter he had in his pocket.

Oh say can you see,
by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed
at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose bright stripes and bright stars,
through the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched,
were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare,
the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night
that our flag was still there.

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Sailing back to Baltimore, he composed more lines, and in his room at the Indian Queen Hotel he finished the poem.

Oh! thus be it ever,
when freemen shall stand

Between their loved homes
and the war's desolation!

Blessed with Victory and peace,
may the heaven-rescued land

Praise the Power that hath made
and preserved us a nation.

Then conquer we must,
when our cause it is just,

And this be our motto:
"In God is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

* * *

Let us conclude with some final thoughts on this country of ours – this land of the free and the home of the brave. As President George W. Bush has said, "our greatest export to the world has been, is, and always will be the incredible freedom we understand in America."

America. It is the place to which people hope to someday escape. It is the lighthouse of freedom. It is the place where people know that if they can just get under the shadow of the flag, they will be okay.

You have what the rest of the world prays to someday have. Its future is in your hands.

Notes:

Your Legal Rights and Moral Responsibilities as a Church

Transcript of a Presentation Given to Pastors by Attorney Mat Staver

I'm going to divide my message up into two parts. What you, as Pastors in churches can do, also give to you a challenge and some encouragement as well. A lot of the material on this DVD, you can get back here. If you need additional DVDs for other Pastors and church leaders who aren't here and you think would benefit by this, let us know at Liberty Council. Our website is lc.org. We're an international religious liberty organization in Orlando, Virginia, and Washington DC, with 100's of affiliated attorney's around the country. Also, we have a presence in Israel. So, we have a lot of resources there for Pastors.

I was a Pastor before going into Law School, so I really appreciate the call that God has in your life. Like me, I'm sure you didn't go to the mailbox with bated breath waiting for the IRS letter to say that you got called to be a Pastor. I don't check my sermons with the IRS, and I didn't vet my message today with the IRS. What God puts in my heart to speak in the pulpit, God puts in my heart to speak the IRS notwithstanding.

Now, I want to talk about what you can do. When I sent this DVD about Pastors, Churches and Political Activities to Pastor John Hagee, he called me back and he said, "he felt like an inmate let out of prison. Because everyone tells him what he can't say, and this told him what he can say."

Let me begin with the difference between churches and non-profit organizations. Liberty Council is a 501(c)3 organization, it's non-profit. Contributions to it are tax deductible. Like any other non-profit organization that's not a church, it must apply to the IRS for tax exempt status. When you do that, you apply and you get a letter from the IRS saying that you are tax deductible. Contributions to you are tax exempt and if you lose that letter you lose your tax deductibility as well. You'd have to re-apply for that.

But churches, unlike other non-profit organizations are exempt from the moment, if you will, of conception. So today if we were starting a church and this is our "formation" day, or moment, from this moment we are automatically tax exempt. We don't need the IRS's approval and we don't need a letter. About half the churches in the country have a letter, about half do not. If you do have a letter it's inconsequential, if you don't have a letter it's inconsequential. Thomas Road Baptist Church, that's over 50 years now, was founded by Dr. Jerry Falwell, never had a letter, never will see the letter, it's always been tax deductible. Churches are an elite situation, and that is significant as we move through this.

In 1934, the IRS code for non-profit (c)3 type organizations, that also includes churches whether you have a letter or not, had a restriction in the code for lobbying. We'll talk about that in a minute. Then also, a restriction with regards to political intervention, supporting or

opposing candidates for office. Now, no church has ever lost its tax- exempt status since 1934, for lobbying, or for opposing or supporting candidates since 1954.

Let's look at the issue of lobbying. Lobbying is essentially being in favor of, or in opposition to a piece of local law, State law, or Federal law. If you are encouraging your people to write letters to your city or county council, to the State or the Federal representatives regarding favor or opposition to a particular piece of law that's at issue, that's lobbying. Now, the IRS code says that it includes what we call voter initiatives, and appointed offices.

So, if you are working on the Florida Marriage Protection Amendment that we drafted, and I argued in 2008, we passed it by 62.5% in Florida, that would be lobbying. Your church could take out full page ads with your churches name supporting the Florida Marriage Protection Amendment, that would be lobbying. There's no absolute prohibition, there's just a limitation on what you can do. It also includes nominations for office. So, if the President, or the Governor nominates someone for a Judge, or a Supreme Court or other position that's lobbying. You can clearly take a position on that and you can even lend your churches name and encourage people to get involved and give support, or opposition, to that particular appointment. Now, what it says regarding lobbying is you can't devote more than substantial part of your normal activity. What does that mean? The essential basic guidelines are, in one case the IRS said five percent of a non-profits overall activity was okay, 15% was too much.

Well, let's look at in the context of reality of the church. This is a do-nothing church, this is a church that really does nothing. You made a Pastor, a church that did nothing, or know of a church where you may have Sunday school teachers that were do-nothing Sunday school teachers. This is really a do-nothing church. It does nothing, it essentially has only three hours of service on Sunday, the Pastor's not paid, doesn't volunteer beyond the three hours. Shows up at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, leaves at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, doesn't think about it before, doesn't think about it after, doesn't prepare for the sermon. Just three hours total, and those that teach Sunday school same thing. They don't prepare for their Sunday school lesson, just come there, three hours and they're gone. No preparation before, or after, no volunteer activity. They do the same thing for mid-week.

So, this do-nothing church has a total of four and a half hours per week. Well, five percent of that, the minimum is 13 and a half minutes. That means that this do-nothing church every Sunday could spend 13 and a half minutes toward lobbying. If you decided not to lobby because there's no issue to lobby for or against, to support or oppose one week, then this 13 and a half minutes times two. If you miss two weeks, it's 13 and a half minutes times three. So, you can see you would never get to this point of anywhere near going beyond the substantial over all activity.

Now, let's have a little bit of activity, still much of a do-nothing church. The Pastor is paid now for 40 hours a week, has a 20-hour part-time assistant, and five people that volunteer one hour a week. This church now has 69 and a half hours of total activity. That's three and a

half hours of activity, in other words every Sunday this church could devote three and a half hours of activity towards lobbying. In other words, every Sunday you could devote the entire service toward lobby. You wouldn't want to do that, obviously, but the point is you're never going to reach that limit.

Now, add a real church, with real people, and staff, and volunteerism, you're never going to get near the five percent. That's why no church in the history of America has ever lost its exemption for taking a position on local, State, or national law.

Let's look at the definition of political activity, political intervention. It's an absolute prohibition, you can't endorse or oppose if you're a (c)3 and you want to have your contributions tax deductible. But, it doesn't involve nominees as I mentioned before, or appointed positions. Let's look at a church in New York, the Church at Pierce Creek. In 1992, it took out full page ads in the USA Today and Washington Times opposing then Governor Bill Clinton because of his position on abortion. It listed the address of the church in those full-page ads, spent tens of thousands of dollars for those ads. They were very expensive, they asked for additional donations so that, in fact they could get more contributions to do more ads.

Well, you know what happened, in '92 Bill Clinton won the Presidential Election, and the IRS knocked on the church's door and they said, “you crossed a line.” The church clearly did, it was one of those "Got you" moments, like you're speeding and you know that you went over the limit, and you just throw yourself on the mercy of the court, so to speak. Well, in this case, they could have done that because there was no one else to endorse for the next two years. There's no one running for office so, they're not going to engage in anymore endorsements, no problem for the church. But they decided to take the IRS on, this church had a letter that it had voluntarily obtained, and the IRS said, "Okay. You don't want to cooperate with us, we're going to take your letter."

They did, the church sued they wanted the letter back. Went to the Court of Appeals and the District of Columbia. The Court said that the IRS is right, they have the right to take away the letter. But, for churches it doesn't mean anything, it's just a symbolic piece of paper, it's not worth the paper it's written on. It's for convenience, but it doesn't have any substantive effect.

So, you can take the letter all you want to, but the tax-exempt status remains. Because what a church does on Sunday doesn't carry over to Monday. For example, if I were starting a brand-new church today and we're tax exempt from this moment then each day is a different day. It's like it's born again, for example, if you were to cross the line and clearly endorse a candidate on Sunday, but on Monday you didn't do it. Well, it doesn't carry over to Monday. Now, if a non-profit organization that needed a letter did that, then that's a different story. But a church not needing a letter is tax exempt without the IRS's permission is in a completely different category. So, this church never lost its tax-exempt status even clearly crossing the line.

This past election over 1,600 churches endorsed candidates for office, did their sermons on tape and sent them to the IRS. In fact, Pastor Paul Blair who's here, who spoke, he's done that for the last several years. He's put a gospel message in there too, so if the IRS agents are listening to it they're going to get the gospel message as well.

But, the IRS has never called his church or done anything to the other churches, it really has no teeth. So, don't be afraid of the IRS.

Now, if you don't want to go that far, here's what you clearly can do and still be within the parameters. Pastors can preach on any subject, marriage, abortion, whatever it might be. You can preach on these subjects, just because politicians preach on them doesn't mean that they're political and off limits from the pulpit. Nothing is off limits from the pulpit. You can educate about the Biblical issues, say for example of marriage. Then you can give out voter guides about how these candidates view marriage, what their position is on marriage. Speak about marriage from a Biblical stand point, here's what they believe on marriage, here's candidate A, here's candidate B. This candidate believes this way, this candidate believes another way and encourage them to vote.

I would encourage people not to vote as a political act, but as a prophetic witness to the community. Because it is not a political act, it is a prophetic witness to your community. As you are on Sunday, you must act and do on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. To be a prophetic witness to the community, is being true in every area. If you believe in the sanctity of human life on Sunday, how can you vote for a candidate who takes human life when you go to the ballot box on Tuesday?

You can have candidates speak in your pulpit, you can acknowledge them in your congregation. You can have candidate forums where you ask questions, or there's a debate between the candidates. You can engage in voter registration, encourage people to register to vote, even bus them to the polls and much more. You can even lend your name as the Pastor in an advertisement for a candidate, or a brochure supporting that particular candidate. Your name and the church, as long as you have the little asterisk at the end that says, "Title and affiliation for identification purposes." The IRS says when you do that it's not considered an endorsement by the church, it's just for identification.

You can do a lot of things with regards to political activity, and much of that is on the DVD. Rather than spend more time on it, the bottom line is and I think the message is very clear. Don't be afraid of the IRS, it's kind of like the Wizard of Oz. No church has ever lost its tax-exempt status for lobbying or for political intervention. So, I encourage you to replace the muzzle that the world wants to put on Pastors, and instead, replace it with a megaphone and preach God's word from the pulpit in such a time as this.

Now, Liberty Council, like I said, is lc.org. We have a lot of resources for you that you can follow up on. On this, as well as, many other issues regarding religious liberty, life and family.

But, let me move to my final point. Because we are living at critical times in the country. If you look at what we have done in the last 40 some years, since 1973, we have killed over 55 million babies in the womb. Their first home, and the home where they should be the most protected is now the most vulnerable. Slaughtered over 55 million of these children in the womb under the idea of abortion. We've seen Dr. Kermit Gosnell on TV and the horrible situations where he snips the spinal cord of these babies after they're born alive. That is not an exception to abortion, that is the face of abortion.

In fact, if you go to Orlando, Florida to the abortion clinic there, that abortion clinic does the same thing. You can go to Liberty Council's website, lc.org, click on the front page where it says "Abortion" at the bottom, and you'll see a story about baby Rowan. Baby Rowan is a baby that was born alive in that clinic and they allowed it to die. The lady gave birth while sitting on the commode and the baby fell in the toilet, still connected to her with the umbilical cord, the abortion clinic let it die. This is the face of abortion. This is not an exception to abortion, this is abortion. It is barbaric butchery like we see in the Holocaust, and we've seen that on our watch.

Not only do we have abortion, but now Obamacare is forcing religious employers to fund abortion. Liberty Council filed the very first private lawsuit against Obamacare on March 23, 2010 representing Liberty University, the largest Christian University in the world, and two private individuals. I argued that case, it went to the US Supreme Court, now it's back at the Court of Appeals. I re-argued it, and we're waiting for a decision.

But I can tell you, Liberty University is a Christian University. We believe that Liberty, and other employers around the country that have the same beliefs that our founders believed, is that God is the creator and the author of life.

He is the one who gives life. Life is precious, and we cannot take human life because that is murder and we certainly will not fund the taking of innocent human life.

This is a line that we cannot, and will not cross. Yet this government is forcing every person in this country, every religious employer and every other Christian or person of faith and values to fund abortion for the very first time in America. This is a train wreck that's coming and Pastors you need to speak up on this.

You look back at the American Revolution. It was preceded by the Great Awakening. It was the spiritual revival that ultimately gave birth to the American Revolution. It was the Pastors sermons that provided the fuel for the American Revolution. Without Pastors sermons, we would not have had an American Revolution.

The Declaration of Independence was not something Thomas Jefferson invented. He said it was the reflection of the American mind. It was not his invention, it began in the pulpits and in the pews. The situation that we are in now, also calls for a spiritual revival and it needs to begin in the churches and from the pulpits. The Great Awakening gave birth to the American Revolution. That was the first Great Awakening.

The second Great Awakening began in Great Britain and came here to America. It abolished slavery. A man by William Wilberforce was ultimately changed by that second Great Awakening. He worked his entire life to abolish slavery and reform manners in Great Britain and all the British Territories. Then it came here to the United States as well. Both of those major civil body politic reformations began with the spiritual renewal.

We're in a situation right now where our freedom is threatened like never before. On June 26th, it has been threatened even more so than what we see even with Obamacare. Because on that day, five Justices of the United States Supreme Court issued a decision that said that marriage is the union of one man and one woman, that institution that predates all religion, wasn't created by Judaism, Christianity, Islam or any other religion, it predates all religion.

That institution predates all civil governments. It wasn't created or defined by religion. It wasn't created or defined by civil government. It is part of the natural created order of man and woman in the image of God. Husbands and wives, marriage as the union of one man and one woman. That is an institution that is part of natural law, part of the natural created order. Anyone who believes in that, and affirms that natural order of marriage, Justice Kennedy and four other Justices joined him saying you and everyone else are bigots. You're hateful, you are the enemies against humanity. How dare this Supreme Court say that those of us who believe in natural marriage are enemies against humanity, or are haters and ultimately want to harm people.

There's a time and place where the court can clearly cross the boundary from being legitimate, to being illegitimate. I submit to you that it crossed that line on June 26th. If you go back, for example, in 1857, the Supreme Court issued the Dread Scott decision and said that blacks were inferior beings and therefore not citizens of the United States of America. That gave birth to the Civil War.

Chief Justice Taney got into an argument with Abraham Lincoln over that very issue. Lincoln opposed Taney and Taney opposed Lincoln. Ultimately, one case beyond the issue of the States, and slavery, and succession came the issue of Habeas Corpus. Where Lincoln used his war powers and incarcerated individuals, and Taney wrote an opinion saying, "You don't have the authority to do it." He continued to write more opinions and Lincoln said, "Write as many opinions as you want to," essentially, "I'm not going to listen to them." At the end of the day, Taney had to agree he had no authority over the President. Because the paper on which the Supreme Court, or any court, is written is not worth the paper it's written on unless the executive enforces it.

Then again, we have the case of Buck versus Bell. A lady in Virginia who was forcibly sterilized and ultimately went to the US Supreme Court, and Justice Holmes wrote a decision saying, "It's fine to do that. To forcibly sterilize people like you because three generations of

imbeciles are enough. We don't want to create more imbeciles like you, and the possibility of creating a "imbecile" we then have the power to sterilize individuals."

That decision was illegitimate then, it's illegitimate now. The Dread Scott decision was illegitimate then, it's illegitimate now. No one would defend those decisions based on the Constitution or rational reason. I submit that when the Supreme Court takes something like marriage, which is like the equivalent of our natural law, such as gravity, the laws of physics, and tries to pretend that it has any authority to redefine it, they've crossed the line from being legitimate to illegitimate. That's what the court did. By doing so we will have a collision with religious freedom.

You're not going to have just simply abortion over here, that's terrible and horrible and awful. However, they're not going to force you until now on Obamacare to participate in it. You're going to have this issue of same sex marriage that will ultimately sweep across the country and you will be forced by penalty of law to accept and affirm it as natural, normal and good.

Churches will be affected. Councilors will be affected. We're defending councilors rights now in California to give them the opportunity simply to council someone who comes to them and say, "I have unwanted same sex attractions. I don't want those, I need some council to be assisted in that area. Can you help me?" The councilor in California under that law does anything, but affirm those same sex attractions as natural, normal and good, then they are violating the ethical code.

Pastors we are at a point and critical time in American history. Like those in the early American Revolution we need to take tough stands. I encourage you to speak truth to this culture. To speak boldly. Let me just end by referencing Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. He wrote a letter from the Birmingham Jail, and in that letter, he was asked by people and he was responding to the question, "Why is it that you obey some laws, and other laws you disobey?" He said, "Well that's simple." He then recites 2,000 years of Christian history. He refers to Saint Augustine and Equines, and natural law. He says, "Some laws are just and we have a duty to obey them."

There's some laws, obviously, that are inconvenient, taxation laws, speed laws, building and zoning codes. We may not like those, and they may burden us but they don't conflict with natural law, or revealed laws. "But there's other laws," he said, "that are unjust and those laws we have a duty to disobey." An unjust law is a law that conflicts with God's higher authority.

God has higher authority, if an earthly law directly conflicts with that and your choice is to obey God, or to ultimately violate God and obey the State, you have a duty to ultimately obey God and defy the State. But you also must be willing to pay the consequences. He sat in jail because he was willing to pay the consequences.

We need Pastors and people of faith to stand up today like Reverend Martin Luther King did, and all the great Christian reformists would say there is a higher law. There is a higher

court, and marriage is the union of one man and one woman. If five people on the Supreme Court say otherwise, it's five people's illegitimate decisions.

For example, when it comes to Massachusetts where Catholic charities must shut down because of their marriage laws. Because they didn't want to put people in same sex homes. They should not have voluntarily shut down, they should have told the State, "You come and make me shut down."

Because this is our Christian conviction, our Christian mission. I encourage you as Pastors to speak the truth because we are at a critical time in America where we must draw that line. This is a line we cannot, and must not cross.

May God bless you and God give you the courage to speak the truth.

Notes:

Enough Is Enough

Transcript of a Presentation Given to Pastors by Pastor Rick Scarborough

Some of you have heard me speak in various and sundry places. I've traveled across the state of Florida on numerous occasions. Some of this, you will have heard before, but I'm going to contextualize it a little bit different.

I want to challenge you to think about something. The Church of Auvers. Vincent van Gogh, in 1890, Vincent van Gogh is the second most expensive artist in the world right now. His paintings, if they come on the market, sell for an excess of $90,000,000. In fact, the painting I'm going to show you was last sold in 1990 to an industrialist in Japan for $90,000,000, and is well worth over $100,000,000 today if it were to come on the market. Here's the unique thing about this church.

A little bit about Vincent van Gogh, to make it relevant. Everyone knows that he was the insane artist. He committed suicide, unfortunately, at the age of 37 and had bits of insanity in his adult life, but what most people don't know is that he was the son and the grandson of two renowned Dutch Reform preachers. Early in life, he felt a calling in his own life to preach, was ordained in the Dutch Reform Church. His first assignment was as a missionary to the coal miners in Belgium, the poorest people perhaps in all of Europe.

He went to that assignment, had a nice parsonage to move into, well-educated, dressed well. He'd never in his entire life been around such poverty, such abject need. He got overwhelmed with that, sold all of his possessions save one change of clothes, distributed it among those impoverished people, then moved out of the parsonage provided by his denomination and lived in a hovel just like the miners. Needless to say, he was well-received, a unique pastor among those people. You know that was before fax and telephones. The only way to find out how the young missionary was doing was to send down a couple of superintendents. When they went and found him living like that, they were shocked. This was a disgrace to the ministry, and as a result of the way he was living among those miners that he was working with, they shamed him, said he was a disgrace to the ministry, and he was fired in his first pastorate.

