



# The PROJECTOR

Dr. Dayton Hobbs, FOUNDING EDITOR

*“Projecting the Light of the Word of God on the Issues of the Day”*

## Four Reasons for National Judgment

Ezekiel 33:23-33

by Pastor Tod Brainard

There is a major disconnect in America that is reminiscent of the days of Israel's captivity in Babylon. In the 12<sup>th</sup> year of captivity in Babylon, there were those Israelite leaders who were still in denial as to the reasons of Israel's captivity in pagan Babylon. They kept talking about how God took care of Abraham and how they wanted that same kind of deliverance for themselves as Abraham's children. But there was a huge difference, Abraham was obedient to God's Word, they were not. Our Lord told Ezekiel in verses 25-26 of Chapter 33 to remind the Israelites as to the reasons they were sent into judgment. There were four main reasons.

### The Four Reasons

**REASON #1 - They ate meat with the blood still in it in rebellion against God's command. (vs. 25 – “...ye eat with the blood...”)**

This might seem strange to modern people in America that God should bring this up, but to the Israelite of that day, God had commanded them not to act as the pagans in eating their meat with the blood. In Leviticus 17:10-14, the children of Israel were instructed, *“And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood; I will even set my face against that soul that eateth blood, and will cut him off from among his people. For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul. Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No souls of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood. And whatsoever man there be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that*

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### “HEPIN” THE DEVIL

by Dr. Clay Nuttall  
 Director of the National Theological Seminary and  
 writer at Shepherd Staff

After twenty-six years of living in North Carolina, I have learned some of the lingo. Down here, “hepin” is a quick way to say “helping”. So let's get “rat” to it - and no, I don't mean that mousy kind of rat! We expect unregenerate crowds to be on the devil's side. Let's face it - they are a majority. In our culture, the devil's children (John 8:44) are bent on worshipping the enemy of our souls. We do not expect Christians, particularly true believers, to help Satan, yet we often do just that.

Paul explains this basic tenet in Romans 6:12, 13: Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield

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## EDITOR'S DESK

### It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World

by Rev. Len Peeler  
Guest Editorial

*How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge? Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at naught all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Proverbs 1:22-27*

Every time we turn around in America another calamity is befalling us. Mass shootings and terror attacks are now a way of life (or should I say death). We'll be glued to our televisions for a few days, wonder what's happening to our country, but soon we'll be back to our normal routines until the next tragedy strikes. When trying to figure the blame for all this misery, the loudest voices seem to always place the responsibility squarely on the backs of Bible believing Christians, proponents of the Second Amendment or more accurately, both.

A politician campaigning for the presidency will say, "Vote for me and I will fix all of our problems." The celebrities in Hollywood will tweet something about love, tolerance and injustice with the hopes that their words will end the violence, but they will not. Elected officials and policy makers will pass politically motivated executive orders and law after law in an attempt to appear to be resolving our problems. Our fellow countrymen however, with tear filled eyes and blood soaked garments cry, "It's not working!"

To accentuate our difficulties, every voice, every idea and

every solution to our problems that is even closely related to a Biblical truth will be outright rejected and refused as hate speech. Take for instance the case of Rep. Rick W. Allen from the 12th district of Georgia. He led the opening prayer in the House of Representatives a few weeks ago and read from Romans 1:18-32, and Revelation 22:18-19. Many were offended and walked out of the chamber because of the phrase "worthy of death" in Romans 1:32.

Thinking about the crowd Rep. Allen was before, I would have also encouraged him to read Romans 3:23, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;* and Romans 6:23, *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.* The truth of the matter is, that apart from the grace of God, every person, you and me included, because of our sins are "worthy of death."

And what does the good Lord do? He looks down from heaven and laughs. We have said we do not want God in our homes, in our schools and in our governments and we are now paying a terrible price. We have rejected His love, His mercy, His grace and His instructions and God rightfully mocks us because of the choices we've made. As a nation, we have collectively shaken our fists in the face of God and rebelliously said, "We do not need you! We will do things our own way!" Death and destruction are now upon us and God sits in the heavens and sorrowfully laughs. We have no one to blame but ourselves.

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## The PROJECTOR

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*The Projector* is a fundamentalist publication that seeks to "project the light of the Word of God on the issues of the day." It desires to honor Christ by articulating a clear testimony for Biblical separation from error in these last days as God's answer to the deepening apostasy of the visible church.



