

# American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont, MI 49412 231-924-4050 [www.americandecency.org](http://www.americandecency.org)

*Encouraging Christians to guard their hearts*

*April 2009*

## The Answer is not in a Stimulus Package

By Bill Johnson



It seems every day there is a new headline bearing evidence of a deteriorating economy, the crumbling of Biblical morality, attacks upon the sanctity of life and marriage.

However, the answer is not in a stimulus package, hope does not come from a winning basketball team (as my alma mater the MSU Spartans were touted as for the troubled state of Michigan). Our hope and our salvation come only through the saving work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As David Robertson wrote in the August 2008 issue of *Tabletalk* magazine, "...Jesus is Lord and Savior. Everything comes under His lordship. There is no area of life that is not His. Therefore those who belong to Him, go on to live for Him in every area of life – in education,

family, work, sport, politics, healthcare, social work, and entertainment.

"... we then go on to produce fruit. Christians are not utopians or religious moralists. We do not think that we can legislate to make people moral, or that there is some kind of religious band-aid that will soothe over the deep wounds in humanity. Neither are we pietists who retreat into our religious communes. We are salt and light in a world that is tasteless and dark. Because we have come to know the love of Christ, we cannot but reflect and share that love. The love of Christ constrains us. According to his secretary, Traudl Junge, Hitler despised the church because "only mankind and above all the church have made it their aims to keep alive the weak, those unfit to live, and people of an inferior kind." Exactly. The history of the Christian church is full of people who, having been ransomed, healed, restored, and forgiven, are then set free to serve the living God and do so by going on to keep alive the weak, heal the sick, fight

injustice, feed the hungry, visit the prisoners and demonstrate in their life, words, and deeds the mercy and compassion of God." [Taken from *Tabletalk* August 2008, Ligonier Ministries]

***"We are salt and light in a world that is tasteless and dark."***

We are to be salt and light. We are to be defenders of the weak, standard bearers of the Truth, pursuers of holiness.

On the reverse side are two examples of others who are standing for Truth and opportunities to join them in being that salt and light to a tasteless and dark world.

# American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont, MI 49412 231-924-4050 [www.americandecency.org](http://www.americandecency.org)

*Encouraging Christians to guard their hearts*

*April 2009*

## The Answer is not in a Stimulus Package

By Bill Johnson



It seems every day there is a new headline bearing evidence of a deteriorating economy, the crumbling of Biblical morality, attacks upon the sanctity of life and marriage.

However, the answer is not in a stimulus package, hope does not come from a winning basketball team (as my alma mater the MSU Spartans were touted as for the troubled state of Michigan). Our hope and our salvation come only through the saving work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As David Robertson wrote in the August 2008 issue of *Tabletalk* magazine, "...Jesus is Lord and Savior. Everything comes under His lordship. There is no area of life that is not His. Therefore those who belong to Him, go on to live for Him in every area of life – in education,

family, work, sport, politics, healthcare, social work, and entertainment.

"... we then go on to produce fruit. Christians are not utopians or religious moralists. We do not think that we can legislate to make people moral, or that there is some kind of religious band-aid that will soothe over the deep wounds in humanity. Neither are we pietists who retreat into our religious communes. We are salt and light in a world that is tasteless and dark. Because we have come to know the love of Christ, we cannot but reflect and share that love. The love of Christ constrains us. According to his secretary, Traudl Junge, Hitler despised the church because "only mankind and above all the church have made it their aims to keep alive the weak, those unfit to live, and people of an inferior kind." Exactly. The history of the Christian church is full of people who, having been ransomed, healed, restored, and forgiven, are then set free to serve the living God and do so by going on to keep alive the weak, heal the sick, fight

injustice, feed the hungry, visit the prisoners and demonstrate in their life, words, and deeds the mercy and compassion of God." [Taken from *Tabletalk* August 2008, Ligonier Ministries]

***"We are salt and light in a world that is tasteless and dark."***

We are to be salt and light. We are to be defenders of the weak, standard bearers of the Truth, pursuers of holiness.

On the reverse side are two examples of others who are standing for Truth and opportunities to join them in being that salt and light to a tasteless and dark world.

## Is Being Pro-Life Political?



After 25 years of participation, the Holland (MI) Tulip Time Board of Directors has decided to reject the float entered by Holland Right to Life for the 2009 Tulip Time parades. While the float has historically not mentioned the abortion issue, and has complied with other Tulip Time regulations, Tulip Time officials have decided that because Holland Right to Life advocates a position on a particular issue, they are no longer suitable participants for the parades.