As a young man, this was a humiliation that was tough to bear. He picked up his second love, which was painting, but in this lifetime, no one would buy his artwork, and he died in abject poverty as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, a little controversy around that. It was a shot through the head from underneath, never found the weapon, but in that era, a handgun was hard to find, and certainly, someone would have picked it up and walked away. That was the story.

One of the last paintings that he painted was called The Church of Auvers. I think I'm pronouncing that correctly, but it's a unique story of his life. If you look carefully at that church,

you'll not find any doors, just windows. It's as if he were saying, "Those on the inside don't care about those on the outside." You see this lady, a peasant, walking. There's two pathways, both going around the church, not to the church, and it's as if he were saying, "The church is no longer relevant. It doesn't care about poor people. Those who are inside don't want to come out, and those who are outside, can't get in. The reason I'm starting my presentation with this particular portrait is so that we might all be reminded that the church can certainly become irrelevant. We've been reminded of that over and over and over again.

There are a lot of people who feel that way about the church that we pastor, the church of our day. The question that we've got to ask is, "Are we relevant? Will we be relevant?"

They myth of separation of church and state. I'm going to spend time on this. You've been hearing about it all weekend, all through the conference. "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people to peaceably assemble, or to petition the government for redress of grievances." Where in the world in that, do we get this myth of separation.

You know something, I started this morning, you rejoice in this. I started this morning mixing church and shower. Then I took some time mixing and cleaning up the church in terms of fixing my face and my few hairs that are left that take longer now than I had a lot because I’ve got to space them just right. I mixed church and breakfast. I have mixed church and church for part of this day. You and I understand that we are the church, that whatever we engage in, we're mixing church with that, and the real issue is we are being pushed out, and we are being willful players in being pushed out, of politics. What you have been hearing for the last 24 hours consistently by some of the most gifted speakers in America is that the church has got to engage.

I've written a little booklet that's available. In fact, the content of the message that I'm going to share with you today is in this book. On page 11, you'll find the outline and the next 10 or 12 pages is everything you need for a sermon this Sunday morning. That's my gift to you, and you're probably going to need it because you've spent so much time the first two days of the week with us. Here's what we're going to talk about. Let me set the context. When it comes to mixing church and state, historically, pastors were engaged, and boy, did we ever get a picture of that last night. We just heard from one of the brightest lawyers of our era that legally, we can be engaged, but here's my point.

Here's my part of this program. Biblically, we must be engaged. If the church disengages, we're going to live long enough to see a President of the United States having sex in the oval office with his secretary and nothing happened to him. In fact, I daresay, our culture will get so debauched that he'll get paid $50,000 or $60,000 or more for speeches. Wait a second, that's already happened. We might even live long enough to see transgenders going into women's locker rooms, or competing, as they do in Connecticut, where a young man decided overnight

he was a girl, and ran the 100 meter dash and set a girls' record and won the crown from a young lady that expected to win it. His time wouldn't even qualify in the men's finals, but he said that day he was a girl, and because we're sophisticated as a society, well he's just transitioning.

That stories being repeated again, and again, and again. Paul and Silas are talked about in Acts, Chapter 16. It's a passage all of you preach. When I was in evangelism, I traveled, did 500 crusades across this country and around the world, over a 12-year span. During those years that I was an evangelist, almost every week, setting the stage for the revival, I would preach on Paul and Silas and the need for revival.

Paul and Silas were missionaries. They weren't politically driven. They went to Philippi to win people to Christ as a result of a vision that God had given to Paul. Their mission was to introduce the gospel to Europe. They didn't know that. Nobody was calling that part of the world Europe. I'm telling you the gospel came to America because Paul and Silas were obedient when God said, "Don't go down there where everybody thinks you are, into Asia, Go this way instead." In obedience, they went. I'm telling you, when they got thrown in prison in Philippi, no one would have known to look for them there because they didn't have communications such as we have today, and the itinerary certainly didn't lead them there.

They were not politically correct. I can prove that to you. They met a woman who was a fortune teller. She'd followed them around. This is what she was shouting, "These men are servants of the most high God who come to show us the way of salvation." When I was an evangelist, we paid tens of thousands of dollars for advertising basically saying that. "These men are coming to tell us about Jesus." You know what that reflects to me. You can say the right thing in the wrong spirit, and do more damage than good. There were men who were making a fortune off of her gifts. There's always behind every horrible, malady that man can imagine, somebody's making a profit off of it. Just look at abortion. Follow the money. Look at pornography. Follow the money. Paul recognized she was demon-possessed.

Now, I want you to get the context of this. The business community was calling her a fortune teller. Paul said this woman's full of the devil. He was not politically correct. Paul and Silas weren't politically connected. That part becomes quite clear. Business men were profiting from her misfortune. When their hope of gain was gone, they were infuriated. In fact, they drug Paul and Silas into the street, conducted a kangaroo court, beat them almost to death, and threw them into the inner part of the prison, and locked them up. I'll tell you something. That's when we find Paul and Silas, they weren't politically connected, well then finish the story.

They slandered the pastors religiously. Here's what they said, "These men are Jews." Now, what did that have to do with casting the demon out. You see, they were slandering them for their religion, for their teaching, customs, they're unlawful.

Not only did they slander them religiously, they slandered them racially. "These men are Jews." Kinda like calling us right-wing, religious bigots. Let me tell you something about Satan.

He doesn't have any new ideas. He just keeps recycling the same old ideas, over and over and over. They beat them and imprisoned them. That's when we find out that they weren't politically-dependent. Paul and Silas didn't call their lawyer. They didn't call their congressman. You know what they did? They cried out to God, and amazingly, Jesus shows us. The earth shook, the jail doors opened, the shackles fell off, the jailer despaired of death. Folks, when Jesus shows up. Things happen.

Amen. Amen.

Paul and Silas, as I said, weren't politically driven. When that jailer said, "Man, I'm going to commit suicide. Roman law if I lose a prisoner, I'll be killed. My family'll be disgraced." He was positioning his spirit perhaps, maybe wedging it between some rocks, finding some method to get his courage up. He's about to commit suicide.

Paul said, "We're all here. Don't kill yourself." One of the great miracles, overlooked is not only did Paul and Silas not flee, nobody moved. Here's a reminder for us all, guys, when Jesus truly shows up to our church, people won't be so clock-eyed. People want to be there. One of the ways you can tell if God's moving in your church is after you let everybody go, are people hanging around because they want to be where Jesus is. The Bible says Paul cried with a loud voice saying, "Do thyself no harm. We're all here."

Then, he called for a light, and he sprang in. By the way, lost people always call for the light when Jesus shows up. He fell down before Paul and Silas and basically said, "How can I be just like you? I want to be saved."

The Bible says, they said to him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved and thy house." Gentlemen, it is not my intention, and I know it's not Paul Blair's intention, it is not Bob McEwen's intention. None of us are here to move you away from making it being a Jesus-centered church. Winning lost people to Jesus, that's what we're on this earth for.

I am an evangelist at heart. I spent 14 years of my life. I said 12 a minute ago, but it's 14 years of my life traveling to every size church imaginable. I've been in churches that ran five and six, and churches that ran ten of thousands. I'm here to tell you my mission here on this earth is to win people to Jesus. It occurred to me while I was pastoring a church that if I let this culture continue to slide, I was going to lose the opportunity to share Jesus.

I'm here in your city with Paul to try to push this thing back, to see if we can't see one more revival. Our greatest obstacle are the preachers. I'm not picking on you guys, at all, none of us are picking on you. The truth of the matter is, those who lived in poverty, Bob McEwen hit this so well, and last night, we heard it so perfectly put, in such a beautiful picture, they believed that God could shape their country, and he did. The first great awakening gave the courage for the men to take on the strongest military power on the face of the earth. Revival swept up and down the shores of this new land and closed the taverns.

You know, they left one thing in place that should have been addressed initially. It was a compromise in order to get enough of the states to come together, and slavery was overlooked. Preachers justified slavery. Business men embraced slavery, both in the North and the South, but then Phineas, as we heard so eloquently spoken by Paul, a lawyer, whom God saved began preaching Jesus and shook the continent, and suddenly men began to despair of their life and recognized the wickedness of slavery. It was the second great awakening that flew off the yoke of slavery in this country, 600,000 Northern and Southern lives lost in the process.

Our problem is today, we don't think God can do that. The sin is too great. The sinners are too many. There's too much money in evil. We have limited God, and the reason we're not seeing the third great awakening is because we just, there's far too many, who just don't believe it. I want to challenge you in this last message, to draw a circle around, right where you're seated, and ask yourself the probing question, "Would I be willing to let God really invade this space, and send revival to me so I could go back and touch my people and see revival break out where I pastor?"

I'm telling you folks I don't need to have the revival break out where I am. You have it, and I'll come join you.

We've got to have a third great awakening to save this country. They cried out, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and unto them that were in his house, and he took them the same hour, and washed their stripes, and baptized them. He and all of his straightway." They weren't politically-driven. They were after souls.

But you know what? They weren't politically-ignorant either. Let me show you this, "And when it was day, the magistrate sent the serjeants saying, let these men go, and the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, the magistrates have sent to let you go. Now, therefore depart. Go in peace." You know what the average preacher would have done?

Man, he'd have said, "Hot dog, boys," off he'd gone, and got himself a tent and put up a sign how God had delivered him in Philippi, and boy off his crusade ministry would go, deliverance. You know what Paul did? Here's what Paul did.

Paul said, "Huh, they've beaten us openly un-condemned, being Romans." Paul understood what it meant to have two citizenships. He was a citizen of Heaven, which he valued far more, but he also had this idea. He said, "You know, there have been a lot of Roman soldiers died to purchase me certain freedoms, and as a citizen I have certain rights. For instance, you can't beat me without a trial." He had sense enough to stand on his Roman citizenship, and you talk about creating a furor, he said this, "and have cast us into prison, and now they want to thrust us out prively? Nay, I ain’t going anywhere. Let them come themselves and fetch us out."

You know what happened after that. Paul walked out under his own power, went right back into the city, went to Lydia, and the rest of that small congregation that he'd led to Christ.

He stayed there until he felt they were prepared to stand on their own, and arguably the church in Philippi became the most powerful church in the early New Testament, the only church that stood with him all the way until the end.

You see guys, you can walk and chew gum at the same time. You can practice citizenship while you're evangelizing. In fact, the greatest preachers of my era ... I'm telling you when word God out that I was standing in Pearland, I heard from Jerry Falwell, D. James Kennedy, Adrian Rogers, and I'm telling you they got together on a phone call that I didn't even initiate. Jerry Falwell put the call together, and suddenly everyone from the three I mentioned to David Barton, and a half a dozen others, formed an advisory board so that they could push me out there to say, "Hey don't be afraid to stand up."

He said, "You tell them to come and fetch us out." I was called to First Baptist Church of Pearland in 1990. I'd been an evangelist, as I mentioned. Now what I had was a bunch of good revival sermons because I'd been practicing them for 14 years. I'd preached them in 500 crusades around the world. I started preaching them 'til I ran out. It was going great for a while. We baptized 500 people the first 18 months. By the way, 2000 were saved and baptized in that church while what I'm about to tell you unfolded so don't tell me you can't do both.

I was notified one Sunday morning of a high school assembly. How many of you have heard me tell this story? Well, it's not too repetitive. That's a good thing, but you laugh when you're supposed to laugh, and don't jump ahead of me. All right?

I loved as a pastor standing at the back of the church because everybody told you how much they loved you. It wasn't until later that they stabbed you in the back, you realize, but I was standing there, and I was hearing all these great remarks about my sermon, and then a lady come out and said, "Are you going to the high school assembly tomorrow?" I had this look on my face, which I'm sure she read, like "He doesn't have a clue."

But, being the good pastor I was, I acted like I knew all about it, not really, I didn't have a clue, and she was shocked by that because I had two kids in the high school, and every high school student had been given a form, sent home to be signed, if they were going to attend the assembly because the speaker had created a furor in a half a dozen of the high school systems around Pearland, Now, my two kids were raised right. By the way, you talk about coming full circle. I'm going to tell all about Pearland, you’re going to see the high school here in one of the slides. I got a text from my son who still live in Pearland. You know where he's at right now? He's at Pearland High School helping people who are being evacuated from their homes. You talk about a full cycle, but he was in high school at that point in time, and he nor my daughter told me about the high school assembly.

Here's what happened. I've said this in their presence, and they didn't deny so it's got to be true. Misty, who had the driver's license. She was a senior in high school. She was driving home. Richard was a freshman at the time. He probably said, "Do you think we should tell Dad?"

And she said, "You know how he is. He'll get all bent out of shape." So, they elected to save me the trauma, and neither of them told me about this form that described the assembly to which I was to sign if they were going to attend. If you didn't send that form back, guess what, you had approval. You see what the administration had done. They knew that 80% of those students would never tell their parents, but if somebody got mad, they had a scapegoat.

My wife and I discussed this, and we decided those kids, we've raised them in Christian schools all the way 'til we moved to Pearland, they'd always been in Christian schools. We've had Bible study, and we've trained them from the time they were infants. In fact, we prayed for them before they were born so we decided that we were going to let our kids attend. We never said a word about it, but I determined I was going to monitor that high school assembly.

Now, unfortunately, I had a gentleman coming all the way across Texas to interview as an associate minister, and I was scheduled to pick him up at the airport and show him around the whole day so I couldn't go. I learned, by the way, as a pastor, early on, if you don't schedule your time, somebody else will. If you're always available, you're good for nothing. I had scheduled the whole day, every 15 minutes I had where I was going to be.

So, I called in Rod Compton, who served with me in two churches for a period of about 15 years. I used to brag to my pastor friends, I was just like Moses, I leaned on my rod and my staff because Rod was the staff. I called Rod in, and I said, "Rod, I want you to monitor that high school assembly and come back and tell me about it."

In my mind, how bad can it be? Sex education, we had sex education when I was in high school. In fact, junior high school. When I was in the eighth grade, they took all the boys in the boys gym, all the girls in the girls gym. They blackened the windows with tar paper, they flipped on a 16 mm projection system, and they showed us an hour of images of people with various sexual diseases, like gonorrhea and syphilis. We saw people with their teeth falling out, and insane and crazy, and when the lights came back on, we were so terrified, it took us two years of married life to get over that one hour of sex education. They basically said, "You do this, you'll get that." You know what? It worked. It really worked with the girls. Some of us boys got over it sooner than the girls did, but I'm telling you, it worked so I thought, "Man, I know what sex education is." Boy, was I in for a shock.

Rod came back to my office after that first assembly, and he would not tell me what he'd heard. He wouldn't repeat it. Now, Rod's a throwback to preacher 100 years ago. He still can't say pregnant in mixed company. He's one of these real pure kind of a guys. Never went to a movie to my knowledge unless it was a Christian movie, just a tremendous man of God.

I determined I needed to go check this out, so I gave our guest off to him to take to lunch, and I scurried down to the fifth of five assemblies with a pocket recorder. Remember, we all carried Dictaphones. You could get 30 minutes on one side if you had the right kind of tape. Well, I marched in. The place was packed. It was the last assembly of the day. No seats available except right in the very back. Didn't get permission, just went.

I'm the only one there in a suit, and I sat right in the back. I looked up and Misty, my oldest daughter, was seated halfway between me and the speaker so here said to myself, "Scarborough, no matter what happens, don't say a word. Just record it. Take care of it." I mean, how bad could it be. Out walks this cute little 24-year-old college co-ed in what I thought was the shortest skirt I'd ever seen in public, it turned out it had a little flap in the front, but it looked like a skirt.

She started talking about every sex act you can imagine, and some you frankly shouldn't imagine. She talked about anal sex, oral sex. She had the audacity to tell the student body including my two kids, in different assemblies, that if they engaged in oral sex, it would be the safest kind of sex they could engage in unless they had a sore in their mouth, they couldn't get AIDS. Then she pulled out a condom, told a filthy story. I'll tell you the story. Talked about the guy that played football. He went into pro football. He went in a tight end and came out a wide receiver. Ha ha ha. It was a joke. I just want you to get the flavor folks.

The more she talked, the angrier I got, but when she pulled that condom out and stretched it, made a lewd remark about the size of the male organ, and then blew it up like a balloon, and wrote on a whiteboard, 94%, where everybody could see it, and then turned the student body, including my daughter, if you'll use one of these, you'll be 94% protected against the dread disease of then-called GRIDS, Gay-Related Immune Deficiency Syndrome, that was too politically incorrect. They soon dropped that moniker. It's still accurate by the way.

You know, in God's sovereignty, I'd been preparing a whole series of messages for the future, on this new disease called GRIDS so I'd been reading everything I could get my hands on. Isn't God sovereign? You don't think God didn't know I was going to be in that assembly? So when she said 94% effective against the dread disease of AIDS, I raised my hand. I was in a suit. She likely thought I was a principal, and she was very courteous. She said, "Yes, sir."

I said, "Ma'am." When I said those words, Misty, my daughter, almost passed out. I was watching her. She had no clue I was present. The blood just flowed, just drained out of her head. I said, "Ma'am, where did you get that statistic?"

She said, "The CDC," and went right back to her planned remarks. I had been reading what the CDC says. I was likely the only one in the room that knew that meant Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia. You know what I did? I raised my hand again because I knew that they didn't report that. The condoms they say are that effective are the ones you buy from a drugstore, not a truck stop, and it's certainly not one that you put in the glove box of a car, exposing it to 120 degree temperatures or in your back pocket. Those won't even prevent pregnancy. The male sperm is 100 times larger than the AIDS virus, and so I got my hand up again.

This time she didn't call on me. I may not be a lot of things, but one thing I am is persistent so I just kept my hand up, and you know what's going on. Every student in the room

is saying, "Who is that guy?" "That's Misty's dad." "That's a Baptist preacher." That was rifling through this crowd of 100s of students.

Finally, in exasperation, she said, "Yes, sir," but this time she wasn't as courteous.

I said, "Ma'am." I told her just what I said to you about the statistic. She was so taken by my knowledge of the subject she's supposed to be the expert on that she just stood there and begun to break out in red splotches. Man, this was a pastor moment. I want to go put my arm around her, and say, "Honey, it's okay. It's gonna be okay." But this wasn't the place or the time.

Meanwhile, a teacher, seeing that she's in trouble, jumped up and shouted at me, "I read the same statistic in a teen magazine, and it's true."

I wanted to look at her and say, "Are you telling me we're going to teen magazines to give life and death instruction to the kids of this school?" But, I realized this wasn't the place. It was about to get beyond control so I said, "Thank you, ma'am," and I sat down, but I'm recording all of this on my pocket recorder. At least the first 30 minutes. It went for about 40.

At that point, she broke away from her planned remarks, went into a diatribe about her own personal sex life, how she was AIDS infected, but her live-in boyfriend was not, and he used a condom, and therefore he was safe, and I put my head in my hands in the back of that auditorium and did all I could not to openly weep, sob, but here's what I decided. I don't care what anybody thinks. You put me here at this moment in this time to do something about this.

I had a lot of my people that were involved in that school system, and I wasn't sure how they were going to respond to this. When the assembly was over, everybody had to pass right by where I was, and I can tell you some of those kids let me know that they weren't favorable of my attending their high school assembly, but you know the only one that really mattered to me was Misty.

Misty made her way, they were in stationary desks in a large, kind of a science lab, that seated about 400 students. That's why we had to have five of those assemblies that day in that large high school. Misty made her way through the stationary desks, got to me as quick as she could, and I'll never forget what she did. She threw her arms around my neck. She put a kiss on this cheek, and in this ear, she said, "Daddy, I'm so proud of you. I'm so proud of you." That was like saying it, "Sic it," to a cur dog, I'm telling you.