*(Continued from page 1 - Four Reasons for National Judgment*

*sojourn among you, which hunteth and catcheth any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust. For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off."*

This was a big deal with God. Since the blood was the picture of life in any animal or human being, God would not allow Israelites to eat meat that had not been properly bled. Instead, it was to be given to God by pouring it out on the earth. The people of Israel however suffered from self-imposed long term memory loss. They could not remember or chose not to remember what God said regarding the blood. They acted as the pagan cultures around them who ate the meat with the blood. This Israelite distinctive was slowly lost over the generations, but it was not lost to God. *"Whosoever eateth it (the blood) shall be cut off"* (Leviticus 17:14) was still in effect.

The Israelites desired what Abraham had enjoyed (vs. 24), but they refused to obey as Abraham had done. They had come to live as the heathen. Abraham *"believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness."* These people did not believe and obey God. Therefore, God said in essence, *"I put the pagans out of this land because of their sin, and you are doing the same things they did"* (vs. 29).

The people of Israel were trashing God's commands as if they were inconsequential. Their rebellion was an abomination to God! Let me just say at this juncture, that no nation who trashes God's Almighty Revelation will be a nation for long. America is now a paganized society which has been played out over a period of 100 years

by humanistic philosophies and secular lifestyles that have pushed out the Bible and the Lord Jesus Christ. When do you suppose our judgment will come?

## **REASON #2 - They worshiped Idols.**

*(vs. 25 - "...and lift up your eyes toward your idols...")*

Again, from the Old Testament we read in Exodus 20:4-6 what God said about worshiping strange idols, *"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them; for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generations of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments."*

Complete and utter disregard for God's commandments led the Israelites to worship strange idols and gods. By comparison, idolatry is everywhere in America. Idolatry is more than just bowing before an image. It is an attitude of covetousness. Colossians 3:5, *"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affections, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry."* Covetousness, materialism, self-infatuation, worship of sports figures, Hollywood stars, and music industry stars has become the norm for the people of America. Can God continue to let us ignore Him and His Word while we worship ourselves? I think not!

## **REASON #3 - The People of Israel had shed innocent blood!**

*(vs. 25 - "...and shed blood.")*

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# FOCUS ON RELIGION

In the early chapters of Jeremiah, the prophet delivers a series of scathing messages to the people of Jerusalem, providing insight into their true spiritual condition during days of reform. Having thoroughly described the idolatrous unfaithfulness and unbelief of the people in chapters 1-4, the prophet goes a step farther, revealing an entrenched moral and social corruption within the heart. In the end of chapter 5, God reiterates the sin of the nation, concluding that He has no choice but to bring judgment on *such a nation as this* (verse 29). Beginning in verse 19, the prophet describes four major characteristics indicative of such a nation that would deserve the irrevocable judgment of God.

## A Nation of Foolishness

In verse 21, the nation is described as a “foolish people.” The Hebrew word for “foolish” is *sakal*, meaning “to act stupidly, absurdly, or inconsistently; a deviation of the mind from what is true, good, right, wise, and prudent.” Foolish, therefore, describes action that is totally illogical and inexcusable; action that is such an extreme deviation from what is right and wise that it makes no sense. The prophet goes on to add details about this foolish nation. First, they have no understanding or heart of intelligence and wisdom (verse 21). With all the truth

## Such a Nation As This

by Pastor Adam Watt

God had given this nation, lacking understanding was an invalid excuse. Second, a foolish nation has the faculties for and ability to hear and see but deliberately chooses not to (verse 21). Third, a foolish nation has no fear or reverence for the Creator God (verse 22); how absurd to consider the creation through an atheistic and evolutionary worldview. Nations that reject creation are foolish nations spiraling towards judgment. Fourth, a foolish nation does not acknowledge the hand of God (verse 24). Talk of God may exist, but the works and provisions of God are attributed to the idols instead. When a nation that has been exposed to the truth runs carelessly down the path of foolishness, judgment is on the horizon.