While Tulip Time officials likely made their decision in an effort to stem controversy surrounding the abortion issue, their decision to selectively discriminate against Holland Right to Life is a poor reflection of the strongly pro-life community which has supported the Tulip Time festival for years.

**Here's how you can help:** Contact Tulip Time Executive Director Tamra Bouman, and ask that Holland Right to Life's float be allowed to lead the children's parade.

Tulip Time Festival, Inc.  
Tamra Bouman, Director  
238 South River Ave.  
Holland MI 49423  
Ph: 800-822-2770, ext. 113

Also, pray that hearts would be changed, and that the message that all life has intrinsic value and worth would continue to go forward!

## Catholic Notre Dame Dishonors the Sanctity of Life

The University of Notre Dame announced that it will award President Barack Obama an honorary law degree and that President Obama will give the principal address at the university's May 17th commencement ceremony. President Obama supports abortion on demand, government funding of abortion, government funding of stem cell research that kills human embryos, legally granting same-sex unions all the rights and privileges of marriage, and repealing the federal Defense of

Marriage Act that protects states from being forced to recognize same-sex marriages contracted in other states.

Bishop D'Arcy has decided he will not attend the graduation, stating: *"I wish no disrespect to our president, I pray for him and wish him well. ... But a bishop must teach the Catholic faith 'in season and out of season' and he teaches not only by his words - but by his action.*

*"My decision is not an attack on anyone, but is in defense of the truth about human life."*

D'Arcy also stated that *"the measure of any Catholic institution is not only what it stands for, but also what it will not stand for."*

May that be true for all believers.

Take a stand by expressing concern to Notre Dame, urging them to seek to be an institution that will not compromise on biblical Truth.

Notre Dame University  
Father John Jenkins, Pres.  
317 Main Building  
Notre Dame IN 46556  
Phone: 574-631-5000  
Fax: 574-631-2770  
email: president@nd.edu

## Is Being Pro-Life Political?



After 25 years of participation, the Holland (MI) Tulip Time Board of Directors has decided to reject the float entered by Holland Right to Life for the 2009 Tulip Time parades. While the float has historically not mentioned the abortion issue, and has complied with other Tulip Time regulations, Tulip Time officials have decided that because Holland Right to Life advocates a position on a particular issue, they are no longer suitable participants for the parades.

While Tulip Time officials likely made their decision in an effort to stem controversy surrounding the abortion issue, their decision to selectively discriminate against Holland Right to Life is a poor reflection of the strongly pro-life community which has supported the Tulip Time festival for years.

**Here's how you can help:** Contact Tulip Time Executive Director Tamra Bouman, and ask that Holland Right to Life's float be allowed to lead the children's parade.

Tulip Time Festival, Inc.  
Tamra Bouman, Director  
238 South River Ave.  
Holland MI 49423  
Ph: 800-822-2770, ext. 113

Also, pray that hearts would be changed, and that the message that all life has intrinsic value and worth would continue to go forward!

## Catholic Notre Dame Dishonors the Sanctity of Life

The University of Notre Dame announced that it will award President Barack Obama an honorary law degree and that President Obama will give the principal address at the university's May 17th commencement ceremony. President Obama supports abortion on demand, government funding of abortion, government funding of stem cell research that kills human embryos, legally granting same-sex unions all the rights and privileges of marriage, and repealing the federal Defense of

Marriage Act that protects states from being forced to recognize same-sex marriages contracted in other states.

Bishop D'Arcy has decided he will not attend the graduation, stating: *"I wish no disrespect to our president, I pray for him and wish him well. ... But a bishop must teach the Catholic faith 'in season and out of season' and he teaches not only by his words - but by his action.*

*"My decision is not an attack on anyone, but is in defense of the truth about human life."*

D'Arcy also stated that *"the measure of any Catholic institution is not only what it stands for, but also what it will not stand for."*

May that be true for all believers.

Take a stand by expressing concern to Notre Dame, urging them to seek to be an institution that will not compromise on biblical Truth.

Notre Dame University  
Father John Jenkins, Pres.  
317 Main Building  
Notre Dame IN 46556  
Phone: 574-631-5000  
Fax: 574-631-2770  
email: president@nd.edu