At that point, it didn't matter what the deacons thought. When I went back to my office, left the high school, and I called in our Minister of Miscellaneous. You probably call him a janitor, but I called ours the Minister of Miscellaneous, whatever needed doing, he did it. I called him in, and I said, I called him by name, and I said, "I want you to put this on the sign board. If you want to hear what the kids heard at PHS, come Sunday."

You talk about a church growth idea. I'm telling you nothing I ever tried worked like that sign. Between the 400 kids in that assembly and that signboard on the busiest thoroughfare on that Southeast side of Houston, I'm telling you on Sunday morning, we couldn't get the people in. A couple of my men come in my office and said, about 15 minutes before the service, "We're out of chairs."

I said, "Then, ask our people to get up. Put up some other chairs."

I mean I walked out and the place was packed. Now, I was born at night, but I wasn't born last night. I got to thinking of it. Now, I had a 12-page typewritten manuscript I was going to read, single-spaced, I whipped out and got an old revival sermon I had preached 100 times. I prayed over, God breathed over it. I preached hell hot, heaven sweet, Jesus saves, gave a gospel invitation, had at least seven people give their heart to Christ.

Now, it's time to go home, and I set then all down. Now, they're looking at watches. "I thought he was going to talk about AIDS."

I held up this transcript, and I said, "I'm going to read this, every single word, all 12 pages, but it's got some four-letter words in it you've never heard me say. If you don't want your children to hear it, or if you don't want to hear this, then you're excused, you got about five minutes."

I dismissed them. We had set them over in the children's area for kids, all the way up until high school if they didn't want their kids to be in, we'd made arrangements. But, you know what? When I sat them back down, the place was still full. Unbeknown to me, a Chronicle reporter had heard all this because of our signboard and was in the audience. I read that 12-page manuscript, which I still have somewhere on file, four-letter words and all. There were some little old ladies went home that day saying, "I can't believe the preacher said those words."

I'm not bragging about, but sometimes we're so heavenly minded we're off no earthly good, pastors. I felt like if she could say that at the high school. She used the technical terms too, but she wanted those kids to know that she knew where they were coming from. She's use the guttural expression for every single sex act there was. Good enough for those high school kids, maybe their parents ought tp hear it. You know what? You talk about firing up a group of good ol' boys. That's what I had, a lot of them. I had a man stand up, "What are we going to do?"

And, if I'd have said, "Burn the building down," he'd have burned the building down, but by that time, I'd already scheduled a called meeting with the school board for a week from Monday night. I sat them down. I said, "Guys, here's what we're going to do. We're not going to go out here half-cocked. Your pastor's going to be speaking to the school board, a week from tomorrow night, and until that time, we're going to pray. I'm asking you to pray, and I'm going to fast."

But, remember, I didn't know the Chronicle Reporter was present. The next day at 6:00, I got a call. Somebody said, "Have you seen the paper?"

Ladies and gentlemen, I don't know about you, but on Sunday morning after teaching, preaching, and all that went on, I was seldom up at 6:00 reading the paper, but on that morning, I got up, and I went out and got the Houston Chronicle. The second section, the metropolitan section, the whole page was about Baptist preacher taking on the Pearland High School. I mean, everything I'd said was in that paper in some form or other.

I'm telling you my phone began to ring with requests for interviews across the nation. I didn't want this to be a nationwide exchange. I wanted to deal with our school board locally, so I had some folks take care of our kids. My wife and I drove to the hill country of Texas. We hid there for five days, conducted only one interview the entire time, came back into town full of Jesus, and the next Monday, I went to that school board meeting, where it was supposed to be. It had moved. I went to where it had moved. It had moved again.

Finally, I went to the high school auditorium because so many people had turned out. A lot of them from our church. They had sitting in the room, six other speakers, two students, a local preacher, couple of teachers, and then me. I'm last. They were to speak for five minutes. When the other pastor stood up, he just raked me over the coals about trying to teach Baptist fundamentalism to these kids, and these kids have a right to be educated. I mean, he went off on me. A couple of kids, they let ... it was a stacked deck, but you know what?

When I was praying that week, and fasting, God only gave me one clear word, a soft word turns away wrath so when I got up, I had my five minutes. Toughest sermon I ever wrote was that five-minute sermon. It had to be cut down and thought through and prayed over. Try it sometimes.

I stood up, and I started reading, and all I did was give the facts. The school board had no real clue of what had happened, and nobody before me told them, but what nobody planned on in my five minutes was about 11 standing ovations because every time, I would give another fact, the people would stand up and just applaud the preacher.

You know what I learned that day? I learned that day, politicians can count. When I began, they hated me, but when they saw where the tide of public opinion was, you know what, they came over to my side, and instead of five minutes, I was up there for about 20.

"Well, preacher, how can we fix this? What can we do? Do you think you could help us get another speaker in?"

"You bet."

Here's the outcome of all that. There's so much, and you read about it in Enough is Enough, the revised version. You get in touch with me, I'll be glad to send to you. The high school assembly, the Sunday morning message, the Houston Chronicle, the school board

meeting, I began preaching on the importance of the church being salt and light. I began encouraging our people to run for public office, which, by the way, we didn't have one single member, even on a committee, for the high school to the city.

My philosophy of church was Mary had a little lamb. The lamb became a sheep. The sheep became a Baptist, and died for lack of sleep. I mean I felt if I could keep them in church 24 hours a day, they couldn't get into sin, and boy, if you wanted to rise through the ranks of leadership, you had to be at church when I called church. You like that, pastor?

Your people can't change the world if you got them in church all the time, in the building all the time. Let me correct that because I had to correct it in my own life. Our people soon occupied four positions out of seven on the school board. It was amazing. In the first place, our church could swing an election because nobody votes, least not initially. Three of our people soon occupied City Council out of five. Buddy, you talk about changing the direction. My secretary's husband was a successful lawyer with a private firm. He resigned and ran for District Judge, didn't even know at the time that our courts were going to start ... there was going to be a Supreme Court Decision that meant for a minor to get an abortion without parental consent, they had to go to a certain District Court, and in our section of Texas, guess which court it was? The one my secretary's husband sat on, and he saved, by now, 100s of babies, by just reasoning with these kids.

You don't think God's not sovereign. You haven't lived until Christiane Amanpour shows up with a CNN crew. They came to Pearland, followed me around, everything I went, every message I preached, got hours of tape, and produced a program called, God's Warriors, aired it five times that I'm aware of. You can still watch it online. A full 2 hours, 15 minutes, focused on Rick Scarborough, and here's what she said. By the way, also, Alexandra Pelosi, Nancy Pelosi's daughter, she went to D. James Kennedy's church with me, and filmed me down there.

Christiane Amanpour closed the segment on me by saying these words, "Rick Scarborough's gains were short-lived." Well, I'll let you be the judge of that. Three members went on and served in the state legislature. One is still there. One died in office, and there's a new high school in Pearland called Glenda Dawson High School, named after that member.

The other one is Congressman Randy Weber, who by the way, we were never enemies, but he was kind of a guy on the City Council that just floated, didn't really ... he was always trying to do what he needed to do to make people like him. He made it clear he didn't like preachers getting involved in politics, but his daughter started coming to our youth group, went off to our camp, had her life changed, told her daddy about it. One Sunday I look, and there's Randy Weber. He and I became fast friends. Six months later, I baptized Randy Weber and his son on the same day, and he's now serving God in the US Congress.

You know what, guys? As the church goes, so goes the nation. As the pastor goes, so goes the church. I can meet you and talk to you a little while, and know exactly what the emphasis in your church is. If a pastor has a burden to pray, he'll have a praying church. If a

pastor has a burden for missions, it'll be a mission-minded church. If a pastor was like me, has an evangelist heart, it'll be an evangelist church. But, you know what God wants the church to be? The body of Christ, which is all those things. I'm telling you, everything that's killing this country could be cured by the church. The solution for what ails America is seated in the pews of your church. You need to go home, repent, and then release your men and women to run for public office, and in some cases, you need to personally, consider doing that. God give us one more chance as a country.

Notes:

Critical Theory: Un-Biblical, Divisive, and Anti-Liberty
Dr. Marlene McMillan

Critical Theory is a linguistic structure of destruction. It is a high-minded attack on the Word of God with the intent of getting innocent, well-meaning people to operate against the Word while thinking they are doing good.

Critical Theory is an artificial construct that reframes or distorts the world into a sad and hopeless place. It robs you of your dignity and trains you to focus on the negative at the expense of all things beautiful and true, including Liberty. It robs you of the ability to think from principle, follow a logic chain, or recognize truth from error.

Cultural Marxism is a form of Marxism that deceptively gets people to voluntarily embrace the ideas of Marxism into daily life by controlling their thought processes. Critical Theory (CT) is the academic term for the method of thinking on which Cultural Marxism is built.
Critical Race Theory (CRT) is Critical Theory applied to racism. Black Lives Matter (BLM) embodies CRT.

The Frankfurt School grew out of the Institute for Social Research founded in 1923 in Frankfurt, Germany. When its Communist professor founders fled Nazi Germany in 1933, most of them, with the help of John Dewey, ended up at Columbia Teachers College. The Frankfurt School saw the patriarchal family as the enemy because it maintained established standards of sexual morality that the Frankfurt School believed had to be destroyed through education in order to bring about Cultural Marxism.

Critical Theory and all of its ideological children and grandchildren are hopeless ideas. Critical Theory has become systemic in all of our educational systems. So why have we been teaching this ideology, which has its origins primarily in the Frankfurt School, in our seminaries under the name of Higher Criticism? Rather than learning to know Yahweh and the Truth of His Word through relationship, future pastors are stripped of their belief in the infallibility of the Word of God and instead taught a hierarchical system of religious power and bondage based on the doctrines of men to keep the masses under control and dependent.

Critical Race Theory, while claiming to correct injustice, is dystrophic, destructive, and disadvantaged; it results in a meaningless dystopia that steals the future. **Who has Critical Race Theory ever helped?** An essential element of Critical Theory is constant criticism. Always looking for what is wrong results in unforgiveness, negativity, and bitterness. Bitterness is contagious. It repels joy and blessing. Its followers are kept in a weakened state of victimhood by constantly begging others to do something for them.

Critical Theory openly states the remaking of the family, sexuality, and education as its primary area of focus. Put directly, this means destruction of the nuclear family, the normalization of deviancy, and education that only allows thoughts in agreement with the party line, all while tracking everyone's place on the continuum of acceptance of the New World Order group think.

When a minister proclaims his support of Black Lives Matter, he is affirming his support of their godless anti-Biblical agenda. He may only desire to share in the suffering of others, express empathy, or prove he is trying to understand. None of those are the real agenda of Black Lives Matter.

While we always assume a good motive, BLM and any organization knowingly or unwittingly promoting Cultural Marxism tell us by their own language where they stand. Many are led astray because they don't know the meaning of the words used by Social Engineers to implement Marxism without the awareness of the masses.

Jesus did not come to found another religion. He came to establish a Kingdom. That Kingdom is based on fixed principles that are the same for all peoples. It took generations to work out the perfect law of Liberty in the Scriptures and figure out how they applied practically to life. These principles were taught from the pulpit, engrained in the people, and lived out by Kingdom thinkers who saw Liberty as the way of showing the unconditional Love of Yahweh to the unsaved world. Yahweh's principles are not flawed even though the people who apply them are. It is the unredeemed nature to desire to oppress and enslave others, and there is no secular gospel that can change that, no matter how many laws, surveillances, or prisons they put in place.

Abolitionists were the people who brought slavery to an end in England and the United States. Almost 100% of the abolitionists arrived at their hatred for slavery as a result of their understanding of the Scriptures. They reasoned if Jesus came to set the captives free, it was impossible to be Biblical while enslaving them in the name of Jesus. The 2% of the population who were slave holders before the Civil War are being held up as the norm instead of the Abolitionists who had the majority support of the general population across the South as well as the North. It was primarily Christians who taught the slaves to read and write and risked their lives to help them escape. The more anyone has a Biblical understanding of Liberty, the more they hate slavery, and thus, to accuse them of being complicit is slander.

James Cone's theories of systemic racism are erroneously accepted without question as authoritarian. To be systemic, it has to be incapable of being separated, and therefore, the whole system has to be destroyed to get rid of the disease. If this is the case, then our whole Constitutional system would have to be obliterated and replaced. With what?: Marxism (centralized redistribution of wealth and power throughout culture), Socialism (Hillary Clinton tells us it is just a nice word for Communism), Democratic Socialism (giving the people a chance to vote for their enslavement), Communism (the Party is god, thus the Party is always right and has a divine right to impose its will upon the people), or Anarchy (lawless chaos), which is always followed by Totalitarianism (total slavery).

In a pro-Critical Theory book by Stephen Eric Bronner, Critical Theory: A Very Short Introduction, this defender and promoter of Critical Theory states the following:

"Critical theory was conceived within the intellectual crucible of Marxism." P. 2

"They were concerned less with what Marx called the economic 'base' than the political and cultural 'superstructure' of society." P. 2

"Alienation and reification are the two ideas most commonly associated with critical theory. The former is usually identified with the psychological effects of exploitation and the division of labor, and the latter with how people are treated instrumentally, as 'things,' through concepts that have been ripped from their historical context." P. 3-4

"European radicals applied its ideas to **reconfiguring the family, sexuality, and education**." P. 5 (emphasis added)

"Critical theory was intended as a general theory of society fueled by the desire for liberation." P. 21

"Critical theory would treat facts less as isolated depictions of reality than as crystallized historical products of social action." P. 21. To ensure the reader understands the goal, it states the "intent upon transforming reality." P. 21

"Critical theory sought to make good on the injunction of the young Marx and engage in a 'ruthless critique of everything existing.'" P. 22

Yes, Critical Theory is a form of Marxism. Quit looking at the labels and look at the substance of the ideas promoters of Critical Theory proclaim. One cannot understand our times without realizing the basic operating premise of all Marxist, Leninist, Trotskyiteist, or Communist Revolutionaries: "The issue is never the issue. It is always about the Revolution."

"'We must be ready to employ trickery, deceit, law-breaking, withholding and concealing truth... We can and must write in a language which sows among the masses hate, revulsion, and scorn toward those who disagree with us.' (Vladimir Lenin) Communists use language and psychology as weapons. Their constant vilification is a form of psychological terror. It puts America and Americans on trial. The verdict is always guilty. Facts don't matter because the Left does not want to resolve the problems they complain about. They use those problems to agitate and provoke, hoping conflict becomes unavoidable—thereby creating a self -fulfilling prophecy. Their hatred is tactical ." ~ James Simpson, January 12, 2016, "Reds Exploiting Blacks: The Roots of Black Lives Matter"

What is the Revolution? To dethrone Yahweh and enthrone the all-powerful, all-knowing, all-encompassing State as god. Totalitarianism, bondage, tyranny — all just different names for slavery.

It is understandable how a Saul Alinsky who dedicated his Rules for Radicals to Lucifer could so admire anyone who wants their own kingdom. It makes sense when unsaved, lawless (antinomian) rebels want to be liberated. It is tragic that pastors never pick up on this word in the context of Liberation Theology and ask: "Liberated from what?" What does a person who Jesus shed His blood for on the cross need to be liberated from?

Revolutionaries, by definition, are destructive. Anyone can destroy. Anyone can complain about the defects of the custom-built house and point out the failings of the architect and the builder. But could that person have designed and built a better house? Driving a destructive machine that reduces the house to rubble in minutes doesn't make them a builder.

The Dialectic Process is a set of very well-crafted steps designed to move a person from a belief in absolute truth to a belief in relativism. Once the fixed reference points of a society are destroyed, then each generation has to be constantly indoctrinated and conditioned to the norms of a totalitarian all-seeing-eye State. No matter how much the State punishes, resistance continues because Yahweh wrote the natural desire for Liberty on the fleshy tablet of the hearts of all mankind.

Critical Race Theory focuses on the flesh. God says to focus on the heart. Critical Theory deals with the external circumstances, not the internal condition of the heart. Changing a person's circumstances does not solve the problem of sin. Redefining sin as thoughts that are politically incorrect doesn't heal the brokenhearted. When the political spirit and the religious spirit join forces, the hierarchical church easily becomes an ally for the totalitarian State.

The first step of the Dialectic Process is identifying areas of discontent. Grateful people don't focus on their circumstances. Gratefulness and appreciation are magnetic, and they attract favor and blessing. In order to get the people who have more Liberty than anywhere else in the world to be discontented, they must be told constantly how bad their life is. They must be fed a steady diet of victimhood, entitlement, and ungratefulness. They must learn to hate their Nation, resent the rich, hate their employers, resent opportunity, and demand unrealistic outcomes.

Their daily circumstances are not compared to reality — their less-than-ideal life is compared to an unrealistic, never attainable Utopia (which means it does not exist). Then a Utopian future must be promised with the same answer to every problem: less Liberty and more centralization. Big civil government is always the solution, and individual self-government, personal responsibility, and equal protection under the law are always the problem.

In the name of equality, inequality is promoted. In the name of freedom, more centralization and civil government controls are offered. In the name of economic prosperity, the system that has resulted in more death, poverty, and destruction than any system in history is promoted as the only "woke" possibility.

Social-psychologists, Critical Race Theorists, liberation theologians, and "trained Marxists" (as the leaders of Back Lives Matter define themselves) have now found their way even into the self-proclaimed “evangelical” pulpits of our land. A different gospel has come forward, and whether out of naiveté, pure ignorance, or agreement, we now have social justice messages being mainstreamed from the pulpit. The pulpit is a sacred office, and using it to teach a gospel that goes against Isaiah 61 and Luke 4 has grave consequences.

How do you know if the real Gospel is being preached? Look at the result. **If you get cultural liberty (which is irrefutably followed by prosperity), then you know the real Gospel is being preached.** If you have Marxism, Communism, totalitarianism, and any other euphemism for tyranny and slavery, then it is a different gospel.

Jesus said He came to set the captives free, heal the broken-hearted, and set at Liberty those who are bound. Marxism is a redistributive economic system that takes from the productive and gives to the unproductive. It is an immutable law of the universe that you get more of what you subsidize and less of what you penalize. When you subsidize poor character, resentment, bitterness, offense, and unforgiveness, you get more of it. When you penalize productivity, morality, and deferred gratification, you get less of it.

The immutable laws of the universe apply equally to everyone just like gravity. Critical Theory is based on false premises and results in unreality. Critical Theory (no matter how many ministers support it) is anti-Bible, anti-Christ, anti-Truth and anti-Liberty. All ideas have consequences. Critical Race Theory gets everyone talking about ideas that only lead to division and heartache.

Since it is an immutable law of the universe that you get more of what you talk about and become what you think about, all this talk about racism just creates more racism. If that is the focus of our thoughts, then that is what we become. But, if the haters of Liberty cannot take away our Freedom of Speech because of that pesky Constitution, then the next best tactic is to get us to self -censor. If we can be convinced we are internally flawed and therefore in need of external controls, then we will give up our God-given, inalienable liberties voluntarily.

Equalitarianism requires centralized enforcement of equal outcomes by force. Totalitarianism is the Communist all- encompassing arm of the State regulating and controlling every area of life. Equalitarianism is far worse than totalitarianism because totalitarianism is forced upon us from outside. We didn’t agree to totalitarianism, and we maintain an inner strength to at least not go along with it in our hearts even if our bodies are enslaved. With equalitarianism, we not only agreed, we promoted it. We funded our own executioners, thus losing the moral authority to stand against it. We were willing participants, and the loss to our personal dignity becomes systemic. Loss of personal dignity is systemic in Communism, which is just a nice word for slavery.

"Obama’s favorite Harvard professor Derrick Bell devised Critical Race Theory, which exemplifies Lenin’s strategy as applied to race. According to Discover the Networks: 'Critical race theory contends that America is permanently racist to its core, and that

consequently the nation's legal structures are, by definition, racist and invalid ... members of "oppressed" racial groups are entitled—in fact obligated—to determine for themselves which laws and traditions have merit and are worth observing ...'" ~ James Simpson, January 12, 2016, "Reds Exploiting Blacks: The Roots of Black Lives Matter"

If racism were systemic in our system, then it would be codified in our laws under which the people alive today have lived. The Critical Theorists, race baiters, and poverty pimps have told people that the things that happened to our ancestors have different meanings — they twist those meanings to get us to volunteer for our own loss of Liberty.