## A Nation of Rebellion

Verse 23 describes the revolting and rebellious heart of the wayward nation. Rebellion naturally flows from a foolish nation—the nation knew what was right and had the true path laid before them. Yet, the nation chose to revolt and rebel. Two different words are used in the description of the nation’s heart. First, the nation had a revolting heart; this is a *willful turning aside from duty or obedience*. The people knew what they should do but had resolutely made up their minds to turn away. Second, the nation had a rebellious heart; this word is an action meaning to be like a wild and untamed animal that runs and does not return. The nation, therefore, has a

strong will that refuses submission. Blatantly turning from the grace and mercy of God manifests itself in an unruly and lawless nation—such a nation as this is headed for judgment.

## A Nation of Complacency

The condition of complacency manifests itself in the people’s neutral view of sin. Verses 25-29 provide examples of a nation consumed with deceit, treachery, materialism, and greed, and yet, no one seems to care about the terrible ramifications of the sin. For example, the innocent orphans and widows had been affected, and no one was concerned. A nation that is so full of materialism to the disregarding of the seriousness of sin is a nation that is headed for God’s judgment.

## A Nation of Religious Hypocrisy

The last two verses of the chapter depict a truly sad situation; the religious leaders of the day spoke falsely and took matters into their own hands, and the people “loved to have it so.” A nation that follows the steps of foolishness, rebellion, and complacency will end up believing that they are still a spiritual nation, not recognizing that they profess a completely different “god.” The nation will then find comfort in the nice religious tradition of God while doing everything contrary to His Word.

How far has our own nation America fallen through these stag-

(Continued on page 9)



# Proverb Practicals

by Ludwig Opager

Proverbs 20:6, **Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?**

Luke records the Pharisee who proclaimed his own goodness to a god whom he thought was listening but in reality he was only voicing what he believed about himself. He was not unjust, nor an extortioner, nor an adulterer, rather he fasted and faithfully paid his tithes, actions if true, certainly worthy of praise.

The church member may think likewise saying to himself: *"I did such a good job on that church project, but as usual, I again was in the background and no one noticed. What can I quietly and unobtrusively do so that someone, even the Pastor, will notice? Perhaps I can be doing something on the project while others pass by and observe my dedication. Maybe I'll mention how tired I am and then someone will ask why. That will give me an opening to proclaim my goodness without appearing to proclaim my goodness. If I don't by some means mention my goodness nobody will. Why am I doing all this work if no one takes notice?"*

Now what is the problem here? Why do the Pharisee and the church member desire to proclaim their goodness? Could it be that they both think more

highly of themselves than they ought? Maybe their opinion of themselves far exceeds the opinion of others? Thoughts like these fill the mind. *"Don't other men need help in bettering their opinion of me? I have all these assets and no one notices. By my conversation I can lead others to proclaim my goodness and bask in the recognition I truly deserve. I may even declare my goodness by proclaiming loudly that I have no goodness. I may take the low seats knowing that someone will call me to the*

**"...but a faithful  
man  
who can find?"**

*chief seats and at the same time be impressed with my humility!"*

Oh, how the heart contrives to proclaim its goodness when it has no goodness in itself! "The heart is deceitful above all things" and is an expert at devising ways to cover up its darkness. The heart is bent to boast of itself.

This is a truth which the Bible declares for we all have the heart of Adam, the heart which naturally bends acclaim its way. This is a common

failing and one for the Christian to seek the help of God's grace. Proclaiming your own goodness shows a lack of understanding about yourself and reveals a lack of knowledge of God's Word. Not allowing the Word of God to reveal what you are will result in a false understanding of your heart and the true definition of goodness.

Without the light of the Word of God, all the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes, which gives him a distorted picture of himself causing him to proclaim goodness where there is none. By definition, self-proclaimed goodness is no goodness at all, for it comes from a heart of pride.

Isaiah said in Isa 10:15, ***Shall the ax boast itself against him that heweth therewith? or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? as if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up, or as if the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood.***

God compares man to tools that were created to serve. An ax is only as useful as the maker makes it, aims it and swings it. A saw is only as sharp

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Again in Exodus 20:13, "Thou shalt not kill." Psalm 106:38-39 tells us that the people had "shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood...therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against his people, insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance."

Nearly 60 million babies have been aborted in America since the Supreme Court ruling in Roe v Wade in 1973. Innocent blood has been shed in the name of progress and human advancement. Our land is bloody! Beyond the abortion issue, Americans have sacrificed their children to the god of this world by offering them up to the culture of secular education and all that its anti-god agenda brings. The blood of innocents is on America! How long, oh Lord, how long, before the final judgment?

