

## A Voice Crying in the Wilderness

By Bill Johnson



Welcome to a new year with the ADA. You are needed and deeply appreciated.

This atypical newsletter is shorter than the newsletters that we have sent for many years. As you see, this newsletter includes a cover letter which we hope you will read first. The cover letter is declaring our hope that you will come away with a greater understanding of both our country's and our ministry's future, and our ministry needs.

**God has been faithful.** The years have gone by so quickly. People we have loved and who have been mighty prayer warriors and financial supporters have been raised up by God. Though unknown to most, they have been used of God for many years.

Similarly, at the core of American Decency today are faithful friends and supporters who encourage, affirm, and support us faithfully and generously through finances and prayers.

From the earliest board members digging into their own pocketbooks to help with a mailing to monies raised through the strong giving of faithful friends and supporters of this ministry allowing us to do such things as put full page ads in newspapers warning against indecency over the airwaves in the Grand Rapids Press and once too in the New York Times, our hearts are filled with gratitude as we've received much needed support day by day!

Historical highlights: Driving Howard Stern off from the terrestrial airwaves; receiving the Salt and Light Award by Dr. D. James Kennedy in 2000 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.; our success in pressuring Abercrombie and Fitch to discontinue the sale and distribution of its toxic pornographic catalog (2003); all that we have done to warn, exhort and teach untold numbers of people throughout West Michigan and beyond of the horror of Shariah-adherent Islam - with its intent to destroy America from within and to eradicate America's Judeo-Christian foundation.

But make no mistake - we find ourselves in new uncharted territory with a heightened need for fellow warriors and kindred spirits standing with us as perhaps never before.

Troubling cultural challenges that require us to be stronger financially than we currently are - are right in front of our faces.

Dr. Francis Schaeffer wrote about such uncharted territory just before his passing in 1984 in a book entitled, "**The Great Evangelical Disaster.**"

*"The freedom that once was founded on a biblical consensus and a Christian ethos has now become autonomous freedom, cut loose from all constraints.*

*Here we have the world spirit of our age - autonomous Man setting himself up as God*

*in defiance of the knowledge and the moral and spiritual truth which God has given... The titanic freedoms which we once enjoyed have been cut loose from their Christian restraints and are becoming a source of destruction leading to chaos. And when this happens, there really are very few alternatives. All morality becomes relative, law becomes arbitrary, and society moves toward disintegration."*

Written in 1984, Schaeffer's book spoke with prophetic clarity as if he were writing to us in this hour. **This is the context that we find ourselves in, in America.**

But it wasn't always so. Many reading this will remember the 1950s and early '60s when, even in a city like Grand Rapids, you could leave your house and car unlocked. It was commonplace. It was safe and secure.

At that time, there was a shared view of what was right and what was wrong. Human civility, politeness, abiding by the law marked life in mainstream America. It was as if such a pattern was built into the cultural DNA.

Quoting Schaeffer:

*"In the last 60 years (now 95 years) the consensus upon which our culture was built has shifted from one that was largely Christian (though we must say immediately it was far from perfect) to a consensus growing out of*

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*the Enlightenment: that is, to a consensus that stands in total antithesis to Christian truth at every point -- including the denial of the supernatural; belief in the all sufficiency of human reason; the rejection of the fall; denial of the deity of Christ and his resurrection; belief in the perfectibility of Man, and the destruction of the Bible. And with this has come a nearly total moral breakdown. There's no way to make a synthesis of these ideas and Christian truth. They stand in total antithesis...*

*"All is relative and arbitrary. And so modern man is left with nothing to fill the void but hedonism or materialism or whatever other ism may be blowing in the wind."*

**All is relative and arbitrary with nothing to fill the void.**

1. Women and men having sex changes.
2. Putting cell phones into the hands of young children and young teenagers with little to no sense of concern.
3. Same sex marriages.
4. Hillary Clinton using her own cell phone and email to pass information to foreign enemies with no investigation or indictment.
5. President Obama giving 1.5 billion dollars to Iran and delivering it in cold hard cash despite Iran being a leading enemy of American citizens. No action taken.
6. Political candidates declaring they will vote against the funding of Planned Parenthood yet reversing their position after being elected. Then being voted back into office when they again campaign as pro-life.
7. Democrat Congressmen choosing to be sworn into office on the document that calls for our destruction: The Qur'an
8. President George W. Bush declaring Islam to be a peaceful religion and naively/foolishly placing Shariah-adherent Muslims into high governmental positions.