One of the first steps to Revolution is rewriting a nation's history. Today, people who have grown up in this Nation (whose system offers the most Liberty in the history of the world) are told how bad their lives are and how severely they have been oppressed. And who are their oppressors? The same people who are telling them how oppressed they are!

It is irrefutable that people with less centralization and government control are more prosperous. But how many people have researched this for themselves? Do you read only secular economists Paul Krugman and Keynes? Do you see God as causative of history, or man? Do you believe civil governments can violate immutable laws of the universe even though individuals can't? Or do you also seek a perspective in alignment with proven economic principles by reading Walter Williams and Thomas Sowell? Do you read James Cone without also reading Anthony Bradley's *Liberating Black Theology*?

One of the methods of the Dialectic Process is using the same words to have different meanings while constantly changing the definitions of words. Political Correctness uses language to control culture. When you control a person's speech, you control their thoughts. When speech is limited, then ideas are censored.

A brief history of the Frankfurt School and a summary of the Consequences of Cultural Marxism are found in *Political Correctness: A Deceptive and Dangerous Worldview* edited by William S. Lind and Richard W. Hawkins. On page 225, it states: "The goal of Critical Theory was not truth, but praxis, or revolutionary action: bringing the current society and culture down through unremitting, destructive criticism." For complete disclosure, I have a chapter in the book.

If an idea is flawed in premise, it is flawed in result. Critical Theory lays out a false frame that is so distorted and anti-Biblical it should be seen for the fraud it is on its face. The sad frame through which they see the world shouldn't have any appeal to someone who has beheld the Glory. **One of the rules of Quantum Physics is you get more of what you are looking for.** Critical Race Theory, with its assumptions based in unreality, looks for injustice everywhere. Because they reject the I AM of the Scriptures, who has already determined reality, they end up in despair in their own unrealistic materialistic kingdom.

Without Liberty what will you do? Do you think you will come and go as you please? Do you think your church will be spared because you publicly supported Black Lives Matter? Do you think your congregation will continue to support a minister who eats his sheep instead of keeping them from being eaten? When the ministers who supported Hitler at the beginning woke up, they went to the concentration camps just the same. Their prior loyalties did not protect them. They had to live with the guilt for compromising their God and participate in the suffering of their fellowman.

The Constitution is written to restrict civil government, not to give people their rights. Since rights were considered inalienable — coming from a higher power than government, then civil government could not take away what it did not have the authority to give in the first place.

A preacher or church leader who promotes Black Lives Matter, which openly states its agenda as Marxist, anti-family, pro-abortion and anti-Christ, is promoting slavery and ensuring that any Constitutional protections are done away with by law. Black Lives Matter is not promoting equal protection under the law. They are promoting equal slavery under law, equal poverty, and equal misery. Liberty is not on their agenda.

Critical Race Theory is based in relativism. Since the Bible determines reality, then by definition, Critical Race Theory is anti-Biblical. The Dialectic Process is the way that Social Engineers use language to change and control culture.

Yahweh created the world with words, and redefining the culture with words is one of the wiles of the devil that has not been taught from the pulpit. If the Church understood the Dialectic Process, Christians would recognize they are being deceived and manipulated. Then they would reject the lies they are being fed daily as truth instead of feeling powerless to resist the seemingly-inevitable tyranny.

Critical Theory is a linguistic structure of destruction. It has created a vocabulary around victimhood and redefined the rules of life. The problem is when unreality has a collision with reality, reality always wins. Equality can be labeled freedom, but the people in Cuba are still slaves — they have equal wages, fair housing, free healthcare, etc., but they are slaves, with travel outside their borders restricted. The ideology of Marxism got them there, and licensed religious leaders help to keep them there.

Liberty is the result of a principled language and method. Slavery is the result of a different language and method. You cannot speak the language of destruction and get anything but destruction. Destruction is systemic to Critical Theory. Some pastors are trying to adopt the language of Critical Race Theory and merge it with the Gospel. God hates mixture. The forbidden tree was the tree of mixture — the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Yes, there was good there, but the evil came along with it and could not be separated. The Tree of Life is like Proverbs 10:22: The blessing of the Lord it makes rich and He adds no sorrow to it.

The Politically Correct Police determine your alignment with them by how much of their language you speak. **The "It is written" of the Word is not politically correct. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty" (II Corinthians 3:17).** Why are we spending our time entertaining godless philosophies instead of taking every thought captive and making it obedient to Christ? If thoughts have to be taken captive and made obedient to Christ, that must mean we can have rebellious thoughts, and it is rebellious thoughts that need taken captive, not people.

Definitions are like mini-contracts that you enter into without even thinking about it. They are like mini-powers of attorney that empower others over you. Why does it matter to the politically correct police that you use their words? Because their words have specific meanings, and even if you don't agree with their definitions, by using their words, you are agreeing to their frame of reference. You are agreeing to their worldview by method. Your ignorance of how the Dialectic Process works does not change your agreement any more than your ignorance of the meaning of a clause in a contract releases you from any obligations verified by your signature. Your use of Critical Race Theory words and their frame is like a signature of overt consent that they are setting the rules and you are in agreement.

Destruction is systemic in Critical Theory. Whatever wrongs/injustices Black Lives Matter or any other trained Marxists and community agitators claim to correct cannot be solved with hatred, deceit, and destruction.

Luke 4 says Jesus came to set the captives free, heal the broken-hearted, and set at Liberty those who are bound. Anyone who hates Jesus cannot set the captives free. If their ideas, no matter how lofty sounding, result in bondage, their ideas are not Biblical, no matter how many Scriptures they quote, how beautiful their vestments, or large their audiences. If, in the name of Jesus, a different gospel is preached — a gospel that results in bondage and not Liberty — it is not the Gospel of the Kingdom.

Liberty is indivisible. You do not get equality by promoting special privilege. Equal protection under the law is reflective of our equality at the foot of the cross. Marxist agitators know that they have to sow the seeds of discontent, hatred, and division in order to promote their brand of totalitarianism. In Acts 2, redistribution was temporary and voluntary. Money laid at the feet of the apostles was by choice, not by coercion of civil government. Socialism is based on an un-Biblical idea of redistribution that, when convenient, distorts Acts 2 and uses it as a proof text for civil government confiscation of private property. Socialism may be Communism with a smiley face, but all forms of totalitarianism are really Slavery.

The answer to all this conflict is in the Kingdom. The current national unrest is evidence the Gospel, in recent generations, has not been and is not being preached from the pulpits of our land. **It is time for repentance and confession for distorting the Word of God.**

Liberty is indivisible. Principles that yield Liberty are the same everywhere in the world. They are not different for different races or countries. The principles of Liberty do not change just because we wish it were so.

The apostles, who lived in a world where slavery was normal, were accused of turning the world upside down. In reality, they were turning the world right side up. Ideas that lead to bondage and tyranny are not new. Critical Theory is just academic language for the original lie, "you can be as gods." It is a method of calling evil good and good evil.

The apostles were told to stop speaking in politically incorrect, unapproved, and disruptive ways. They answered that they fear God rather than man and faced the human consequences. Where are the people today who allow God to govern their thoughts and are willing to call evil evil and good good? Where are the preachers who still believe God's Word defines good and evil?

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Philippians 4:8

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32

Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled. Heb. 12:15

The Gospel properly preached results in Liberty. The gospel distorted results in bondage and tyranny. You don't get Liberty by breaching the immutable laws of Liberty. Either we will live in Liberty together or we will live in Slavery together.

Dr. Marlene McMillan, author of *Mountains of Deceit: How the Dialectic Process has infected the Culture* that is essential to understanding Political Correctness, is an international speaker known as "The Nation's Expert on the Principles of Liberty. She is a graduate of John Brown University, has a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and was professor of Church and State Relations at Tyndale Theological Seminary where she earned a Doctor of Ministry. Dr. Marlene's books are timely, readable, teachable, and currently being used in weekly study groups across the Nation. You can join her at WhyLibertyMatters.com for her weekly webinar.

Promoting Marxism in the Name of Equality: A warning to pastors and church leaders

Dr. Marlene McMillan

The playbook for Cultural Revolution was written long ago. Proven tactics strategically executed have consistent results because human nature does not change. Recognition, approval, and belonging are easily used to deceive people away from the Word and make them consistently choose relationship over truth.

Tyrants (Marxists, Socialists) hate the Bible because it teaches Liberty, exposes tyranny, and gives the courage to stand for Truth and justice. Social Engineers manipulate the masses by redefining words to change culture.

Social Engineers use the Dialectic Process that includes well-proven steps designed to move people from a belief in absolute truth to a belief in relativism. Revolutionaries (Anarchists) use deceitful Dialectic Processes to bring about destructive Cultural Transformation and establish their own kingdom in opposition to God's (Yahweh's) Kingdom.

Critical Theory (CT) is an un-Biblical, divisive, and anti -Liberty philosophy that deceptively gets people to voluntarily embrace the ideas of Marxism into daily life. Critical Race Theory (CRT) is Critical Theory applied to racism. Black Lives Matter (BLM) embodies CRT. When Secular Humanism, the belief that man is the center of his own universe, was accepted into our public schools, the door was opened to Cultural Marxism, which normalizes redistribution of wealth and centralization of government control.

Religious people tend to be reactionary in that they only respond to the actions of others. Those who seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness look to fulfill the dominion mandate (Genesis 1:28) by being strategic and setting the agenda.

While religious people think from a religious framework, tyrants (Marxists, Socialists) strategize how to gain power via governmental structures both civil and religious. Tyrants primarily use issues to gain power, either by capitalizing on a legitimate grievance (the issue) or creating an issue and presenting themselves as the solution.

The innocent masses think that the issue is the problem, and when they support the revolutionary, they mistakenly think they are part of the solution, never realizing: **The issue is never the issue**. **It is always about the Revolution.** What is the Revolution? To dethrone God (Yahweh) and enthrone the all -powerful, all-knowing, all-encompassing State as god. How do you know this is true? Because, no matter the problem, Marxism is the solution. No matter the question, Marxism is the answer.

It makes sense that dis-educated and undereducated people who have been tragically underserved by government schools would be so frustrated they would be enticed by the

unrealistic promises of the Revolutionaries who want to destroy Constitutionalism and implement worldwide totalitarianism.

But what about the highly-educated pastors who should know enough history to know that Socialism has never brought the solutions promised? In fact, Socialism (just a nice word for Communism) is the cause of untold misery, sorrow, death, destruction, and devastation. The evidence is easily documented everywhere it has been tried.

How can someone know Communism is slavery and promote it anyway?

Consider this first of 3 possibilities:

1. **They have been educated to believe that:**

    - Centralization is the solution (when it is actually part of the problem)

    - Civil government can manage their affairs better than they can themselves (because they are not taught individual self-government)

    - The current system is flawed (but in reality, it is because the divinely-inspired Constitutional system is not being properly applied)

    - Civil government's redistribution of wealth is the only fair way to show compassion to all the citizens (but Biblically, according to the parable of the talents, wealth goes to the best steward)

Government redistribution of wealth is innocently accepted as the solution when, in reality, redistribution increases poverty. People have been educated to believe Socialism is good, but have never taken the time to look into the facts or seek alternatives. They are the victims of selective and revisionist history that only tells part of the story – the glowing claims of Trotsky, Lenin, Mao and Pol Pot – but have not lived under their rule or studied the lives of those who have personally suffered the consequences of tyrannical ideas. Whether innocent or ignorant, the resultant suffering is still the same.

Burgess Owens, a former NFL football player, has written, *Why I Stand: From Freedom to the Killing Fields of Socialism*. Owens takes time to define terms, and the book is written primarily to a black audience.

"**Radicalization** is a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject or undermine the status quo or reject and/or undermine contemporary ideas and expression of freedom of choice." Owens, p. 146

Owens goes on to explain how black leaders, including the Congressional Black Caucus, have worked with white socialists to advance Marxist agendas at the expense of the people they purport to serve. "The blossoming of the ideological seed of socialism/Marxism within the

urban black community has resulted in the exponential growth of crime, illiteracy, unemployment, child abandonment, abuse and abortions." Owens, p. 146-147

The consequences of Socialism are everywhere, so why would a pastor support such an easily-documented, failed system of suffering, poverty, and tyranny?

Consider the second of 3 possibilities of how someone can know Communism is slavery and promote it anyway:

2. They have more fear of people than a fear of God. The new theologies induced out of the new dialected translations of the Bible have justified the preaching of a different gospel. This different gospel makes people feel good and tells them what they want to hear. Conviction of sin, need for repentance, or Jesus (Yeshua) as the only Way are missing. This different gospel is what Paul warned of and said don't believe it even if Paul himself promoted it. But how do we know if it is the true Gospel?

Jesus (Yeshua) came to set the captives free. You don't have to change the Gospel to set at Liberty those who are bound. You have to preach the Gospel – not the "social gospel," the "compassionate gospel," or whatever modifier is in fashion today. You don't have to reconstruct the Gospel, liberate theology, or be the bridge to improve upon it. The true Gospel results in Liberty.

You don't have to use the circle process that exalts personal opinion and human reasoning over Biblical Truth or learn a psychology-rooted, trauma-based approach. You don't have to revise history or let the past steal your future. It is not necessary to belittle others to raise yourself up. You don't have to destroy unlimited opportunity by legislating what is really tyranny in the name of equality. The only way to legislate equality is to remove freedom of choice, thus destroying unlimited opportunity. Tyranny in the name of equality is still tyranny.

Any attempt to limit opportunity is a restriction of Liberty. Since Liberty is indivisible, the cost of the loss of Liberty is greater than any perceived reward of equality. The only way laws can enforce equal outcomes is by universal slavery. Free people, by definition, use their freedom differently. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." (Galatians 5:1) How can anyone be set free in Christ and then think they are doing a godly thing by supporting a movement that gains power by enslaving the masses in the name of equality?

The social gospel is a euphemism for Marxism/Socialism/Communism – which all result in slavery. Don't claim to be setting the captives free when your only rhetoric is infused with the injustice and misery of slavery.

Consider this third possibility of how someone can know Communism is slavery and promote it anyway:

3. They know what they are doing. One of the young, hip (is that an

un-Politically Correct word?), good looking, smartly dressed, celebrity “pretty people” that stands in the pulpit of one of our mega-churches was a political science major. Surely, he knows the consequences of these ideas. Surely, he knows that Chinese Communism under Chairman Mao resulted in the murder of 40-70 million; in the USSR under Stalin alone, 20 million, and other leaders, another 40 million; in Cambodia under Pol Pot, 4 million; in North Korea under Kim Il Sung, at least 5.6 million, and many other millions around the world since then. This suffering and death can be documented from many sources, including Owens p. 147-148.

Not to endorse everything that Red Pill University teaches, but their 8-minute video, "Deadliest Virus in the World: Communism," sums up the threat better than anything else currently available. The current situation in Venezuela is a real-time illustration of the consequences of Socialism and government redistribution of wealth. This once-prosperous self-supporting nation is left in chaos and total devastation. Citizens who can are leaving the Country in droves, with many coming to the United States. Where would we go if the United States were to fall into the hands of tyrannical totalitarian statists?

There are several lessons about Venezuela and the devastation of redistribution of wealth at PragerU.com that show the consequences of government redistribution of wealth. PragerU.com offers 5-minute edutainment videos dealing with the difference between Left vs. Leftist, Socialism in Brazil, Venezuela, and Sweden, and many others worth your time.

How should we view this new breed of pastoral leaders who are promoting Marxism from their pulpits? These duplicitous leaders insist they are not political. This non-political sleight of mind is brilliantly deceptive. In the name of not being political, they are supporting policies that actively promote abortion, are anti-family, anti-Christ, and anti-Liberty.

Here is a meme these complicit pastors and church leaders
could use for self-disclosure:
“I am not a Marxist. I just always endorse Marxist ideas.”

They are getting by with this deceit since many of their church members have been conditioned to equate religious experiences and spiritual feelings with faith and don’t know enough Word to know when it is watered down, when incorrect conclusions have been drawn because verses have been taken out of context to make them say the opposite of their true meaning, or un-Biblical definitions have been used to define the words in the Bible, either unwittingly or intentionally.

While we do not trust in political activity for our future, we are in the world but not of it. We understand that the Power Elites make it appear there are two sides when there is really only one agenda. Causing division and pitting individuals and groups against each other is part of the plan. Divide and conquer is always effective.

Many pastors are afraid of telling their congregations to vote. When congregants do not vote, by default, not voting is a vote for tyranny and abandonment of the culture. **We are told to occupy until Christ comes, and voting is part of occupation.** It is a way to have a voice. Whether you like a party’s candidate or not, you have to also realize that when you vote for a

candidate, you vote for the party as well. Make sure you are clear as to which party's platform more aligns with your values. Whether you like a candidate's personality or not, look at their actual legislation, the positions they have taken – either for or against abortion, concentration of power, family, etc. Remember, Supreme Court Justices matter.

So, how are these "non -political" pastors able to actively promote Marxist organizations with openly-advertised agendas that are hate-mongering, divisive, pro-abortion, anti-family, anti-Christ, and anti-Liberty?

The result of having Celebrity pastors, experienced-based church services, sensual music, self-centered and watered-down preaching is now really taking root in the culture. Have the people been so conditioned they don't know the difference, or has generations of Dialectic education finally reached the tipping point? Whatever the cause, pastors are still responsible.

To sum up my earlier 3 points, these pastors are either:

1. Ignorant – lack of knowledge or mis-educated on these matters
2. Spineless – failure to stand and speak the truth from the pulpit
3. Complicit – by associations or agreements

How could our beloved pastoral leaders have been caught in this net? Have these articulate, capable pulpiteers sold their souls? Are they so deceived, so steeped in the Dialectic Process that they can justify their support of Marxism and the inevitable consequences of the ideas they are promoting from their pulpits? In order to climb the mountains of power, have they made covenants, contracts, and agreements to compromise the Word of God in exchange for fame, fortune, prestige, or silence about their participation in compromising activities?

What if they really believe that Marxism is more compassionate than Liberty? What if they don't know the connection between Liberty and the Gospel? What if they don't know enough of the immutable economic principles of the Word to know that the borrower is always servant to the lender, or according to the parable of the talents, the good steward will become richer and the poor steward will lose what he had? Whether they have been conditioned through the Hegelian Dialectic's negation of the negation to believe they are doing the world a favor or they are just ignorant of the Word, the result is the same: they are promoting tyranny and are responsible for their actions. This warning is an act of compassion and an opportunity for them to repent.

How can Black Lives Matter and all the highly-funded organizations like them possibly solve the problems they claim to correct? Look at their policies. They claim to be for equality, but their proposals are part of the Marxist agenda of codifying inequality. Liberty is indivisible. Legislation that gives special privilege to one group over another is not equal protection under the law. While claiming to correct injustice, they are promoting injustice by taking the results of the labor of one group and giving it to another.

When, in the history of the world has taking from the rich and giving to the poor ever made the poor rich? If you would like more clarity on why Social Justice is un-Biblical, please request our two webinars on Social Justice. Chaos, disruption, challenging of fixed beliefs

(especially from parents and the Bible) are all part of getting people to accept ideas that would have been unthinkable before.

Tyrants come to power on the rubble of the monuments of the prior order. Destroying the monuments is not just about wiping out the memory of people who held to viewpoints our "woke" culture has declared abominable. That argument doesn't hold credibility when statues of Abolitionists are being torn down. Since our churches are monuments, do these pastors really think their churches will be left alone after they endorse Marxism and ignore or excuse anarchy from their platforms?