**REASON #4 - The People of Israel sinned against God in defiling marriage.**

(vs. 26 - "...and ye defile every one his neighbour's wife...")

This is the final abomination mentioned in this text. "Ye

stand upon our sword (refusal to exercise authority against evil works), ye work abomination (working abominations became the normal way of life), and ye defile every one his neighbor's wife: and shall ye possess the land?" (vs. 26). Marriage lost its God-given meaning in the nation of Israel. That which typified the relationship of Jehovah God with His people (marriage) was mocked by the breakdown of marriage and the vows that God had given to His people. Therefore the right to possess the land was taken away. The right to possess the land depended upon their obedience to God's commands, not numerical strength or stature in the world. Because of their sin of defiling marriage, the nation of Israel forfeited its right to remain in the Promised Land.

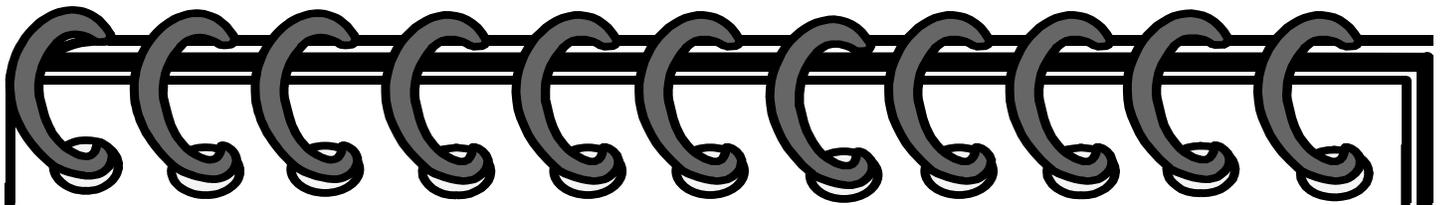
America has now embraced a new definition of marriage. This new definition is in stark contrast to that marriage defined in the authoritative Word of God. The concept of marriage (one man and one woman joined together in holy matrimony) has been totally redefined into meaningless drivel. Fornication, adultery, pornography, divorce, gay marriage have all but destroyed the Biblical ideal of

marriage in America. As a nation, we are now advancing past the moral decline of European countries and are teaching the world their wicked ways (Jeremiah 2:33). God sent Israel into captivity because she ignored the true concept of marriage. What about America?

Israel was a nation of hearers, but not doers of God's Word. America has been a nation of hearers and now has rejected the doing of God's Word. God cannot sit by and allow nations to reject Him and His glorious Word with impunity. There is a reckoning to be had with God when nations abandon His truth. No amount of hearing the Word will substitute for the doing of it.

We in America should take a long, hard look at the decline and captivity of the nation of Israel and draw some parallels. Our national response should be to turn to God in repentance. There is no other solution to our nation's condition. As we celebrate the 240<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States of America, it gives us pause to consider how many more birthdays will our nation have





*Teaching Tips*

*by Doris Peppard*

## Summer Jobs

It used to be understood by students that whenever the school term ended, they would be needed on the family farm, ranch, or store to help their family. It was understood that they filled a valuable “niche” in their family’s livelihood. This gave children a sense of purpose, lots of responsibility, and helped them mature. They learned skills, learned how to make a living, and become self-sufficient.

Nowadays, however, very few families run such a business; and, there is a decline in “Mom and Pop” shops that would employ young people for the summer. Children today have little hope of learning these vital skills. Even progressive labor laws prevent children from developing skills and are robbing students of opportunities to develop a good work ethic. Parents must fill that gap somehow to help their children become responsible adults.

The majority of children “play” (usually indoors) the majority of the time during summer vacation. The play is supervised. Children participate in playdates set up by the parents, and not very much is demanded of the child in the way of chores or responsibilities. Some children are sent off to camp where someone unrelated to the child entertains them all day long. How are these children ever going to learn responsibility, skills, or develop a sense of maturity? Young people want to feel needed, useful, and also realize they are doing their share in helping their family. When both parents work, this becomes even more difficult for the family.