**Accommodation:**

Schaeffer continues: *"And now we must ask where we as evangelicals have been in the battle for truth and morality in our culture. Have we as evangelicals been on the front lines contending for the faith and confronting the moral breakdown over the last 40 to 60 years? Have we even been aware that there is a battle going on - not just a heavenly battle, but a life-and-death struggle over what will happen to men and women and children both in this life and*

*the next? If the truth of the Christian faith is in fact truth, then it stands in antithesis to the ideas and immorality of our age, and it must be practiced both in teaching and practical action. Truth demands confrontation. It must be loving confrontation, but there must be confrontation nonetheless.*

*"Sadly we must say that this has seldom happened. **Most of the evangelical world has not been active in the battle, or even been able to see that we are in a battle. And when it comes to the issues of the day the evangelical world most often has said nothing; or worse has said nothing different from what the world would say.**"*

Schaeffer's book, The Great Evangelical Disaster, is a heart-rending, prophetic book as it describes the moral, spiritual breakdown of our embattled America. At one point, Schaeffer states *"It is a horrible thing for a man like myself to look back and see my country and my culture go down the drain in my lifetime."*

Surely, that statement resounds in many of your hearts. It does in mine.

Schaeffer, as you see, wrote and spoke about it - warning, exhorting, sometimes pleading, crying out, teaching others, holding conferences, doing interviews.

Until his dying breath, not long after he wrote those words, Schaeffer proclaimed the truth to anyone his voice would reach. But even after Schaeffer passed, the "great evangelical disaster" he wrote of continued, full force.

Increasingly Christians and Christian institutions accommodate on matters of decency, homosexuality, same sex marriage, Islam, transgenderism, the inerrancy and infallibility of Scripture, modesty, issues regarding pornography, obscenity and indecency.

**What about ADA?**

Throughout our years of ministry we've taken the unpopular stands that few others would. We've fought in the spirit of Schaeffer's prophetic warnings!

In a few short weeks, if giving trends continue, we won't be able to make payroll. That's only happened once before since our origin - 1996.

In our devotional time recently, I discussed the burden that is upon us: to answer the question, **"What does American Decency Association do that makes it worth supporting?"**

So when Calvin College brought in a speaker like Eboo Patel to its annual January series (2015) propogating that Allah and God are the same and Patel got a standing ovation - why didn't it rankle, cause righteous indignation? It does us at ADA! I know of no one else who sounded the alarm and warned and also shed light to Calvin leadership. Patel preaches heresy. Where are the defenders of the faith?

When a local Grand Rapids station called and said that they couldn't find anyone to speak against the March 2014 decision by U.S. District Court Judge Bernard Friedman where Friedman overturned a general election vote in Michigan in which the citizens voted against same sex marriage. I took the interview. The TV station came up with their cameraman and newsperson.

When a local theater brought in the degrading, women-diminishing movie "Fifty Shades of Gray", we circulated a petition generating significant controversy with the theater owners and a Grand Rapids TV station came up to interview me. Some area Christians thought it was none of our business and asked "What's so wrong about that movie?"

**We write. We speak. We warn. We call out because we are burdened for the de-graded condition of our country.**

Christ still has a remnant and Christ reigns supreme in the hearts of His people. Yet, sadly and clearly, vast majorities of people - our neighbors, some family members, some church people, are oblivious or even hateful to the Lord and His purposes, His love and grace. Enemies advance from without and, increasingly, within our country.