In the un-Biblical methodology of Values Clarification, which is a form of brainwashing, the first step is the unfreezing of old values. Brainwashing is only effective when the person is disorientated and his daily routines are disrupted. After the disruption, new ideas more suitable to the new order have to be introduced. In order to be assured these new ideas are permanently embraced, there has to be a process of refreezing that needs to be perpetually reinforced.

Destroying the monuments is to destroy our cultural moorings, reset our values, and make us cry for order at any cost. Tyranny, OK; loss of essential Liberty, OK; just let me get immunized/chipped so I can get papers and go back to work or the civil government will have to keep paying me not to work.

Historically, Revolutionaries have not cared who or what was destroyed on the way to the Revolution. The process was more important than the people or property involved. There was no sorrow for the collateral damage. Even the lives of young children murdered due to lack of police protection in anarchist communities is just considered a cost of the Revolution by those community agitators who know what they are doing and have clearly defined goals of which the uninitiated are not aware.

Revolutions have many things in common. The stages can be plotted and the outcome accurately predicted. If you have never studied the steps of cultural change, you will not see how the organizers are all reading from the same playbook. After the Political Correctness phase when the people are unsettled and agitated, their areas of discontent have to be magnified. To keep the tyrant's "hero persona" and make the tyrant look as though he is a blameless hero, conflict which appears to be spontaneous is started by the puppet-master behind the scenes. Then the sub-groups are left to destroy each other in a survival-of -the-fittest kind of Final 4. Remember, in the end, only one team wins.

The leaders of each of these sub-groups believed they would be victorious and rewarded by the tyrant-hero for all the leader had sacrificed for the cause. Over the centuries, these power-desiring pawns were all defrocked or died with the same look of disbelief on their face: "Not me, I'm one of the protected class, one to whom you promised special privilege. Remember, I've proven over and over I will compromise everything – my church, my family, my country. How could you do this to me?"

Jesus (Yeshua) came to set the captive free. **Has anyone ever been set free under Marxism/Socialism/Communism?** Social Justice is a euphemism for Marxism. Social Justice is a substitute word for slavery. Benevolent Dictators are still dictators. Has Critical Theory ever liberated anyone from tyranny?

Has Critical Race Theory ever liberated anyone from tyranny? Has Liberation Theology ever liberated anyone from tyranny? No. These ideas of Cultural Marxism are designed to justify a disconnect from the law of God and replace His law with a loyalty to human reason with a religious persona.

If it is wrong in premise, it is wrong in result. Marxism blesses greed, laziness, and resentment while making producers, job creators, inventors, hard-working, creative people into villains who should feel guilty for making the world a better place. Using pastors and church leaders as their useful idiots is one of the tyrant's favorite methods of getting the masses to buy into their agenda. One of the best ways to make someone a slave is to make them believe they are free.

The Biblically-based system that has brought more prosperity to the most people in the history of the world is being slandered, even from our pulpits. It is an immutable law of the universe that you get more of what you subsidize and less of what you penalize. By subsidizing laziness, immorality, and sloth, we assure ourselves of its growth. By penalizing hard- work, delayed gratification, and thrift, we can be sure there will be less.

In the name of equality, inequality is being assured. But the Revolutionaries knew that when they started. They knew that the issue is never the issue, but they will use any issue to further their cause. Racism has been a convenient and effective vehicle to drive the Marxism bus off the tyranny cliff because it is especially easy to get pastors and church leaders to buy into their false sense of justice. The problem is those riding the bus will not survive. Most of the drivers who expect to get their own kingdoms will, in the end, be destroyed. Those Liberty lovers who tried to help the masses and wanted to prevent all this devastation will die of starvation – starved of appreciation and finances. Those who could have repaired the bus will have been imprisoned for being a threat to the new collective (Communistic) order.

Who told us that equality is a righteous goal, or even possible? In the name of equality, the real agenda is inequality. Special privilege is unequal. To have equality, there has to be equality of ideas. The fear of ideas, evidenced by politically correct speech, people losing jobs, or being publicly humiliated for what they say, are hard evidence of our current condition. When only certain ideas are allowed, you already know you are living under tyranny. You can tell when just the thought of speaking the Truth can make you fearful.

Stephen Coughlin, a former CIA analyst, in his "Warning on Racism," says on page 9, “When the state defines ‘truth,’ dissent becomes hate speech.” His extensive research on how the Dialectic applies to culture and why the complicity of religious leaders is necessary is at UnconstrainedAnalytics.org.

Liberty is indivisible. Either we have Liberty together or we are all slaves. Equality is impossible to legislate. Outcomes cannot be regulated. You don't get freedom by studying tyranny. You don't get freedom of speech by restricting ideas.

It is immutable that you get more of what you talk about. People demanding that we continue the conversation know they are fueling racism. **You don't do away with racism by talking more about racism.** Satan is the accuser of the brethren. Looking for constant fault fuels hate. Since it is also immutable that you become what you think about, the focus on racism introduces biases previously not there in an attempt to make us all racists. Because conflict is necessary to the tyrant, Community Organizers and Social Engineers know what they are doing. The constant upset is part of the plan. Crowds are easily manipulated, and Liberty is lost when people are driven by their emotions, losing all rationality.

Why would a pastor support Black Lives Matter? Can they claim they don't know?

"It took sports commentator Marcellus Wiley, who is black, only a few minutes to Google the Black Lives Matter movement and find major problems with the organization.

"In a three -minute address on his *Fox Sports* show 'Speak for Yourself' earlier this week, the anchor explained the importance of the nuclear family structure in which he grew up as well as the family he is building now within his own marriage.

"'Being a father and a husband—that's my mission in life right now,' said Wiley. 'How do I reconcile that ... with this [Black Lives Matter] mission statement that says, "We dismantle the patriarchal practice. We disrupt the Western prescribed nuclear family structure requirement."

"'Children from single-parent homes versus two-parent homes—the children from single -parent homes (this was in 1995, I was reading this): five times more likely to commit suicide, six times more likely to be in poverty, nine times more likely to drop out of high school, 10 times more likely to abuse chemical substances, 14 times more likely to commit rape, 20 times more likely to end up in prison, and 32 times more likely to run away from home.'"

~ Sports Commentator Marcellus Wiley Explains Why He Won't Support Black Lives Matter, https://www.faithwire.com/2020/07/03/sports-commentator-explains-why-he-wont-support-black-lives-matter/

Black Lives Matter openly states anti-maleness as part of its agenda. **How can someone argue against family without arguing against God (Yahweh) who designed the family?** This all-out affront on the family is part of the agenda of BLM and other like organizations and is being enabled by evangelical churches and pastors.

When a pastor endorses BLM what are they supporting? You might want to ask your pastor some of the following questions in order to allow him to determine if he needs to repent:

- Where has Marxism, Socialism, or Communism ever made anyone's life better?
- Are the goals of BLM in line with the Gospel?
- What do you hope to get by supporting them?
- Will your organization or church get funding?
- Will you get awards and prestige?
- Do you love the Truth more than a lie?
- Do you fear God (Yahweh) more than man?

Remember, prosperity is the effect of Liberty. If you pursue Liberty, you get prosperity as a consequence. If you pursue prosperity, you will eventually lose both Liberty and prosperity since prosperity is not sustainable without Liberty.

Unity in Christ is a righteous goal. However, we cannot unite around a lie. Inter-faith dialogue is not about uniting around the Truth. Evangelical leaders promoting this new kind of slavery are using Dialectic deceit to pressure everyone to "have the conversation." These tyrannical promoters of slavery are NOT going to change their position. Their intention is to move the masses off a position of absolute truth and get them to unite with a lie. Evangelical pastors and church leaders who support the Social Justice movement are enabling Marxists to codify their anti-Biblical agenda into law. Since two men cannot walk together unless they be agreed, demanding that everyone come into agreement with an agenda that is systemically anti-Christ is asking them to worship false gods and idols.

Pastors must educate their congregants about the Dialectic Process so they are not prey to every sleight of mind trick used by Social Engineers to deceive and manipulate them into begging for their own enslavement.

No matter their label, tyrannical promoters of slavery will impose their relativistic agenda in an absolute authoritarian totalitarian way. When believers listen to the voices of hate and unforgiveness, the result can only be greater injustice. Why are so many people more willing to listen more to the voice of the tyrant than the voice of Liberty? God (Yahweh) has written the desire for Liberty on the fleshy tablet of every person's heart. Instead of human solutions, looking to the Kingdom for supernatural love is the only solution that will result in Liberty.

About the author - Dr. Marlene McMillan, author of *Mountains of Deceit: How the Dialectic Process has infected the Culture* that is essential to understanding Political Correctness, is an international speaker known as “The Nation’s Expert on the Principles of Liberty. She is a graduate of John Brown University, has a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and was professor of Church and State Relations at Tyndale Theological

Seminary where she earned a Doctor of Ministry. Dr. Marlene's books are timely, readable, teachable, and currently being used in weekly study groups across the Nation. You can join her at WhyLibertyMatters.com for her weekly webinar.

Scott Lively on Portland's Antifa Fascism

There are seasons in human affairs when mankind can see much more than just the tip of the iceberg of Satanic control in this world. Evil prefers to spread in darkness, but when God's people stand firmly against the Satanic agenda despite increasing punishment, they compel the adversary to send ever greater numbers of his forces out of the shadows onto the battlefield. In those rare moments, the full extent to which the leaders and systems of this world are corrupted gets exposed to those with spiritual discernment.

It is a dark and chilling sight when the demonic realm attacks in waves of escalating fury and power – like a comic-book villain transforming into a massive and malevolent behemoth, part real and part illusion -- seemingly beyond the power of the righteous to defeat.

That is exactly what is happening today in the Marxist revolution against Trump: a continually escalating spiritual war of aggression is being waged on the political and cultural battlefields of the physical world – all because Donald Trump and his Bible-believing Christian base firmly resist the Marxist global agenda.

There have been previous examples, including the elites' campaign to destroy Robert Bork to prevent his confirmation to the Supreme Court, but the closest parallel to today's anti-Trump coup occurred when the Christian para-church network Oregon Citizens Alliance took on the LGBT agenda at the height of the Reagan Revolution. OCA's ultimate defeat (through establishment GOP treachery and that of GOP-allied churches) is the reason why Oregon's defacto capital Portland is now the epicenter of Marxist revolution in America. I know, because I was on the front lines of that battle, which launched my thirty year career as a Christian social activist and missionary to the global pro-family movement.

Ironically, I was an unwitting Marxism-influenced teenager when I migrated from Massachusetts to Portland in 1977 because of its liberal drug laws. I spent almost ten years of my sixteen year bondage to drug and alcohol addiction in that city, hanging out with the radical leftists, including the very types of people rioting today, on the very same streets.

But in 1986 I was delivered and healed on my knees in prayer at a secular rehab clinic. Months later my former drug dealer, who had independently converted to Christ, took me to a Bible-believing church for the first time where a truly godly pastor opened my eyes and heart to Truth. I switched sides in the culture war and, after some inner spiritual preparation (but no practical training or worldly credentials), the Lord miraculously made me the OCA's State Communications Director.

Through many local and statewide ballot measure campaigns, I was in the hottest fire-fights on the leading edge of culture war. The Nazi swastikas repeatedly painted on the Portland megachurch I attended (solely because I worshiped there) were just a minor irritant compared to the campaign of severe punishment all of us at OCA endured: hate mail, bomb threats, death threats too numerous to count, vandalism, public harassment, continuous malicious character assassination (by ALL of Oregon's corporate media), four separate major lawsuits over a five-year period seeking over $11 million (against OCA and me personally), numerous serious false flag hate crimes blamed on us, including a series of 21 cross-burnings on the front lawn of a Black, supposedly wheelchair-bound lesbian who was finally caught by two rogue cops in defiance of the Portland Police Chief – a prominent OCA critic who later became Mayor.

When I say our OCA experience prefigured today's anti-Trump campaign, I'm not exaggerating. I personally saw black-clad Oregon Antifa terrorists marching with "Kill the Police" signs more than twenty years ago. I experienced the betrayal of the Romneyesque Republican Party Chairman Craig Berkman doing an anti-OCA joint television commercial with his Democrat counterpart, and then the Republican-controlled legislature "preempting the field" on sexual orientation policy to instantly invalidate 26 hard-fought city and county ballot measures we passed with margins up to 80% – all while Portland-area GOP-allied "conservative" churches and a turf-conscious rival "Christian" PAC attacked OCA as "divisive." I experienced the 11th hour betrayal of the Portland Catholic Archbishop William Leveda who succumbed to pressure and urged a No vote on our "No Special Rights Act" before transferring to San Francisco. (I believe it was "Christian" compromise to appease the evil-doers that ultimately defeated us.)

While OCA's battlefield was the LGBT agenda, and it is no accident that the co-founders of Black Lives Matter are Marxist lesbians, today's battle transcends that issue. However, what OCA accomplished in our season of firestorms was to expose the whole Satanic army to public scrutiny: from the rotten RINOs, to the corporate giants, to the non-profit foundations to the fake church leaders, to the media, to the universities. We were so persistent and unyielding in our stand for truth that the demonic realm had to completely emerge from the shadows to fight us. We exposed the whole Satanic iceberg in Oregon – just as Trump is now doing nationally.

Sadly, there wasn't a constitutionalist hero in Oregon to melt that cancerous lump then, and thus the demonic hard left, greatly emboldened by victory despite being exposed, gained a "mandate to escalate," explaining why Portland is now the national poster-child for Antifa anarchy. But America today has the earthy and bare-knuckle fighting but constitution-loving Donald Trump. He's not a perfect man, but neither were any of the "Judges" raised by God in times of crisis to lead the Israelite Republic. If, despite everything being thrown at us, we can get Trump reelected, America's story might possibly have a happy ending. We'll at least have a fighting chance.

The secret to victory in battles with Satanic principalities and powers is simple but not easy: “Take up the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you will be able to stand your ground, and having done everything, to stand” (Ephesians 6:10-18). Brethren, don’t let the Adversary dishearten or stampede you or Portland will be America’s future: STAND!!

Dr. Scott Lively

This article was first published at WND.com where Dr. Lively's weekly column runs on Tuesdays. A pastor, constitutional law attorney (retired), human rights consultant, and missionary activist with service in more than 60 countries, he may be reached at scottlivelyministries@gmail.com. His books, articles and videos on Christian social action, history and prophecy are accessible without charge at www.scottlively.net.

GOD'S MAN OR MARX MAN

Pastor Paul Blair

Quite honestly, this is a sermon that I wish every person in the United States of America could hear today. And hopefully we can get this out and make it go viral, to some extent, because this is certainly an important education.

The Sons of Issachar understood the times that they were in and knew the right direction to go politically. The Bible says there were only about 200 of them, yet they had such great influence that they were able to get all of Israel to follow God's man, who was King David. Well, we, the body of Christ, must be the sons of Issachar. If anybody should have the best grasp and understanding of what is going on in the overall historical view of what God is doing on planet earth, it should be us.

It is important that we recognize this. And quite frankly, every Christian in America, every Patriot in America and every Marxist in America needs to hear this. There are many who have been deceived and are sincerely committed to Marxism. They are just as devoted to their religion of atheism as any fundamental Christian is toward the facts of the resurrection and the principles of Christianity.

In fact, many of them are more devoted than we are. But many others are just followers. They are just following the crowd. They hear a few things here and there and they think it sounds like a good idea, not understanding exactly what it is. So hopefully this message we will be able to connect the dots.

First of all, Mark 2:14 says, "And as he passed by, he saw Levi, the son of Alphaeus, sitting at the receipt of custom and said unto him, '*follow me*.'" And what happened? He arose and followed him.

Now, John 10:27 says, "My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they *follow me*."

This is part two of the message we laid the foundation for last week; contrasting the Marx Man versus God's Man.

To the Jew, the word Shema was critical. Deuteronomy 6:4 is literally their John 3:16 or how we would treat it. On the doorposts, Deuteronomy 6:4 was placed, and in the box on the head of the Hasidic Jews. Deuteronomy 6:4 is in the scripture inside that box.

"Shema, Israel! Adonai, Eloheinu, Adonai, Echad." Hear oh Israel. The Lord our God, the Lord is one!

There is but one God. By the way, that God is a unity in plurality, which is the choice of that word, Echad, rather than Yachid in the Hebrew language. But this word, Shema, was critical. It means to hear, but the very same word also means to do. So surrendering to almighty God in faith and trusting Him meant obeying him and living a life of obedience.

It was not the actions that resulted in their salvation, but their salvation by faithfully trusting God naturally resulted in obedient action, the same as with us as Christians. In our text today, we read a familiar term twice. It said, follow me or walk with me. Halakhah, to walk with the Lord, a Jewish rabbi, your teacher. The word rab means chief or teacher. The 'I' on the end of it makes it personal and possessive. Rabbi means “my teacher.”

A rabbi didn't just hand out a syllabus on the first day of a semester. The Talmidim, or the disciples, were to walk with their rabbi, to follow their rabbi; listening to his teaching, learning from his teaching and obeying his teaching. So, as Christians, we are called Christians because we are followers of Jesus Christ. We are disciples of the Lord Jesus. We too must be following him.

Understand, it's not asking the Lord to go with us every day. It is us walking with Jesus day by day. The Scripture has given us ample instruction, not just on how to get to heaven and be forgiven of our sins, but how now to live on this earth. As John said, "My beloved, ***now*** are you the sons of God." It is how now shall we live?

The Bible covers every area of importance in human life. It covers the family, human sexuality, child raising, integrity, honesty, controlling the tongue, economics, work ethic, principles of government, citizenship, etc. Literally anything that is important has been covered in the Bible and God has given us sufficient instruction to, in fact, direct our paths.

Last week we looked in detail on what it meant to be God's man. We looked at two particular areas, economics and welfare, because those are critical to this political argument we're having today.

So what about God's man versus Marx man?

Well, let's start with this stark contrast. Jesus, when accused of healing on the Sabbath day, said in his defense, "My father works and I work." Folks, as followers of Jesus, we too are to work.

Now this is a key historical fact. Marx was a bum. He never held a job. His own letters document his wife weeping over their poverty. He freeloaded off of his father until his father cut him off. He freeloaded off of Fredrick Engels as often as Engels would subsidize him. He freeloaded off of his wife's family as long as he could. Then, in his poverty, he blamed society for his predicament.

In his letter to Engels, he said this. "You will agree that I am dipped up to my ears in a petty bourgeois pickle." The bourgeois were the enemy. The bourgeois were property owners and he was blaming them for his situation. Now, this is Karl Marx and this is in fact what the Marx man is.

Also, remember that Marx was an atheist. He did not believe in the spiritual. He did not believe in the supernatural. To Marx, all that existed was the material world. As such, there is no morality.

In order to create a greater earthly utopia, the ends justify whatever means it takes to get there. Now this is a key philosophical fact. Marx believed that man was not responsible for his actions. He's a victim of his environment.

What does the Bible say? Does the Bible say the same thing? No, it does not. It says that we are responsible for our actions. Just because Joseph was beaten up by his brothers and didn't have an ideal home and was sold into slavery, how did Joseph turn out? Joseph didn't become a victim. Joseph honored God in all that he did.

Take a look at Daniel. Daniel was hauled off as a teenager into captivity in Babylon. Daniel would have had a perfect excuse to say, “God, that is not fair. Here I am taken away from my home. I've got all sorts of excuses to fail.” But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not sin against God. We do not have an excuse. We're not victims of anything. We are sinful people born into a sinful world and God has revealed himself to us in the person of Jesus Christ and offered us eternal life. As Christians, it's our obligation to obey and follow his direction.

But Marx believed that man was a victim. To Marx, all problems in human history stem from economics. The class struggle between people that owned property, the bourgeois, and those that worked for the property owners, the proletariat, was this stark contrast. Marx contrasted these two and considered them as eternal adversarial opposites. He called one the “oppressors” and the other “the oppressed.” One side was the business owners, or “the exploiters.” The workers were the exploited. The one percent versus the 99%.