Christian parents who realize how important these things are will need to go the extra mile to provide learning experiences and sweat-inducing “chores” for their children when school is out. All young people need to develop real-life skills: how to change a tire, simple car maintenance, how to run a household (not simple house chores; they need true responsibility for running certain aspects of the home – meals, laundry, cleaning, and yard work), as well as learning to get “out of their shell” enough to help others. These skills must be provided in order for young people to develop into self-reliant folks who can handle whatever may come their way.

God’s Word says in Lamentations 3:27, “It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.” A yoke is a heavy burden placed upon a person. It is used on animals to maintain control and provide direction for hard work in the fields. A “yoke” put upon a young person will help them grow up physically, mentally, and emotionally when they learn how to work. It will help them become consistent and responsible for a job well done. This sense of self-worth is invaluable, and young people today are in need of such training opportunities.



## Christian Schools Need a Christian Philosophy of Education

by James M. Bramblet

Every teacher working in a Christian school needs to thoroughly understand the Biblical view of life, Biblical methods of discipline, and the Biblical interpretation of the subject matter they are teaching. Well over thirty years ago, Dr. Mark Fakkema wrote, **"If we are to meet our educational challenge we need an all-embracing, unified Christian philosophy. To formulate such a philosophy is our greatest need today in the field of education."** (Fakkema, Mark, *Christian Philosophy, Its Educational Implications*. 1953, p.2.)

In the years since these words were written, Christian schools have proliferated dramatically. Many books have been written and many speeches made on the subject of the Christian philosophy of education. And yet it is still difficult to find teachers for our Christian schools who understand what it means to teach Christianly. **Let us hope that we do not beg crumbs from the educational table of the world so long that we become accustomed to this meager fare.**

*(Projector Editor's Note: This is exactly what has been done in many Christian college education departments. They have be-*

*come accustomed to begging crumbs from the public university educational table and have regurgitated it to would-be "Christian" teachers of the next generation. Educationally, they are spinning round and round like a compass needle that has lost its polar attraction. Public educational methodology and philosophy that flows from secular universities and even Christian colleges is nothing but fruitless experimentation that only produces inferior intellectual attainment and immoral character in its pupils.)*

The teachers in our Christian schools need to know what the Bible says about education so well that they not only recognize educational error when they see it but are able to give a reason for the Biblical standards they hold ([I Peter 3:15](#)). The God-ignoring, God-denying, and God-dishonoring views of modern educational thinkers are having a tremendous influence in the world. This influence has even invaded the thinking of many Christian educators. Only those who clearly understand what the Bible teaches on this subject can defend Christian standards in education and take the leadership in our Christian school movement. When it comes to educational philosophy, we need to be prepared to meet the world

head-on. We must meet their thoughts with God's pronouncements, their theories with God's facts, and their philosophies with a God-centered view of life.

But the challenge of the anti-theistic educators of the world is not the most important reason why we need to understand God's method of education. The primary challenge comes from within the Christian school movement. Christian schools are multiplying across our land. Many churches have begun and are maintaining schools at great expense. Christian parents are sacrificing to send their children. Christian teachers are giving their lives to staff these schools. How tragic after all of this if we fail not only to give a good education, but a good Christian education. We should not be satisfied until every person associated with our Christian schools has an understanding of the Christian purpose of our schools, every textbook is written from the Christian viewpoint, and every teacher is specifically trained for the Christian school ministry. Until these goals are attained, we are going to continue to be dependent upon the erroneous thinking of the world's educators.

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Excerpted from Chapter 2 of *An Introduction to the Christian School* by James M. Bramblet, Copyright © 1985 by James M. Bramblet



*(Continued from page 5 - Proverb Practicals)*

as the sharpener who sharpens it. A rod and a staff are only of help when in the hand. By themselves they are nothing. They cannot boast of their sharpness, they cannot magnify, they cannot shake or lift up themselves up. They are only made to serve their maker as is any creation of God. Isaiah prays to the Father and says in Isaiah 64:8, ***But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.*** We are made to serve, not made to proclaim how good we are.

**“...but a faithful man who can find?”**

So in the context of this verse we must conclude that a faithful man is one who does not proclaim his goodness. A faithful man is one who understands what he is in the eyes of God as proclaimed in the Bible. A faithful man knows that he is a servant and that any goodness that dwells in him is of God. He is one who stays by the stuff regardless of acclaim or lack of acclaim. The faithful man’s boast is in the Lord, always agreeing with Psalm 44:8, ***In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever.*** Boasting in God all the day long leaves no time for proclaiming one’s own goodness. It is no wonder that it is rare to find a faithful man.