A voice crying in the wilderness. As Isaiah prophesied about John the Baptist: *"prepare ye the way of the Lord."*

Are we needed for such a time as this?





# When God raises up a ministry, He also supplies

by Bill Johnson

From my years of ministry and from watching others, the evidence is clear God does supply! It isn't about any man or woman getting the glory. God does His best work in weakness, in people who look to Him for help day by day. That God would be glorified.

In recent years, we have been warning regarding Interfaith Dialogue and Islam, the Qur'an and the Muslim Brotherhood in America.

My brother-in-law stated, "Your group has helped many understand the Islamic issue." Whether popular or not, we have felt led to bring experienced voices to warn: Frank Gaffney, Steve Coughlin, Phil Haney, Sandy Rios and others.

ADA was messaging and out in front, concerned that God's people were being duped and confused by purveyors of Interfaith Dialogue including by those who posture themselves as Christians, faith leaders.

We have prayed and pressed on. In recent months we received a letter that spells out clearly that our labors were not in vain.

This letter came from a lady we have never met in person but who had come to several of our events. She wrote:

*"On November 16, 2018, I went to the Kaufman Interfaith Institute's conference at Grand Valley State University.*

*Had I not had knowledge from Bill Johnson, ADA seminars and your many newsletter articles, I would have been brain washed like most everyone in the room. I am aware of the danger of Islam and it's infiltration into our schools, our Government, and our communities with it's "civilization jihad", so I recognized what was taking place.*

*Eboo Patel was the Muslim speaker. He was smooth. He was warm, good-looking a little humorous, very likable and knowledgeable, and also very gifted at brain-washing these people. I believe he was strategically the last speaker, to leave the last impression. His "Part 1" was started off with making a joke about the Pilgrims*



*landing at Plymouth Rock and finding "Judeo-Christian nation" written on the rock. Next was a Trump joke about America returning to her Judeo-Christian values so we can say "Merry Christmas" again. Both of these brought heavy laughter in the room. He then went on to explain how the Judeo-Christian name was made up in 1930 and that America was not founded upon as a Christian Nation. He went on to say, "we're rewriting the next chapter. We need to rename Judeo-Christian."*

*I found the room to be very engaged with him at this point with their head nods and oohs and aahs. In fact, as I was taking notes, I actually wrote "brainwashing" as a side note here in parenthesis.*

*Part 2 was "beautiful stories" from the Koran all about Mohammad, and love and peace (rainbows and unicorns), and all of that. (because we all know that Islam is all about love and peace). The scary thing is that many people do believe this.*

*Part 3 was about Mohammad Ali and how he was first vilified in the 1970's in America, and then became so loved by all. He went on to talk about all the good things Muslims do in and for America. He pointed out that the seven Muslim countries that are part of the travel ban, there has been no crime from any of them. (say what???) "Muslims are good, good people. Just look at all the thousands of Doctors that are Muslim".*

*One gentleman asked a question about what he should think when he hears about "jihad". Eboo seemed a little hesitant and then stated that "Jihad just means to struggle. ... sometimes people struggle violently."*

*He then did a real good job of changing it right back to what wonderful people Muslims are and all the great contributions they make to our society and how unfairly they are treated in the US.*

*The next woman at the mic was oh so sympathetic and brought up about the special diets needed in schools for Muslims and then asked, "but what else can we do to help?" It was like...."oh you poor, poor mistreated people. How can we bend over backwards to help you?" (It became clear to me that they have us eating right out of their hands). We are in big trouble if this is how clueless people are.*

*Gender fluidity was brought up a few times. It was stated how we need to be accepting of and tolerate this kind of "change". Again, many head nods in agreement.*

*I had this older Lutheran couple sitting next to me. When we had a break, I said to them that I did not understand this at all. We're supposed to accept this "change", when God's Word never changes. Ever. It's black and white to me. Male and Female. There is no "other". Just as with abortion, there is no middle ground. The end result is always, always the same....the death of a life that God created. There is no accepting that as right.*