Unless you understand this, you will not understand anything that's going on in the world today. Marx believed private property ownership is the root of all evil. If there was no private property, there would be no economic struggle. Man is a victim of his circumstances. It's not his fault. If we fix the system, then man is perfectible. If there was no private property, there would be no classes, there would be no bosses, there would be no employees. We would all work according to our own abilities and contribute to the common good and then take only those things that we need. There would be an abundance in such a system.

Let me give you an example that explains socialism and why it fails. (From a short video)

> *Why work? The founder of modern socialism and communism was Karl Marx. His vision was, from each according to his ability, to each according to his need. But does that really work? Imagine being in a college classroom. You're preparing to take your first exam of the semester. As is always the case, some students studied a lot and worked hard in preparation while others did not. After the test, the grades are posted. As you'd expect, some students earned As, some Bs, Cs, Ds, and some flunked the exam.*
>
> *So your socialist professor announces, "Some of you did really well, but some of you didn't. So in fairness, I decided to take the sum total of all your test scores and divide it by the number of students in the class, and that way you'll all have a 75, which is a C and a passing grade." Well, the students who didn't study thought that was great, but the*

> *ones who did study said, Why work so hard if we all get the same grade?" So for the next test, the bad students still didn't study, but the good students said, "If we aren't rewarded for our work and sacrifice, we aren't studying either."*
>
> *This time when the tests were graded, there were no As and Bs to make up for the failing grades and bring up the class average, and everyone failed the course. That is socialism in the classroom and that's why socialism has failed in every country that's ever tried it. Ask yourself, whether it be the old Soviet Union, Cuba, North Korea or Venezuela. Why is every socialist country run by a dictatorship and why has socialism failed in every country that's tried it? Socialism never works. Socialism is evil.*

Ladies and gentlemen, without the possibility of reward, no one would take a risk. Without the incentive of earning more money for working harder and longer hours, no one would want to work longer and harder. This denies human nature itself.

Now beginning with this flawed premise that there is no God, Marx was obsessed with eliminating private property ownership. To do so, he had to destroy three institutions: the state, the church, and the family. He believed that all three were created by property owners to prop themselves up and to protect their property.

Now, coincidentally, according to the Bible, God established three institutions on planet earth. What are those three institutions? The family, the church and civil government. So what Marx is targeting in his economic struggle for social justice is the home, the church and civil government. The very institutions God established on planet earth. This is no coincidence. The devil is alive and well, and at war with us. This is intentional, and by design.

Number one, the state must go away. To Marx, the state was created by the bourgeois as a tool of property owners to oppress the workers and hold them down. Consequently, the police were a tool used to exploit the people. Without private property, there would be no one to exploit and no one would be exploited. Lennon opined, "Very soon, once we eliminate the state, the necessity of observing the simple fundamental rules of everyday social life in common will have become a habit." Lennon added, "The proletariat had the instinctive capacity to recognize justice on site."

So in other words, if we do away with this economic system that resulted in classes and man lived in utopia, then man would be perfectible. And man is capable of recognizing righteousness and justice, and it's just in our nature. We want to do what's right and just. Well, no, that's not what the Bible says. Jeremiah 17:9 says that the heart of man is deceitful and desperately wicked. Who can know it? What do we see in these socialist utopias, like Chad and Chaz, these free zones? What do we see? Do we see man in restraint, self-governing? Do we see this summer of love? No.

We see robbery, theft, murder, assaulting police officers, assaulting elderly people. What they propose is directly opposite to what the biblical facts and, quite frankly, historical facts are. God

created the state for what purpose? You read in Romans 13, First Timothy 2, First Peter 2, Genesis 9, Psalm 82. Anywhere, the purpose of civil government is to punish evil doers and to protect those that are obediently obeying the law. Why? According to the letter to Timothy and the letter that Peter penned, so that we may live peacefully in all righteousness and godliness.

Point two. Christianity: the church had to be eliminated. Since there is no God, religion was simply a tool created by property owners to oppress the workers. Now Marx's desire was to foment revolution. He wanted tension between the 99% and the 1% until the 99% rose up in revolution and threw off the one percent.

Christianity says don't steal, don't covet, don't kill, turn the other cheek. Christianity says, love your neighbor as you love yourself. Christianity says, forgive as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us. Well, Marx believed that that was simply an opium or an opiate for the masses. Ludwig Feurbach, a mentor, an idol of Marx, said this. "The turning point in history will be when man becomes aware that the only God of man is man himself." Nikolai Lennon declared, "We must combat religion. This is the ABC of materialism and consequently of Marxism." And when asked about his objective in life, Marx frankly said, "To dethrone God and destroy capitalism."

Point three; the family must be eliminated. Marx believed families were created by property owners as a tool that evolved over time so they could accumulate their private property and pass it on to their progeny. Marx called wives property of their husband. Marx referred to children as property of the parents. What does the Bible tell us to do? The Bible instructs parents to raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The Bible instructs a man to love his wife as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it.

The Bible calls what's holy, the sexual intimacy that God created and provided for a husband and wife, to be held sacred within the bonds and boundaries of marriage. The Bible says a good man leaves an inheritance unto his children and to his children's children. But with Marx, once you recognize that that's not your wife, she doesn't belong to you. She's national property. By the way, those kids don't belong to you. They're national property. The family had to go. And if the family was gone, there'd be no need to create or to accumulate stuff because you'd have no one to pass it on to.

Now listen to this. This is an actual directive in the Soviet Union in 1919, beginning March 1st, 1919: *"The right to possess women between the ages of 17 and 32 is abolished. This decree, however, not being applicable to women who have five children already. By virtue of the present decree, no woman can any longer be considered as private property and all women become the property of the nation. Any man who wishes to make use of a nationalized woman"* ... what do you think that means? "Must hold a certificate issued by the administrative council." And guess what? The woman doesn't get a vote in this.

By the way, you'll notice great similarities between Communism and Islam. One is theocratic totalitarianism. The other is atheistic totalitarianism. But if you just change the names, this is basically the exact same presentation that could be given. The decree continues, *"Any pregnant*

woman will be dispensed of her duties for four months before and three months after the birth of the child. One month after birth, children will be placed in an institution entrusted with their care and education. They will remain there to complete their instruction and education."
Another statute states, *"There is no such thing as a woman being violated by a man. He who says that a violation is wrong denies the October communist revolution. To defend a violated woman is to reveal oneself as a bourgeois and a partisan of private property."*

She's not your wife. She belongs to the state. Those aren't your kids. They belong to the state. The idea that a mother and father, or that children should obey their mother and father infers that they belong to mom and dad. Oh no, those children are not your property. So you don't need to worry about accumulating anything to hand down to them.

Again, recognize what's the goal of Marxism? The elimination of private property ownership. To do so, he had to destroy the state (the police), the church, and the family.

With that, he believed that this idea of private property ownership would evaporate.

Now, make the connection. That is why you see black owned businesses being destroyed just like every other business. It's not about black lives matter. The enemy is private property ownership, and it doesn't matter whether they are white, black, brown, yellow, or purple. If they are property owners, they are the enemy.

That is why you see white antifa anarchist communist punks cursing black police officers. The police are a tool of the bourgeois state. It's not about black lives matter. The enemy is private property ownership.

That's why you see Bibles being burned. Why? What does that have to do with black lives? It's not about black lives matter. The enemy is private property ownership and the bourgeois, since there is no God, the bourgeois fabricated this whole myth of Christianity and created these churches, and use them as a tool of the state to protect private property and hold the working man down.

That's why on the Black Lives Matters website, on their we believe page, they say this.
"We want to destroy the Western prescribed nuclear family."

And notice the continuing reference to raising your children in villages. It's not about black lives. It's about doing away with private property ownership and the three institutions which hold it up.

Remember what Curtis Bowers said the other day, and always remember this. The issue is never the issue. The issue is revolution.

Cleon Skousen, in his great book, The Naked Communist, said this, "They, Marx and Lennon, decided that man is the epitome of perfection among nature's achievements, and therefore the center of the universe. But if a man is supposed to have the highest intelligence and existence, then it becomes his manifest duty to remake the world. Marx believed this task was the

inescapable responsibility of communist leaders since they are the only ones who have a truly scientific understanding of social and economic progress. In their minds, it is their religious duty, their obligation to remake the world."

When you hear a Marxist say, "those children aren't yours, it takes a village." It's because that's what Hillary Clinton really believes.

When you hear a Marxist say, "That's not yours. You didn't build that. That business doesn't belong to you. That business belongs to the workers, not the property owners." It's because that's what President Obama really, truly believes.

Words have meanings and communists will always tell you the truth. For some reason, we are naive and try to make excuses for what they are clearly saying. We defend them and say, 'Oh, they really don't really mean what they're saying'. Look around at every country that's fallen into communism and you tell me if they believed it or not.

Obama's father was an open communist. Obama's mentor, the man that meant more to him and poured more into him in life than any other person, Frank Marshall Davis was a card-carrying member of the American Communist Party. His pastor, Jeremiah Wright, is a communist sympathizer at the very least. Bernadine Dorn and Bill Ayres, members of the Weather Underground that literally were wanted by Law Enforcement for blowing up federal buildings in the early 1970s, are communist revolutionaries. This is who Obama is, and this is what he believes.

Now recognize what is going on around us. Here is the strategy. Marx believed that change came out of conflict. Opposites and conflict result in "negation." His word, which means the death of that former society, and finally results in transformation, his new Marxist utopia.

These are the three stages of Marxist strategy. **Stage one, perpetual conflict.** When he was alive in Europe, the early days of the industrial revolution, Marx tried to stir strife with a class struggle between the bourgeois, the property owners, and the proletariat - those who have no property and only have their labor to give. But you know what? That didn't sell well in America because, under the blessings of free market capitalism, we are all property owners.

91.3% of Americans own a car. 96% of Americans own a cell phone. Two thirds of Americans own their own home. We all own property to some degree.

So the Marxist is looking for anything in which to create conflict.

How about school choice versus teacher's unions? How about gay rights versus straight rights? How about women's equality versus male dominance? How about open borders versus secure borders? How about pro-life versus abortion? How about occupy Wall Street? The 99% versus the 1%? Then of course today, mask wearers versus no mask wearers.

Then ultimately, the easiest way to foment this revolution is the race issue, black versus white.

Remember the issue is never the issue. It's not about 99% versus 1%. It's not about school choice versus teachers, and it's not about any of that. **The issue is agitation, perpetual conflict to bring about revolution.**

As I said a moment ago, in America, the most volatile of these subjects, which they have been able to exploit, is the ... I'll use their word, the race issue.

Marx's strategy was to employ paid agitators, to stir up direct rioting and turn it into violent revolution. He found that even in Europe, he couldn't get the workers stirred up long enough to actually revolt violently. They might go on strike for a period of time, get a pay raise, and then they'd go back to work. That was not what Marx wanted. So letting this happen naturally was unsuccessful. **So the strategy was to employ paid trained agitators to stir perpetual revolution.**

Now we see the Black Lives Matter founders admit that they are trained “community organizers”, trained Marxists. I'll be honest with you. I had never heard of the term “community organizer” in all of my life until a young man named Barack Obama burst onto the scene in about 2006. What was his career? A community organizer.

Remember who his parents were. Mom was a communist sympathizer. His dad was a communist. His mentor was a card carrying communist. His friends were communist terrorists. His administration, he's filled many jobs within the federal government with communists who are working to undermine the current President. This is the first time in American history we have not had a peaceful transition of power from one President to the next President, there has been a fight and resistance from the day after the man was elected.

Things were going beautifully according to their plan to weaken America and integrate into global governance. They had eight years of Obama and look at all that had happened.

And Hillary, another communist was primed to take over, but everybody was surprised at what happened when Mister “Make America Great Again” surprisingly won the election.

Remember Leon Trotsky, a disciple of Lennon? **He called this first phase the perpetual revolution.**

They're going to keep on and on and on and on and on and on. And it's going to be 24/7 on the news because most everybody that's working in the major news networks, that came out of universities like Columbia and Yale and Harvard and all of these Ivy league universities that have been taken over by Communists 50, 60, 70 years ago, they have been taught social justice. They have been taught Marxism. So they are advocates for it.

Look at what we do here at Fairview Baptist Church. Somebody wants to wear a mask, good. Do so. If you don't want to shake hands, don't. We believe in self-government. We have met like we normally do. We have donuts. We have coffee. We hug during meet and greet. You would not know that anything is going on with the hundreds and hundreds of people that gather here

every week, several times a week. We would have no idea that there was chaos out there, if not for 24/7 news. They are going to continue to hammer this until good, hardworking, God-fearing, well-intentioned people finally say, “Enough, just make it go away. Just make it stop. We give.”

That can never happen!

Stage number two, violent revolution. Marx was convinced that, if man is the highest intelligence in the world, then it becomes his manifest duty to remake the world. This is a global agenda.

Again, from Skousen's classic 1958 book, The Naked Communist: *“Marx and Engels accepted the fact that the remaking of the world will have to be a cruel and ruthless task and that it will involve the destruction of all who stand in the way. This is necessary, they said, in order to permit the Communist leadership to wipe out the social and economic sins of human imperfection in one clean sweep and then gradually introduce a society of perfect harmony which will allow all humanity to live scientifically, securely and happily during all future ages.”*

“Marx attempted to soften the blow of his doctrine of violence by stating that he would be perfectly satisfied if the capitalistic state could be transformed into a Communist society by peaceful means; however, he pointed out that this would be possible only if the capitalists voluntarily surrendered their property and power to the representatives of the workers without a fight. He logically concludes that since this is rather unlikely it must be assumed that revolutionary violence is unavoidable. Marx and Engels were also convinced that the revolution must be international in scope. They knew that all countries would not be ready for the revolution at the same time, but all Marxist writers have emphasized the “impossibility of the complete and final victory of socialism in a single country without the victory of the revolution in other countries.”

In other words, there had to be no place to escape.

“We say that our morality is wholly subordinated to the interests of the class struggle of the proletariat.” In other words, whatever tends to bring about the Communist concept of material betterment is morally good, and whatever does not is morally bad. This concept is simply intended to say that “the end justifies the means.” It is not wrong to cheat, lie, violate oaths or even destroy human life if it is for a good cause. This code of no morals accounts for the amoral behavior on the part of Communists which is frequently incomprehensible to non-Communists.”

Folks, the reason we want to reject what we see in Islam and Saudi and Iran and other places is because we just refuse to believe that could possibly be happening. It's so foreign to our way of thought. That’s the reason we reject these ideas of violent revolution and the deaths of tens of millions, we just reject it. It's so foreign to our way of thinking. But then when you look at the facts, not the rhetoric, the facts. What happened in the Soviet Union? Well, some 40 to 60 million people were slaughtered. What happened in Mao's China? Some 60 to 80 million people

were slaughtered. What happened in Castro's Cuba? Slaughter. What happened in any and every communist takeover? This very thing.

So first of all, continual perpetual agitation being led by paid agitators. Wasn't it a miracle that those truckloads of bricks would just be dropped off in the streets at the exact locations where these peaceful protesters were gathering? Don't think for a minute that this isn't community organized.

Perpetual agitation, leading to violent revolution, which leads to the third point, the dictatorship of the proletariat. In freedom, people own their own homes and their own businesses, and their own property. In socialism, the state owns everything, including you.

Here is another quick example of how communism works. (Video)

> *Karl Marx was the founder of communism. He believed that the ends justify the means. So lying, stealing, even murder was okay if it helped to accomplish the goal of establishing socialism and ultimately communism.*
>
> *One lie being told today is that socialism is good for the people, but capitalism isn't. The truth is all economies use capital. Capital by definition is the sum of goods or services needed for production. So that would include such things as a boat if you happen to be a fishermen, or a tractor if you were a farmer, or a factory if you were in the manufacturing business. The difference is who owns the capital.*
>
> *Socialist economies are capitalist economies, and free market economies are capitalist economies. But in a free market, private citizens control and control the capital. We're free to buy and sell and do what we want when we want. We're free to work where we wish and do what we wish.*
>
> *But under socialism, the government owns everything, and that includes the people. The government tells you what to do, when to do it, where to live, what to eat. The government demands you work and then decides what they're willing to pay you. So what's the difference between socialism and a slave plantation? Absolutely nothing.*
>
> *Remember this. He who owns the tools, makes the rules. When economic freedom is lost, political freedom parishes with it. Socialism is all about government control of everything. Socialism is evil.*

A few paragraphs back I quoted an excerpt from a book, and I'm going to reference one part again. Communist leaders will wipe out the social and economic sins of human imperfection in one clean sweep, that's the violent revolution. And then after that, gradually introduce a society of perfect harmony.

Keep that in mind and let's look at this. In freedom, people own their own homes, their own businesses, their own property, have their own families, their own faith. Marx said that is evil. We need a global commune where we all live together and nobody owns anything. We just

share everything, including our wives and children. This was his definition of a communist utopia.

But to get from private property to global communal living, there's this ugly necessary step in between called the **Dictatorship of the Proletariat**. But you don't have to worry about it because it's your dictator.

You foment conflict within the nation. Then you have violent revolution. People aren't just going to give away their businesses that have been passed down for generations. They've spent a lifetime working their tails off in order to create. They're not just going to give away their homes that they've paid a mortgage on for 30 years, they've worked a lifetime for. So we need a strong people's defense army to make sure and take away those guns and private property. But we can't give it to the people cause they're not ready for it yet. We haven't evolved into that state of utopia.

So first, the state takes ownership of everything on your behalf, of course, through the people's dictator. Now one day, as we eliminate all dissent through re-education camps or execution, one day mankind will be prepared to evolve into full communal utopia, but we're not ready for that yet. So in the meantime, the people's dictator and the state owns and coordinates everything through centralized planning. The state owns everything. The state owns everybody. The state is god.

Real quickly, people become disillusioned when they don't have a choice in where they work. They don't have a choice in how long they work. They don't get to choose where they live. They don't get any vote on how much they earn, and they're not really motivated to go to work. So therefore we have the people's secret police and the people's defense army here to help motivate you to work.

Remember, it's for your own good. It's for the good of the collective. Sadly, things never progress beyond this point to that communal atheistic utopia. Whether we look at Lennon's Russia, or Mau's China, or Castro's Cuba, or Kim's North Korea, or Chavez's Venezuela, that Dictatorship of the Proletariat always looks the same.

Now you remember when I shared with you a little while ago in that example about the classroom, how you're motivated to study because of the reward of high grades. I also showed you how the lack of reward takes away the motivation to study and all productivity of all the people falls because there is no reward for hard work and sacrifice.

Five years after the end of World War II, the Red Chinese Army invaded Korea to capture Korea and turn it communist. They always use names that are the opposite of what they are, names like the People's Liberation Army, when they're actually invading communists.

Well, there was a war. Actually, it was just called the Korean conflict, but it's actually the Korean War that America was involved in for three years. It was the first time in the United

States' history that we fought a battle with politicians calling the shots. We were representing the United Nations rather than the United States of America.

Think about this; this is no longer taught in schools.

In December of 1941, America was attacked without a declaration of war by the Imperial Japanese Military. They sank many battleships, cruisers and other ships at Pearl Harbor. Some 3,500 men and women were killed that day. On December 7th, 1941, American resolve, American manufacturing, American patriotism went to war to defend Liberty. America went to war in two directions.

We came to find that my dad was serving in the South Pacific when the Navy discovered he was 16 and they sent him home, and he had to go back once he got old enough. But my father was so passionate that, as a 16-year-old boy from Arkansas, he wanted to go fight for freedom and fight for the United States of America. He somehow forged a document and they allowed him in, and he was actually serving in the US Navy in the South Pacific when they finally discovered that he was not of age.