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*(Continued from page 4 - Such a Nation As This)*

es? In the last several decades, the nation has thrown out principles of truth, following illogical and foolish paradigms such as evolution and postmodernism. The nation has also revolted against its original founding principles to the extent that the Constitution and its amendments are ridiculed. Furthermore, throughout the decline, America’s apathy towards sin has increased in proportion to its vitriol against Biblical truth. Sadly, as sin has increased, the hypocrisy of America’s churches has as well; the mainstream church has embraced a variety of sins through a relative mindset that justifies any behavior from drinking to immorality. Even though the Lord continues to show mercy, sure judgment awaits *such a nation as this.*

Ω

## Desire to Do Right

By the late Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

**“You know, if you *want* to do right, you don’t have any trouble knowing what’s right. It’s easy. All you’ve got to do is to ask God, and if God’s already told you, you don’t have to go back and ask Him. If it’s contrary to the Ten Commandments, it’s wrong. If it’s contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, it’s wrong.**

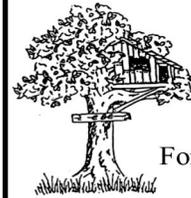
**But it’s hard to *do* right. Sometimes it’s awfully hard. It takes faith, and character, and manhood, and womanhood—you know it isn’t easy to stand. A soldier on a battlefield has no harder time to stand than some of you in the quiet, ordinary, routine battles of life....These two little words are such big words, and you can know what’s right if you *want* to know. And if you *want* to know what’s right, God can give you grace to *do* what’s right.”**

-excerpt from “My Friends” by Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., BJU Press, 1983, p. 54.

## Alexis de Tocqueville’s View of the Loss of Liberty

**“Society will develop a new kind of servitude which covers the surface of society with a network of complicated rules, through which the most original minds and the most energetic characters cannot penetrate. It does not tyrannize but it compresses, enervates, extinguishes, and stupefies a people, till each nation is reduced to nothing better than a flock of timid and industrious animals, of which the government is the shepherd”**

**-Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, 1835.**



**WHEE!**

**IT’S FREE!**

For children, teachers, parents, and grands

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*(Continued from page 1 - "Helpin" the Devil)*

ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

We don't have to help the devil, but we do so when we do advance his agenda. The member that we use to speed the work of the evil one is most often the tongue. (James 3:1-10) The tongue utters words, and words have meaning. Even names can serve the devil's purposes: Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain. (Exodus 20:7)

When we use words that are misleading or patently untrue, we serve the enemy. Unfortunately, Christians today have bowed to "political correctness". Our pagan society, along with the emerging and emergent church, persists in softening words that describe sin. The most heinous of sins is dressed up with fancy words that make wicked people feel they are fine in their choices.

#### TRANSGENDER

Let me begin with the most recent lie. There is no such thing as a "transgender". God settled this issue at creation. The genders are man and woman, and that is all there is; there is nothing more. Sinners may try to cover up their wicked world, but believers are plainly disobedient if we join that stampede. "Transgender" is a lie from the pit of hell, and we should refuse to even use the word. If you do, you are "hepin" the devil. Wicked minds have invented this lie with "psycho-heresy" and humanistic psychology. The Bible is the final authority on anything it speaks to: ...let God be true,

but every man a liar...(Romans 3:4) A person's response to this charge will tell you just how far that individual has moved from Scriptures that are authoritative and sufficient.

#### SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

While I have dealt with this topic before, here it is again: there is no such thing as "same-sex marriage". God settled this when He created marriage. It is one man, one woman, for one lifetime. Stop using the devil's vocabulary. Stop using that term. To do so is "hepin" the devil. If you think God is dead, or that the Bible is not clear, then this discussion is not for you. "Same-sex marriage" is a lie, and even the denigrators know it is a lie. Don't let them drag you down into their pit of lies.

#### GAY, HOMOSEXUAL, SODOMY

There is nothing at all gay about this horrible wickedness. God has spoken clearly regarding this sin. I understand how those who use allegorical interpretation tend to treat Romans 1, but the clear, plain statement of the text is pointed. Those who practice sodomy (1:26-27) are condemned: "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them." Hang on to your hat; the plain, clear statement is that this is a capital crime. To support this evil in any way is to support a lie and is "hepin" the devil.