*At this point the woman leans over and asks, "What is your religion?" I say, "Christian." "Yes, but Christian what? What is your religious affiliation?" I'd be darn if I was going to say Christian Reformed. After all, isn't being just "Christian" enough? Drop all the denominations. Who cares at this point. A Christian is a Christ follower. A believer in God's Word.*

*The problem with that idea is this: the god the Muslims worship, Allah, is not the one true God of the Bible. They are not the same God. And there are not many ways to get to heaven. There is one Way, and his name is Jesus.*

*So, I see this Coexist/Interfaith movement as very, very dangerous. I believe that it is brain-washing Americans; Christians and those of other faiths into the liberal left's*

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agenda of stripping America of our values and morals, the strengths that make us a great nation. I think that all those who agree with this Interfaith movement have fallen into a great big trap set up to push Islamic ideologies on us all.

What really scares me is I can think of a lot of people in my conservative "bubble" that could have probably fallen for this trap, just because it was so well done, so smooth and so "loving."

Please, ADA, we need you. As if you have not done enough already. I would like to encourage you to press on with educating us on this very serious matter. What can we do? How can we wake people up and make them aware of what is happening right under our noses? I know that God is in control, but boy is our country's future ever in trouble.

I will end with a quote I'm sure I got from one of your newsletters, or books you recommended: "Liberty can be taken away in a heartbeat if we don't stand guard, and that's exactly what's happening today."

**Interfaith Dialogue Presentation: Shedding the light upon what is often its true agenda**

If you would like to have Steve Huston and/or myself (Bill Johnson) present before your church, Sunday school, Christian school, or group - call us at 231-924-4050 or email [lisa@americandecency.org](mailto:lisa@americandecency.org)

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## New Booklet Written by ADA Staff Member Judy Krause

"A Lovely Thing In God's Time: One Woman's Struggle With Her Husband's Addiction" is written by ADA's very own Judy Krause to encourage and uplift women.

In her own words, "Looking back on this chapter of my life has caused pain and tears. However, I know I never would have been as close to God and dependent on Him for guidance and support without it. Also, because Jesus comforted me in my affliction, I am now able to comfort those who are in any affliction, 'with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.' (2 Corinthians 1:4 ESV)"



As she recounts in her booklet, Judy first told her story at one of American Decency Association's spring events in a Q&A session with our staff. She was shocked by the number of women at this small event who came up to her after the session to tell her how much they appreciated her testimony.

In this short booklet, Judy not only tells her story, but shares the lessons that she learned along the way.

To order "Lovely in His Time," call us at 231-924-4050.

## A Christian Response to the Rising Cost of Healthcare



As a means of cutting costs and being good stewards of what God has given us, we began looking for ways to deal with our high cost of insurance. We thank God that He brought across our path Christian Healthcare Services. We were so impressed that we wanted others to know the benefits they had to offer. Thus the beginnings of our first event for 2019.

On January 25, ADA hosted Mark Blocher and Dr. Ted VanderKooi as they presented **a Christian response** to the rising cost of payment-focused healthcare (insurance) and the prick of our conscience in giving our healthcare dollars to institutions and doctors that often push or provide immoral and ungodly practices. And when it comes to our own healthcare, most have been prescribed tests or procedures that left us wondering, "Are these really necessary?" Only to be left asking, "What can I do?" **These two godly men shared their heart, vision, and healthcare plan for patient-focused healthcare.**

To order a DVD of this cutting edge presentation and the question and answer period that followed, contact us at [lisa@americandecency.org](mailto:lisa@americandecency.org) or (231) 924-4050.

Between Judy's new monograph and our recent Christian Healthcare event, it's easy to see that our desire is to keep producing for the glory of God. By His mercy and grace, we will!

Many of you have had a heart for our ministry. If you still do, we urge you to let us hear from you with any counsel you might have regarding your perspective on the challenging times we all face. Please help as you can.

On behalf of all of us at ADA, many thanks!