But farm boys from across the United States volunteered. At the time our Navy was antiquated; it was a World War I vintage Navy. We only had 100,000 men at arms, and we were attacked by two forces, two foes, by two professional militaries. Adolf Hitler had the finest military on the planet earth at that time, some five million men under arms. We had 100,000. The call went out, people volunteered; the draft wasn't even necessary. We amassed two armies. Our manufacturing kicked into high gear. Within three months, we bombed Tokyo.

Within six months, we sank four Japanese carriers at the Battle of Midway and the battle for the Pacific was over at that point in time. Our manufacturing kicked into high gear. You know that we produced 90 aircraft carriers during World War II? We went to war in two directions and, in three and a half years, kicked Germany and Japan.

For those of you that have heard this garbage about America trying to control the world; we had over half a million men under arms and we were the only country on the planet with the atomic bomb. As much as man has wanted to rule the world since Nimrod in Genesis 10, America could have ruled the world, but chose not to. Instead, American Christian compassion rebuilt Japan and rebuilt Germany better than what they were before.

Patton wanted to go ahead and invade Russia. Patton was right; the Soviet Union turned out not to be our friend. They were our enemy. Within just a few years, Red China had gone communist. They had invaded Korea.

What I want you to understand is North Koreans and South Koreans are Koreans. They have the same religion. They have the same history. They have the same heritage. They have the same genes. The only difference is in 1953, from the 38h parallel up became communist. The state owned everything. If you look at a map of Korea at night, in North Korea all you can see is PyeongChang; from the satellite photo, that's the only life that you see in all of North Korea.

If you look at South Korea, look at Seoul and all of the suburbs. That is the difference between a person being able to work hard and be rewarded for their labor versus a person that's working as a slave for the state.

The free market has done more to end poverty and feed people than any other political device ever. And why? Because the free market is a Biblical concept.

When I taught on Revelation, because of my background and knowing Marx and communism; when we get to Revelation chapter six, the four horsemen of the apocalypse, I saw global communism. I've never heard another commentator saying that, typical students in the Bible are taught by other typical students in the Bible. The same stuff seems to be passed down without realizing what day and age we live in. But I see global communism. You see this slick talking world leader promising peace.

You see the white rider on the white horse; bow with no arrows. You see, disarming the people for your own safety because guns are the problem. It's not people. People who are victims of their circumstances. It's those guns. It's like blaming your fork if you're fat. It's like blaming your pencil if you misspell a word. I'm amazed that all of my guns never go out on shooting sprees. They are so well behaved.

Once the people are disarmed, then you see the red horse. You see war, you see death, you see killing, which happens every time. They disarm the people for their own safety, then they slaughter the college professors. They slaughter those that were rebelling because, if you actually committed treason and betrayed your country, well, that communist leader cannot trust you. Why wouldn't you betray him? They'll kill the preachers. They'll kill or reeducate all the dissenters.

By the way, there is a reason you drive down the quality of education. Uneducated people are easier to rule. Think back historically of the dark ages. Nobody could read. They had to trust the local priest on how to get to heaven, and the awakening came when man was able to hold the Bible in his own hands and read the word of God for himself.

Then you see this age of famine, the scales, and you see these thoughts of having to work all day for barely enough food.

Then you see the next horseman, that pale green horse, pestilence, disease, death. You see in the fifth seal, martyrdom of those who cling to the Messiah at this particular period of time.

As I've said before in recent weeks, I believe those 10 kings of Daniel 2, if you look at it, the word is not kingdom. The word is King. I think it's some of these men behind the scenes who want to rule the world type of men. You say who? I don't know, but I can tell you the type of man. It'd be a type of man that had $180 billion, like the Bill Gates and the Jeff Bezos and the George Soros.

I see 10 of those guys, and I see them putting forward their front man as their spokesman who's a smooth talker. He is everything to everybody.

President Obama was amazing. He’s black, he’s white, he’s claims to be Christian, but he recites the Islamic Shahada. He’s for traditional marriage, but he isn’t. He is whoever you want him to be.

I did not say it would be Barak Obama, but a man like that. A super politician whose words seduce the crowd – words like “hope and change.” Words that sound good to everybody, but who defines them? Who is against hope? But what does that hope look like. Everyone has their own vision of hope. And we all want change. I want America to be moral and God fearing. I want to see baby murder come to an end.

This has long been in the works. After World War II, Eisenhower was elected President. Except for perhaps JFK and Ronald Reagan, every one of our presidents have been complicit to wanting to integrate America into global government.

We were accelerating at warp speed over the eight years from 2008 to 2016. Of course, Hillary, another Marxist, was heir apparent, and assumed to take over. When suddenly, to everyone's surprise, Mr. Make America Great Again came into office.

In January of 2020, our economy was rolling. Unemployment in every demography was at all-time lows. Those jobs the former President said wouldn’t return, did return. Trump's reelection was inevitable.

I gotta tell you, I was late to the Trump party. I was a Ted Cruz supporter, but Donald Trump has been the most vocal pro-life president in history. God willing, in a second administration, we can actually end the murder pre born children.

Move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem. Isn’t it amazing? Every president has campaigned and said they were going to move the embassy to Jerusalem, and then none of them ever did. We can't do that. The world will come apart.

Trump did it. If Israel says that Jerusalem is their capital, then Jerusalem is their capital! it'd be like Israel coming and putting their embassy in Philadelphia and saying, we don't recognize Washington DC as your capital. Well, that's just stupid.

He issued an executive order protecting pastors and churches from the IRS because our spineless Congress would not act on revoking the 501C3 when we had Republicans charge of both sides. Do not think that the Democrats are the only bad guys out there. We have a lot of treasonous Republicans.

He reversed Clinton's crime bill. Boy, what a gift to the community that was particularly affected by it - the black community. He created opportunity zones in black areas. Oh, but you remember the rhetoric, “Oh, he's a racist.” How? Where? Because he wants to secure our

border? Let me tell you this. If you close your front door and lock it at night, then you believe in border security!

I don't want somebody coming in without me knowing they're coming in because it's my house. The same thing with our country. People are welcome to immigrate here legally through the front door, with us opening it. Not climbing over the fence illegally.

Unemployment was at all-time lows in every category. Does not matter; black, white, Hispanic, Latino, you name it.

Calling out Red China for the evil communist regime they are.

This is what amazes me. Obama's worth like what? $500 million now. In 2004, he was a state senator in Illinois. Wow!

Bill and Hillary Clinton are worth $500 plus million now. They were stone broke hillbillies from Arkansas.

Trump's the first president that will come into office and leave poorer than when he took it.

Think about this. Think of how the global interests that have the power, the pressure they're trying to put on this man to fold. Think of all of his assets. Where are his investments? New York; real estate, primarily in New York City. How are the property values in New York City going right now? Again, is that an accident? It could be, or it could be just never let a crisis go to waste.

Mr. Make America Great Again is hindering plans to integrate America into global communism under the United Nations.

Now we have this global pandemic originating from communist China, and we've killed the global economy. Let me give you some current numbers that I got yesterday from the World Life Expectancy website. There's 7.7 billion people on planet earth. As of right now, 727,000 have died WITH COVID. Not died FROM. Died WITH COVID.

That man just got hit by a bus. Test his blood. COVID positive? Then he died WITH COVID. That man fell off an office building. That man was shot in the head four times. Test him? Had COVID? Died WITH COVID.

We have 10,367,458 that have died from cardiovascular disease this year. We have 1,239,374 that have died from AIDS this year, but we don't say anything about the homosexual lifestyle being dangerous. We have 773,919 that have died in traffic accidents this year. 50,000 more have died in traffic accidents than from COVID-19. So why don't we have 24/7 news warning us not to drive cars?

You take 7.7 billion, our population. You take 727,000 that have died with COVID, divide that by 7.7 billion. We have 0.00009% of the population. Yet we have shut down the world economy.

Now either the leadership of the World Health Organization and CDC are complete idiots, or they've been bought.

Folks, you know one of my favorite verses, Acts 17:11, where Paul praises the Bereans because they listened attentively when he came to town to preach, but then they got in the Bible to make sure he was right. Don't believe anybody. Don't believe me. I tell you that all the time. Take what I've got and you go check it out and you make sure I'm right. Don't believe any of this stuff you hear. You check it out for yourself and see if it makes sense.

Let me ask you this. Why are one group of doctors all of a sudden villainized because they're out here saying that hydroxychloroquine works? I mean, two weeks ago they were celebrated as heroes working in emergency rooms and then they come out and say publicly, 'Hey, we've used this. We've had great success.' Now the media says these doctors don't know what they're talking about.

It reminds me of the movie *Expelled.* Do you remember when Ben Stein did that documentary?

If you were a scientist and you came out and said that there seems to me evidence of intelligent design, well you're black balled. If you don't just trumpet the party story, the party narrative that evolution is the answer to everything, well then, you're completely discredited. I thought science was science. Obviously not anymore. It's become political.

But think about this. I thought about this this morning and wrote this down. Looking at the cardiovascular disease numbers I shared with you a moment ago, everybody in this room, we are 15 times more likely to die from cardiovascular disease than we are from COVID-19. Yet, what have we been instructed to do? Wear your mask 24/7, breathe in all that CO2 you can. Order fast food, don't go to the gym. THINK!

And don't go to the doctor unless you have COVID-19. Who's running the World Health Organization, the Keystone cops?

Recently we've seen rioting in Minneapolis. These are protestors in Minnesota. Listen to what they're saying here, because remember it was all about black lives matter. It's all about, oh we just want justice, social justice. Okay? Listen to this little short segment.

"Resistance is justified; from New York to Palestine, from Gaza to Minnesota, to mobilize the intifada. Black lives matter."

They're saying Black lives matter and Palestinian lives matter. Globalize the Intifada. Intifada is revolution. Isn't it amazing how quickly this has caught on around the world?

Now this next chant was from New York City. And again, listen to this group of protesters.

"Black lives matter. Black lives matter. Black lives matter. Palestinian lives matter. Palestinian lives matter. Palestinian lives matter. Palestinian lives matter. Black lives matter. Black lives matter. From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free."

It's no longer just black lives. It's Palestinian lives. They're chanting from the river, that's the Jordan River, to the sea, the Mediterranean Sea, Palestine will be free. In other words, they want to eliminate Israel. Wait a second. I thought this was about George Floyd.

It's also interesting, as you consider with all this rioting and burning and destruction, everybody's required to wear masks. Isn't that convenient timing when trying to identify people that are out breaking the law, burning buildings down and committing heinous crimes. Everybody is required to wear masks. Perhaps this is just a coincidence. I don't think so. I think this whole thing is orchestrated.

In 86 days, we decide the future for America. We say this every two years, every four years, Oh, this is most important election in our lifetime. Folks, this really is the most important election of our lifetime.

This is not a vote between Trump and Biden. Think about it. We've got two 70 plus year old white guys. In fact Biden is almost 80 and he's got dementia. This is not about Trump and Biden. This is a vote to continue to live in freedom. By the way, when we win this election in November, and we will, not everybody is asleep as the media wants you to believe they're asleep, and who in the world is going to answer a poll and say, I'm a Trump supporter, when you run the risk of having a mob in your front yard to burn your house down the next day?

We've got a lot of hardworking people providing for their families, keeping their heads down and peddling real hard. But when we win this election in November, we must be adamant about ferreting out and driving out all of these communists and communist sympathizers from within our government.

I don't know how Mr. Trump has done what he has done in three and a half years. I've got to tell you, the average person would have committed suicide by now. The man is attacked every day.

We must restore federalism. If we've got some liberal goofballs that want to live in a state of anarchy in the state of Washington, good for you. We'll build a wall around your border.

We have conservative states and we have liberal States. Great. We come together for our common defense and our general welfare, but we are not to be ruled by a single imperial president or a Supreme Court. The general (federal) government is limited by the Constitution. Only certain limited powers were given to the federal government by the states. States can be states and decide what goes on within their own borders.

If California wants to have a 50% income tax, by the way, isn't that working well for New York with their billionaire tax? Now Cuomo, as billionaires are fleeing New York City, is begging them to stay. I read the other day that Jeff Bezos alone would be writing a check for $46 billion if they passed the billionaire tax.

Let me ask you this, are you going to move? Like I said before, a simple economic practice. If you want to end something, tax it. If you want to increase something, subsidize it. So what do we do? We subsidize women to have children out of wedlock and we tax at a higher rate businessmen and businesses the more successful they are. That is ludicrous.

In 86 days, we have a choice.

If Christians will go and vote like Christians, then we can fend off this well-orchestrated planned assault on our liberty, and, God willing, if Jesus tarries and the trumpet doesn't sound before then, we can see a revival and a reawakening and a resurgence towards biblical common sense, conservative values in America.

I want God's blessings on America. May America be worthy of God's blessings.

What is truth? *(John 18:38)*

A Sermon about Critical Race Theory – Pastor Paul Blair

Christianity is not based upon emotion or feelings. It is based upon fact. The tomb was empty, and Jesus had risen from the dead PHYSICALLY, proving that He was the Lord. That is why He encouraged His disciples to touch Him, to inspect the wounds in His hands and side. That is why he ate every time we see Him after the resurrection. He was proving that He was not simply a phantom spirit, He was physically RAISED from the dead.

Facts matter. Truth matters.

When in the Garden, God had spoken His Word and given Adam and Eve one prohibition. The Serpent offered an alternative truth claim to Eve. Eve trusted the Serpent and sin was brought into humanity.

Facts matter. Truth matters.

The Bible tells us that man was created different from all other "nephesh" living, breathing creatures. Man was created in the image of God. We were given the ability to reason, to make moral decisions, the ability to worship and walk with our God.

God's will is for a man to love Jesus and serve Jesus. To be joined together with a woman who loves Jesus and serves Jesus. Together blessed with children, raising our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

To fill the earth with people steward over His creation. We are to work 6 days as unto the Lord, to care and provide for our families, to honor God with our first fruits, to enjoy our own fig trees and vines, to love mercy, seek justice and walk humbly with our God.

But even though God loves us and has demonstrated His love in countless ways, He has given us the freedom to choose to love Him in return.

The truth is that even though we are sinners, God loves us. And even though we were sinners, Christ died for us. But even though God offers to us eternal life through the finished work of Jesus, even there we have the choice to receive that gift or to reject it.

Individual responsibility. The choice is mine and the consequences are mine.

I am not the victim of Adam's sin. I myself am a sinner. Through Christ I can be VICTORIOUS OVER sin, but the choice is mine. **Truth matters. Facts matter. And the consequences of my decisions and actions matter.**

We are all equal in the eyes of God. We are all descendants of Adam. We are all created equal of equal worth, equally responsible to God for our decisions and actions.

- I had no control over being born a white male in Edmond, Oklahoma, in the United States of America in 1963. But I was.
- The Psalmist says, that even in my mother's womb as my body was being formed, God knew everything about me.
- Even more than that, God told Jeremiah at his call to ministry that BEFORE he was in his mother's womb, God had a plan in mind for him and a specific job for him to do.

I have no idea why some people are 6'5" tall and some people are 5'6" tall. I have no idea why some people are naturally handsome to the eye while others are not. I have no idea why some people are born in America and some in Asia. I have no idea why some were born to rich parents and some to poor. I have no idea why some are born with handicaps while others are not. I have no idea why some get cancer, and some do not.

We may all have different stories, advantages or disadvantages and opportunities, I don't know why that is, but I do know this, no one has an excuse. We are all accountable for the decisions we make and the actions we take in this life. Most important of those, are will we trust in Jesus for our salvation and will we live lives of obedience with Jesus as the Lord.

One day every one of us will stand before Him – either as Savior or as Judge. No one will have an excuse. It will be no one's fault, but our own.

This is TRUTH. With TRUTH being established, let us now examine a modern deception being foisted upon our country and culture and let us examine it through the lens of truth.

Critical Race Theory.

Karl Marx believed that man was a **victim** of his environment. All the problems stemmed from an economic conflict contrasting the "Bourgeois" (property owners/business owners) and the "Proletariat" the non-property owners or "the workers". Marx's simple view considered the "business owners" as oppressors and the workers as "the oppressed."

Marx believed that it was inevitable that what he called the working class would one day rise up in revolution against "private property owners" and usher in a communist utopia. But it never happened naturally, as he had imagined.

A disciple of Marxism, Vladimir Lenin did deceive the Russian people and came to power after they had already thrown off the Czar. Proponents of Marxism assumed that post-WW1 Germany was primed and ready for revolution. There was poverty, hyperinflation and a lot of finger pointing after the Germans surrendered in 1918.

Communists were working to win the day and gain control in the intellectual debate for which economic system worked best. On 6/22/1924, a permanent research institute for Marxist study was funded and formed in Frankfurt, Germany, called "The Institute for Social Research." This was an institution devoted to spreading Marxism. It is known historically as the "Frankfurt School of Marxism."

In 1933, a man named Adolph Hitler came to power in Germany and the Marxists left before they could be killed. Thanks to the assistance of another Marxist Atheist named John Dewey, who was an author and signer of the Humanist Manifesto and who also is known as the Father of Modern American Public Education, the Frankfurt School moved to Columbia University, where Dewey was employed, and they continued their work.

They theorized that Marx was wrong in assuming that the conflict out of which revolution stemmed be economics alone, but instead focused on society and culture.

This field of study was called "critical theory."

Point #1: Critical Theory maintains Marx's two groups, but instead of simple economics, the groups are: Those *with* power and those *without* power. Their focus was on perpetual conflict. It didn't matter what the conflict was over as long as there was conflict. The goal was a revolution to be born out of the perpetual conflict. The revolution would kill the existing host/government opening a path to replace it with communism.

Point #2: Critical Theory says that those with Power ALWAYS are oppressing those who don't have Power. This conclusion is absurd on its face. Do parents oppress their children? Are teachers guilty of oppressing their students? Are employees oppressed by their bosses? Do pastors oppress their congregations?

Point #3: Your identity is based on your group. Critical theory came out of the Frankfurt School of Marxism after 1933. Group identities have changed over the last 90 years. Rather than property owners and workers, now we have:

- Sexual Orientation
- Gender
- Gender Identity
- Income
- Religion
- Immigration Status

And in the 70's, we added Critical **RACE** Theory.

Point #4: Intersectionality.

This measures your level of oppression. In the textbook, *Is Everyone Really Equal?* You will find chart 5.1. This chart gives examples of the Groups within the Critical Theory paradigm.

Figure 5.1. Group Identities Across Relations of Power

Minoritized/Target Group	Oppression	Dominant/ Agent Group
Peoples of Color	Racism	White
Poor Working Class Middle Class	Classism	Owning Class
Women; Transgender; Genderqueer	Sexism	(cis)Men
Gays; Lesbians; Bisexuals; Two Spirit	Heterosexism	Heterosexuals
Muslims; Buddhists; Jews; Hindus; and other non-Christian groups	Religious Oppression Anti-Semitism	Christians
People with Disabilities	Ableism	Able-bodied
Immigrants (perceived)	Nationalism	Citizens (perceived)
Indigenous Peoples	Colonialism	White Settlers

Understanding the presupposition of critical theory:

- White people always oppress people of color.
- Bosses always oppress their employees.
- Men always oppress women.
- Heterosexuals always oppress Gays, Lesbians, Transexuals, Gender identity, etc.
- Christians always oppress non-Christians. The disabled are always being oppressed by the able bodies.
- Illegal aliens are always oppressed by those nasty US Citizens.
- Whites have always oppressed Indians.

The term **Intersectionality** measures your alleged level of oppression. The more groups you with which you identify increases your level of moral authority.

So, if you are a transgender, black, gay, Muslim woman then you have greater moral authority than a straight, black, Christian man. Under this identity system, the people who have NO moral voice are white, heterosexual, Christian males.

You must ignore God's sovereign acts of creation and His divine will for man. Ignore the fact that God created us male or female, gave us our skin tone and commanded monogamous sexual relationships within the marital covenant. Being born a white male and choosing to follow Christ and obey his commands regarding family and sexuality, makes one an oppressor.