The term "homosexual" may be a true description, but it should never be used as an approval or recommendation. That kind of activity is better described by God as sodomy. That is why evil people hate that word so much and have

bullied Christians into avoiding it. Those Christians are often so very fearful that they even bully those who use plain speech.

#### FORNICATION AND ADULTERY

Pulpits used to be very clear about such activity; now some have willingly followed the "dumbing down" of sin. They went from that terminology to "shacking up" to "living together" to "relationship". By using these terms, they are "hepin" the devil and promoting a lie. Stop using words that are clearly lies and give support to the "god of this world". And then there is the topic of abortion where, sadly, silence reigns among most Christians.

#### LAME EXCUSES FOR SUPPORTING WICKEDNESS

So why do (professing) Christians today so often support sin and the devil with their vocabulary? Some appeal to love, but you neither love someone that you help with a lie nor should you feel comfortable about sin. Love doesn't blind sinners to righteousness, knowing they are headed for hell. Some persist in believing that all sin is bad, and that is true; but God is clear about the fact that some sins are worthy of death. Using sin to protect sin is "hepin" the devil. Others insist that plain talk (truth) will turn people away, and that is why hell and judgment have disappeared from their message. If that ploy doesn't work, they then attack the messengers, the truth-tellers' character.

Remember this: Holiness is God's primary characteristic; truth rises from holiness, and love rises from truth. Telling lies is not true, righteous, or holy. Telling lies is "hepin" the devil, and it grieves the heart of God. Ω



# Stars of the Morning

## YOU CAN'T DO THAT! The Story of William H. Wilburn (Part IV) by Aunt Carolyn



*(Blinded as a boy and weakened by health struggles, William Milburn appeared to be headed for a lonely and futile life. But God had other plans! How could a blind man become a circuit riding preacher in the wilderness? How could a blind man become Chaplain to the U. S. House of Representatives? "With God all things are possible.")*

### From Wilderness to Washington

What a change! From the wide open spaces of wilderness to the boundaries of tall buildings and streets; from the fresh aromas of woods and prairies to the tight, stifling smells of city streets and industry; from preaching in log cabins and school houses to speaking in the marble chambers of Congress; from preaching to simple hunters and farmers to exhorting the educated, worldly wise leaders of the nation; from using the back of a roughhewn chair for a pulpit to standing behind the Vice Presidential desk to sound forth the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the precepts of the Word of God, the Reverend William Milburn's life had taken a wide turn.

If he quaked before those country folks when the bishop said, "William, exhort!" how could he speak to this august House of Representatives? Anyone who has ever tried to speak before a group knows that looking your audience in the eye is essential. William's sightlessness not only kept him from seeing his listeners' response but also kept him from emphasizing his points with any expression from his own eyes. He felt so limited, but God had given him this position and, by God's grace, he was determined to fulfil it.

### Politicians or Statesmen

His food, surroundings, and duties greatly changed, but William's intense study of God's Word and love of studying languages, history, and literature only grew. He spent every possible hour at the Library of Congress reading and enriching his mind. His friends and acquaintances also changed. Now he met and talked with the men of Congress. Some he considered to be "politicians", but many were admirable statesmen, such as Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Daniel Webster and others who were determined to do what was right whatever the cost. For example, once Henry Clay was called upon to

explain his opinion on an important but controversial matter. He prepared his opinion and read it aloud to Colonel Preston, a prominent leader. Mr. Clay then asked the Colonel for his opinion. "I quite agree with you in your views, Mr. Clay," replied the Colonel, "but I think it would be better for you to leave out such and such parts; the expression of such opinions, I fear, will injure your prospects for the Presidency."

"Am I right, sir?" Mr. Clay asked.

"I think you are, sir," was the reply.

"Then, sir," replied Mr. Clay with the ardor of his grand nature, "I shall say every word of it and compromise not one jot or tittle. I would rather be right than be President."

### Happy Honeymoon

Not all of his time in Washington was spent in work and duty, for somewhere in his schedule, William found time to court a young lady. Congress adjourned August 10th of 1846, and three days later he married Miss Cornelia Wilmot in Baltimore. How much (or little) she was prepared for what lay ahead, she may not wish to tell. The next day, they set out on a wedding trip second to none. They planned to go to a church convention in Paris, Illinois by way of Chicago, then on to William's home, where she would be introduced to his family and the ways of the West. Her refined city culture was about to receive a jolt!

### Rough and Slow

Starting out on a stagecoach with several other passengers, the first one hundred mile leg of the trip took twenty-four hours! Then they switched their trunks and baggage to a small steamboat for Peoria. It was slow travel, too. At dinner time the menu (roast beef, roast pig, and sole-leather pudding) was alien to the new bride, and breakfast the next morning wasn't any better! One man demanded the waiter "change his cup!" "Will you have coffee or tea, Sir?" The answer: "If this is coffee, bring me tea; and if this is tea, bring me coffee -- I want a change!"

At Peoria, the newlyweds gladly changed from the

*(Continued on page 12)*



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 ★ (Continued from page 11 - You Can't Do That!)  
 ★ steamboat to a stagecoach. They were the only ones on  
 ★ board, but after only eleven miles they had to leave the  
 ★ stage with four horses and get on a wooden spring wagon  
 ★ with only two horses. They were young and happy though,  
 ★ and thought they could manage. So with their trunk, they  
 ★ climbed on the wagon and jolted off.  
 ★  
 ★ **Gourmet Cuisine**  
 ★ Was a honeymoon suite reserved in a nice hotel for the  
 ★ newlyweds at the next town? Was a table reserved for  
 ★ them at a luxurious restaurant? Not likely! When they  
 ★ stopped for dinner, Miss Cornelia was introduced for the  
 ★ first time to a rustic western kitchen. The chickens were  
 ★ killed, feathers picked, and parts cut up right before their  
 ★ eyes! The heavy biscuits and half raw corn bread were  
 ★ kneaded and baked as they looked on. At dinner, William  
 ★ ate quite heartily as he was acquainted with wilderness  
 ★ fare, but his bride ate very little. When they continued  
 ★ their journey after dinner, she told him, "Well, my dear  
 ★ William, you had the advantage over me, because you  
 ★ *couldn't see* what you were eating!"  
 ★  
 ★ The wedding trip had only begun. Coming to the place  
 ★ where they were to connect with another stage line, William  
 ★ asked about a hotel in the town. The driver answered, "Ye  
 ★ won't get nothin' fit to eat, and if they have a bed it will be  
 ★ full of bugs!" "Well, then, take us to the local Methodist  
 ★ preacher's house!" William demanded. They were  
 ★ welcomed there and kindly cared for, but there was no rest.  
 ★ Someone must have heard that "Rev. Milburn" was in  
 ★ town, because he got an urgent call to the bedside of a dying  
 ★ man. He spent a couple of hours with him and tried to  
 ★ console the man's wife. Meanwhile, a terrible western  
 ★ plains storm came up. Rain was falling in torrents, but in  
 ★ spite of the pounding rain, the driver barked at the young  
 ★ couple to hurry up and get on the stage! It was awful!  
 ★ Lightning flashed, thunder crashed, rain pelted down, and  
 ★ the temperature fell about forty degrees! Now they were  
 ★ not only wet but very cold! The night was pitch-black. The  
 ★ driver could not see the road except when lightning lit up  
 ★ the area, which showed that the whole plain was a swirling  
 ★ pool of water! Then, they heard the sound of rushing  
 ★ water! Oh, no! The creek was flooded! As they started  
 ★ across the bridge, they heard the swollen torrent rushing  
 ★ through the deep ravine and a broad glare of lightning  
 ★ suddenly revealed their extreme crisis! - - "By Jove!" the  
 ★ driver shouted gleefully: "Weren't that lucky? A half  
 ★ minute more and we'd have been all smashed! I never was  
 ★ so near goin' over a bridge; half an inch more, and we'd  
 ★ have been over, and salt wouldn't have saved us!"  
 ★  
 ★ Poor frightened Cornelia timidly asked, "Are there any  
 ★ more bad bridges to cross before daylight?" The driver  
 ★ replied, "Oh, yes, several; but you mustn't be skeered; we  
 ★ must all die sometime, you know."  
 ★  
 ★   
 ★ (Will William and Cornelia survive their honeymoon? If  
 ★ so, what lies ahead? Be watching for the next issue!)  
 ★  
 ★\*\*\*\*\*