Being **"Woke"** means the only way those who are part of the Oppressor Class gain moral authority is by surrendering to the views of the Oppressed class. That is why Chick Filet's Dan Cathey got on his knees to shine the shoes of the black rapper Lecrae.

The more “marginalized” identity groups with which one can identify, increases their moral authority, and no one can argue with an intersectional person’s feelings or perceived life experience. In other words, you can’t talk about abortion unless you have a Uterus. You can’t talk about Islam, unless you’re a Muslim. You can’t talk about race unless, you’re a minority. By that logic, I guess you can’t talk about the weather, unless you’re a Meteorologist.

In this postmodern world, a self-identified victim’s feelings matter more than actual proven facts.

But, Facts DO matter!

The difference between crossing the border illegally and legal immigration is the difference between a burglar and a house guest. By the way, if you have a front door on your home with a lock, then you, too, believe in border security.

Truth DOES matter!

Are their racists? Yes. Is America systematically racist? No. A “systematically” racist country would not elect a black President in 2008 and then re-elect him in 2012. In fact, 43% of all white voters voted for Barak Obama in 2008. That is not evidence of a systematically racist country.

2008	GROUP	OBAMA	MCCAIN
All Voters	Pct.	53%	45%
Men	47	49	48
Women	53	56	43
White	74	43	55
African-American	13	95	4

We have had or currently have black Americans serve as Attorney General, Secretary of State, sit on the Supreme Court and virtually every position of authority that exists. We have a United Negro College Fund, Miss Black America, Black Entertainment Television and a National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. 70% of the NFL and 75% of the NBA are

comprised of black athletes. Many of America's most popular actors, athletes and recording stars are black Americans. America clearly is NOT "a country that oppresses black people and people of color."

Lebron James has a net worth of over $500 million. Oprah Winfrey has a reported net worth in excess of $3.5 billion. Former President Barak Obama and Michelle have a reported net worth of $70 million. This is not evidence of a country that systematically oppresses minorities.

Morgan Freeman was interviewed by CNN's Don Lemon on June 3, 2014. Lemon asked Freeman, *"Do you think that race makes a difference in wealth distribution?"*

Freeman responded rhetorically, *"Today?"*

"No!" he said emphatically.

Freeman gave an example of the caste system in India where some are born "untouchable" and can never change their lot in life.

"I came from Memphis, Tennessee. Now that's a long-haul from where I came from to here, but here we are!" (Referencing the fact, they were both two well known, wealthy, successful black American men talking before a nationally televised audience)

Facts about shootings with police.

Rioters and media are telling us that we have rogue bands of cops roaming the streets looking for innocent black men to kill. Lebron said in a tweet that a black man can't leave his house without fear of being hunted down and killed.

This study by Social Psychological and Personality Science looked at 2015 & 2016 Fatal Shootings.

	Blacks		Whites	
Data source	2015	2016	2015	2016
Number killed by police gunfire	261	249	526	525
Number killed by police gunfire, unarmed and not aggressing	17	23	28	34
Number killed by police gunfire, reaching for/holding harmless object	9	10	8	18

File | C:/Users/Paul/Downloads/CesarioJohnsonTerrillINPRESSSPPSracialdisparitypoliceshootings.pdf

In a country of 320 million people over 365 days, 34 unarmed white people were killed by police and 23 unarmed black people were killed. While any life lost is a tragedy, the reality is almost every one of these killed by police were suspected of criminal activity, caught in the commission of a crime or were resisting arrest.

Do these perpetrating crimes carry any responsibility? A police officer's own life is on the line every time he responds to a call. The officer must make life and death decisions in an instant. Unfortunately, there is no instant replay to correct a mistake made by an officer.

By the way, FBI crime stats for 2018 show the number of blacks killed by whites was 234 and the number of blacks killing blacks was 2600.

FBI: UCR

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Expanded Homicide Data Table 6

Murder
Race, Sex, and Ethnicity of Victim by Race, Sex, and Ethnicity of Offender, 2018
[Single victim/single offender]

Download Excel

		Race of offender				Sex of offender			Ethnicity of offender		
Race of victim	Total	White	Black or African American	Other[1]	Unknown	Male	Female	Unknown	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino	Unknown
White	3,315	2,677	514	61	63	2,914	383	18	803	1,476	1,036
Black or African American	2,925	234	2,600	17	74	2,603	291	31	83	1,878	964
Other race[1]	220	54	39	122	5	196	22	2	19	132	69
Unknown race	110	46	24	7	33	100	9	1	18	40	52

https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/tables/expanded-homicide-data-table-6.xls

By the way, while 17 unarmed black criminal suspects were killed by police in 2015, 1,876 black babies are being killed every day[10] by their own mothers through abortion. Additionally, according to the Chicago Sun Times, in one recent weekend in Chicago, 85 people were shot with 24 killed[11]. Where are the protests for those dead? Don't those black lives matter?

Summary

We are all descendants of Noah. However, Africans descended from Ham, while Anglos descended from Japheth, Jesus being a JEW descended from Shem. My Savior was not a white

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10 http://blackgenocide.org/black.html

[11] https://chicago.suntimes.com/2020/6/1/21275944/chicago-weekend-shootings-most-violent-weekend-2020-may-29-june-1

man, nor was He a black man, He was God who became a HU-man was a Jewish man. The only color over which the Father is concerned is the blood of Christ.

Summary of the Great Reset from a Biblical Perspective

In Genesis, we are introduced to the original effort by man to establish a one world global government under Nimrod. God saw what was going on and observed that if man was unified in a godless global government, then nothing on earth could stop him (Genesis 11:6). Obviously, God can always play the "100-pound hailstones" or the "fire from heaven" card, however nothing on earth can restrain a one-world, godless government. God's response was to create sovereign nations by confounding man's language.

World history is littered with evidence of how God has used nations to check the evil of other nations. For example, God used Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon to punish Judah for disobedience. I believe that God used the United States to "check" the evil growth in Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan during World War II. God has used nations to check the spread of evil.

Beginning with the failed League of Nations after World War I and culminating with the United Nations after World War II, there has been an ever-increasing move by powerful men to centralize control under global governance. That momentum has been picking up speed especially since 1990 when President George Herbert Walker Bush called for a "new world order" and the 1992 meeting of world leaders in Rio laying out the plans for Agenda 21.

American sovereignty and influence were attacked by the Obama administration as being a "global" citizen was more important than being an American citizen. Had Hillary been elected, this current trajectory would have continued without restraint.

Much to the chagrin of the globalists, "Mister Make America Great Again" was elected President of the United States in 2016. By February 2020, American unemployment was at all-time lows and the economy at all time highs. A second term for President Trump was inevitable along with his promises to root out the Deep State from DC.

From that point, we have witnessed a full-blown Marxist coup in America complete with a Presidential election that would have been the envy of any third world dictator. The World Economic Forum and George Soros vowed the Trump problem would go away in 2020 and America would fall back in line for the Great Reset. Trump exposed the Deep State, but lost the fight.

- **Covid-19.** This mysterious new virus originating from a Chinese Communist Lab in Wuhan. Known treatments that were successful in treating Sars 1 were immediately dismissed and mocked for the treatment of Sars 2. Standards for measuring a positive test were changed. Doctors were discouraged from treating sick patients until they were at the point of needing hospitalization. The result of this virus has been the death of the middle class in America as super retailers like Amazon have thrived, while Mom and Pop businesses have died. In addition, Covid was instrumental in creating the landscape for massive voter fraud.

- **Critical Race Theory.** Two of the three founders of BLM are admitted "trained Marxists." Marx sought to destroy a country by revolution from within. His expected flash point was between the bourgeois (property owners) and the proletariat (workers).

  That didn't work in prosperous America as we all own stuff (One state goal of the World Economic Forum's Great Reset is that we won't be able to own private property by

  2030). However, the Marxists developed the critical theory strategy. Critical theory looks to other sources of division from which to foment revolution. It could be male v. female, straight v. LGBT, Christian v. non-Christian, citizen v. illegal alien, etc. One side was called the "oppressor" and the other was called the "oppressed." Community organizers were hired and trained to continue stirring up strife until they achieved the desired revolution. In America, critical (race) theory has been the Marxist's tool for success. Rather than admit certain individuals are racist, the SYSTEM must be declared racist with the only solution being to destroy the SYSTEM (free market, Constitutional Republic).
- **Green New Deal/Climate Change.** This will be the next shoe to drop. As the Covid panic wanes, a climate emergency will be declared demanding a "global" response. On cue, US Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin, recently declared that climate change is the greatest existential threat America faces. Actually, the climate is always changing! Genesis 8:22 says, *"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."* The Bible says that one day God will burn up the earth and there will be a New Heaven, New Earth and New

  Jerusalem, but it won't be your SUV that does it. History is replete with prolonged periods of warming and cooling. The Roman warming period, the Medieval warming period and the Little Ice Age are just a few examples of historic periods of climate change that were not the result of your SUV. CO2 is not a poisonous greenhouse gas; it is plant food. In greenhouses, plants flourish by increasing the amount of CO2. However, if CO2 is considered a threat, then the world governing powers must control it through taxes and regulation. By the way, we all emit CO2 when we exhale.

You will notice all of these are called existential threats to mankind and the only solution is centralizing control with global governance.

- The dollar will continue to be devalued until the world demands a new reserve currency.
- The Central Bank Digital Currency IS that new global currency. They will use excuses such as needing a stable currency and needing the ability to crack down on "terrorism" funding (which now includes Mom's who oppose CRT and truckers who oppose vax mandates).

- The vaccine passport is the instrument used to enroll the world into the new global system and track the behavior of everyone. There will be no more privacy. There will be no more unalienable God given rights. You will be given privileges and CBD credits based upon your social credit score or ESG (Environmental, Social Justice, Governance) rating. They will be able to track and CONTROL everything you do.
- Look at China along with what is happening in Australia and Canada if you want to see a glimpse of the WEF's desired outcome.
- No one knows all that will come from these injections. Two things we DO know are they don't stop Covid or stop the spread of Covid. The claim of reducing the severity or death if you take it HAS NOT BEEN PROVEN SCIENTIFICALLY. There has been no testing against a control group. It should be noted that the World Economic Forum believes that planet earth is overpopulated for sustainability. There is some irony when considering the people behind the injections believe the world population needs to be below 1 billion. Currently, the population is approaching 8 billion people.

This is the Great Reset.

Some (including myself) see Daniel 2, 7 and 9 as key to eschatology. Daniel 2 reveals the time of Gentile dominion over Jerusalem and promises the future restoration of the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth. Five kingdoms are specifically identified: Babylon, Media/Persia, Greece, Rome and a final confederation of 10 kings in power when they are destroyed, and the Kingdom of Heaven is established.

Although these ten kings have been supposed by some to be 10 geographical regions, 10 specific countries or even the Revived Roman Empire, I don't think they are. The actual Hebrew word used is melek which means king, not a kingdom or country. Because of the actual language, I see this as a confederation of powerful men along the lines of a George Soros or a Bill Gates. Families like the Rothschilds and Rockefellers whom you rarely see in the headlines, but are actively working to exercise control behind the scenes.

Daniel chapter 7 reveals these ten will take another, an 11th, and put him out front as their front man. Initially, this is not an absolute monarchy. These are 10 power hungry globalists attempting to control the world. They will put out their front man – a super politician that is all things to all people. At some point, this front man will gain too much power and three of the original ten will attempt to regain control. They will fail and those three will be taken out. The other seven quickly fall in line as the "little horn" who begins as the spokesman for the ten will become their master and eventually become the absolute dread sovereign leading this last global empire.

They will have a short run, seven years. However, that seven-year period does not include the events leading up to their sudden successful grab for control. I do not believe we are there, but I believe we may be that terminal generation leading up to it.

I know the Lord is coming again. My concern is not if He comes soon, but if He doesn't. Will my children be able to raise my grandchildren with the same freedom I have enjoyed? Will my children and grandchildren face martyrdom for their faith in Christ?

1619 PROJECT FACT SHEET

Summary

The 1619 project is designed to cast America as a hopelessly racist country. It asserts that the arrival of the first slaves in America, in 1619 constitutes the founding of America. Despite America's many virtues and accomplishments, the 1619 project deems them all worthless in the face of a flawed founding on slavery and racism. The 1619 project seeks to teach and enshrine an irredeemable hate for America.

Background

The 1619 project is based on fraudulent, baseless, and revisionist history. It asserts a 1619 founding of America, instead of our actual founding in 1776. In 1619, there may have been slaves, most of whom were purchased and owned by a loose band of plantation owners (mostly southerners). Ownership of slaves does not constitute the foundation of a nation. In 1776, there were founding documents (including the Declaration of Independence); and government structures, laws and jurisdictions. Fundamentally, a nation was formed around the designs for a prosperous and "free" civil society, not the permanent enshrinement of slavery.

Problem

Race hustlers (those who only see people through the lens of race), ethnic divisions, and "Identity politics" are the ideological frames being encouraged by the 1619 project. These ideological frames are being pushed at the earliest possible stages! Schools are now "educating" students (K-12) that America was founded on racist foundations, and is therefore brutal, colonialist, repressive and illegitimate, so it needs to be hated and rejected. The biggest problem with the 1619 project is that it is fraudulent, revisionist, and only spreads hate for America. While it spreads lies, it does nothing to unite!

Solution

"1776 Unites" is the truthful counterbalance to 1619. The educational curriculum for 1776 should be used exclusively, and the propagandist and inaccurate 1619 project should be entirely rejected.

The *1776 Unites* curriculum teaches that resilience in the face of opposition defines black America in particular. There is a rich history of black Americans who rose above the harshest of circumstances by embracing their own personal agency and living out the true founding values of our country. These stories continue to unfold all around us today.

Fundamentally, accurate history that reflects blacks as overcomers and high achievers during almost insurmountable barriers during times of slavery and lynching's is an appropriate portrayal of black Americans. We are not perpetually lost due to our sordid history, so we don't need revisionist history and other excuses that only serve to prevent unity and cultural dignity.

WRITTEN BY:

EVERY BLACK LIFE MATTERS

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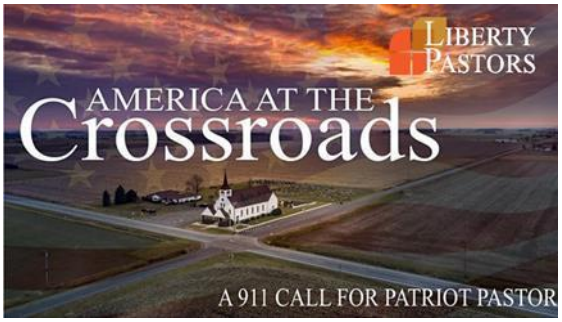


BLM FACT SHEET

Summary

Black Lives Matter (BLM) has been heralded as an organization concerned about police brutality. We are led to believe that their sole mission is to identify and condemn these acts. Due to their cries of "police brutality" over the past 12 months, most communities in the U.S. have experienced:

- Violence
- Riots
- Chaos
- Increased racial divisions
- Destroyed businesses (mostly "black" and "brown")
- Disdain for and distrust of whites.

Background

There are many issues impacting the black community; police brutality is not one of them! BLM was founded in 2013 in response to the death of Trayvon Martin, and until the death of George Floyd, they were mostly quiet. Now they have been fully unleashed as one of the power houses in culture, and they're spreading their radical beliefs far and wide.

Problem

Regrettably, BLM poses more problems than those they claim they are trying to solve. One of the biggest problems with BLM is that they proudly admit they are violent revolutionary Marxists. History confirms that revolutionary Marxists and a civil society just don't "mix." Some other notable problems with BLM are the following:

- Commitment to defunding police/law enforcement
- Practice of witchcraft and incantations
- Atheism
- Anti-fatherhood agenda
- Anti-family agenda.
- Promotion of gender-dysphoria in K-12 curriculum
- Pushing Critical Race Theory (CRT) as motivation for acts of violence toward whites
- Violence and community destruction

Solution

Every Black Life Matters (EBLM) is the perfect contrast and antidote to the problems and predicaments BLM has created. Unlike BLM, EBLM seeks to address all areas of the black community's plight, not just "police brutality." Some of the issues EBLM is committed to address and remedy are:

- Protection of black life from womb-to-tomb
- Nuclear family
- Active fatherhood
- Educational choice
- Free markets
- Criminal justice reform
- Promotion of non-violence.

Providing a viable (and Faith-based) alternative to BLM is the best way to begin addressing the needs of the black community, and provide solutions that help ease its plight. EBLM is that viable alternative!

EBLM is designed to not only provide positive support and help within the black community, it is also the perfect alternative for those who wish to support "black life" while holding steadfast to their Faith foundations and moral character.

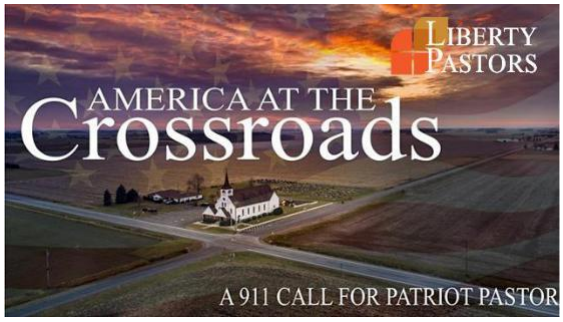
EBLM is committed to fostering interracial healing and cross-cultural unity. We believe this is the only pathway to ensuring healthy relationships and a unified America in coming generations.

WRITTEN BY:

www.everyblm.com

PARTNER:

www.saltandlightcouncil.org



CRT FACT SHEET

Summary

Critical Race Theory (CRT) is being used by individuals and organizations that seek to permanently disrupt historical norms and the social order of America. It is designed to separate and disunite races/ethnicities by generating conflict based on "race" (reflected as the amount of melanin in skin). That said, CRT tacitly rejects Dr. MLK's admonition to us all that people should be judged strictly by the content of their character, not the color of their skin. If CRT is not appropriately dealt with and rejected, America will again become segregated and permanently divided based on racial ideals and preferences.

Background

CRT is a theory popularized by Marxists from the Frankfurt School, originally located at the Institute for Social Research at Goethe University, who escaped Hitler's Germany and came to the U.S. in the late 1930's. When they arrived, they moved the Institute to Columbia University. Fundamentally, the goal of those who started the Frankfurt School here in the U.S. was to implement their theoretical framework throughout society to herald in their deluded dreams of a Marxist utopia within the U.S.

Problem

Today, CRT is raging as an acceptable ideology. The fundamental problem with CRT is that it dictates that an individual's worth and capacity to speak and be heard and respected is strictly based on melanin (or lack thereof). CRT posits that melanin dictates whether:

- You are either an "oppressor" or "the oppressed" (victims of oppression): the oppressor must now bow, kowtow and "shut up," while the "oppressed" become the only ones to be taken seriously and regarded.
- Some are automatically deemed "irredeemably racist,"
- Some are castigated as "privileged," and therefore must be "dismissed."
- Some are "supremacists."

In addition, CRT:

- Encourages hate and asserts that some are "cursed"
- Ultimately seeks to "cancel" whites!
- Seeks to subvert "power structures" (notably held by white people) and confer those structures to blacks, power transfer!
- Thrives on **GUILT and ACCUSATION**!

  In other words, **melanin** takes primacy over Christ and the Gospel (Christ came to redeem ALL, and no one is irredeemably cursed).

All told, CRT is a direct assault on the Gospel…It undermines supremacy of God's Word and renders the finished works of the Cross as "incomplete!"

Solution

Now is the time for individuals and organization to push back against this scheme to further divide and segregate based on "race." We must help educate our friends, family, co-workers, and corporate leaders about this corrosive scheme. Education is the key.

The pushback against CRT's momentum and support in culture will require a determined mass of people who are unafraid and resolute in standing for truth,

righteousness, and justice. We must confront it when we see or sense it, and help others understand the ramifications of this diabolical mindset.

If we can remain united, committed, and determined to confront CRT and push back wherever we see it taking root, we can begin to positively change the trajectory in culture and society throughout America.

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