

From the Bottom Up

By Chris Johnson



Psalm 11 asks what might be the most pertinent question of our era, “If the Foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”

Is there a better way to describe what Christians in America are up against today? Literally, the whole framework of our Judeo-Christian society is being systematically dismantled, as the society shudders under its own weight.

Marriage has been called the foundation for civilized society. It is now meaningless. What is more foundational than marriage?

How about gender? Even the meaning of gender is being questioned, and, if the fight over homosexual marriage has any predictive properties, the next generation may have no concept of gender specificity.

The foundations are being destroyed.

In C.S. Lewis’ *The Abolition of Man*, he describes the effect of removing what we would call “Traditional Morality and what Lewis calls the “Tao:”

“If you will not obey the Tao, or else commit suicide, obedience to impulse (and therefore, in the long run, to mere ‘nature’) is the only course left open.

At the moment, then, of Man’s victory over Nature, we find the whole human race subjected to some individual men, and those individuals subjected to that in themselves which is purely ‘natural’ - to their irrational impulses.”

We see that playing out in real time right before our eyes! As the foundational truths are pried from the fingers of our minds, we descend further into tyranny and those in power are in service only to their individual urges.

What counsel, then, does Psalm 11 give us?

“The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD’s throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man. The LORD tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence.”

What can the righteous do to push back against the tide of evil?

God is in control.

That’s the answer the Psalmist gives!

The church has the same responsibility now, in times of difficulty, as it had in times of power; going into the world and making disciples.

Are the foundations of our culture being destroyed? The Cornerstone of our faith is indestructible. Let’s build on Him.

That is the driving idea behind our 2016 Summer Conference, which we’ve christened, “From the Bottom Up.”

Our speakers will be Dr. Joel Beeke, pastor of Heritage Netherlands Reformed in Grand Rapids, president and theology professor at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, and author/editor of over 70 books, and Cur-

tis Bowers, creator of the documentaries, “Agenda: Grinding America Down” and “Agenda 2: Masters of Deceit”.

Both of these men have dedicated their lives and careers to rebuilding the “foundation” on that indestructible Cornerstone.

There is no more vital message for Christians and conservatives to hear at this, or any, point in history. If you love this country, and truly want to once more see God “shed His grace” upon it, this is where it has to start: with Christians doing the work of the Lord in the midst of our friends and neighbors.

We hope you can be with us on Friday, July 22, at 7:00 PM to hear from these men of God, and to be encouraged for His service.

ADA Summer Conference “From the Bottom Up”

Friday, July 22, 2015

Time: 6:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

Location: Harvest OPC church

930 52nd Street SW

Wyoming, MI 49509

Cost: Free will offering

**To register call Kimberly at
our office at 231-924-4050**

or email us at

kimberly@americandecency.org



From the desk of Bill Johnson

“From the Bottom Up”

Recently during our morning devotions, Jan and I were discussing that we hadn't yet set a theme for our upcoming summer conference in Grand Rapids (featuring Dr. Joel Beeke and Curtis Bowers.)

Then, suddenly, Jan gave a suggestion: “How about ‘From the bottom up?’”

Jan's idea was inspired by our early morning devotional discussions as well as different things that we have lately been impacted by. Let me share just a few of them.

Recently U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas gave the commencement address at Hillsdale College. His message was, as a staff member stated, “*Profound yet simple.*”

Justice Thomas, only the second African American to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, spoke of his poor beginnings on the farm in Savannah, Georgia - how it was his grandfather who helped anchor him, inspire him, and encourage him on. Against great odds, Clarence Thomas emerged as a man of God, one of America's leading Justices who has been known for faithfully upholding the U.S. Constitution, even through great difficulty and pressure.

So here is this highly educated Yale Law School graduate who worked against great odds and immense obstacles to become one of the most powerful judges in the country offering the following counsel to the graduating class of Hillsdale College:

It's more important to be a good citizen than to pursue a so-called high position. How can you solve the problems of the world if you can't first learn to solve your own problems. What we need in America is good citizens,

working for the well-being of their own families and their own inner circle.

So, in other words, making a difference “From the bottom up.”

Secondly, I'm currently reading a biography of Dietrich Bonhoeffer entitled, “Strange Glory: A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer” by Charles Marsh.

Quoting from “A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer” *Shortly after being ordained, he left home in 1932 and served as a pastoral assistant in Berlin. He assumed leadership over fifty teenage boys. He stated ‘They behaved like mad things, completely crazy,’ Bonhoeffer said of the youth group.*

But he discovered soon enough that boys could be brought to attention by the telling of Bible stories, the more dramatic the better. Bonhoeffer obliged, with an old reliable theatrical flair, offering ‘simple Biblical stuff with emphasis [on] the eschatological passages.’ ... He told Sutz (a long time friend) he was no longer afraid of meeting the same fate as his unfortunate predecessor, who had dropped dead on the job.”

Bonhoeffer invited his confirmands in groups of two and three where he served them supper, read them Scripture or recounted Bible stories, played for them recordings of Classical music and spirituals, and even taught them chess.

“No dramatic conversions or revival took place; the boys were simply paying the Word full attention, its proper due. But that was miracle enough. ‘Perhaps the foundation has been laid for a faith that will grow.’” [Bonhoeffer wrote]

Another person who vigorously gives similar counsel is Curtis Bower. Curtis, as you may know by now, will be one of our featured speakers at this year's summer conference scheduled in July (see page 1). Recently, he was being interviewed by Steve Deace of Conservative Review on his nightly radio show out of Des Moines, Iowa, the Steve Deace Show. Deace asked Curtis a question that went something like the following: With the kind of mess that we are in as a culture, Curtis, what counsel would you give to those who wonder what a person can do to help turn things around?

Bowers answered:

Real change takes place one person at a time influencing another. There are millions that are waking up all over this country. You are not alone. I've had the privilege in being in over 43 states over the last year or so talking to hundreds and hundreds of audiences so it starts with real change with number one. We need to be consistent with what we are preaching, talking that we can influence one person at a time with the truth that slowly grows from the ground up. Every successful movement starts that way. And we need to quit thinking about the top down solutions because I don't believe there are any.

I know Curtis well enough to know he isn't saying that being engaged in the so-called big arena isn't important. He knows the importance of godly leadership at all levels. What he is saying is that deep, abiding change happens from the “bottom up.”

Personally, I worked for several years to pass obscenity legislation at the state capitol to strengthen Michigan's obscenity law, only to discover that it was next to impossible to find a prosecutor who would enforce that very law. Though I don't think those years of effort were in vain as I met many dear people and learned a lot, yet did it affect change? Sadly, no.

I think of an old dairy farmer who died back in 2001. He was in his mid-eighties. At this funeral, people spoke about him - regular folks saying things like “He was the best Christian I ever knew.” Others spoke of how he would come from the “back forty” and help them with a welding job or just come up from the field for a cup of coffee. His Christian witness was deep and wide. I know because he was my father-in-law. As a young Christian, I learned from him many things about being faithful, about old-time religion. Though he is dead, he still speaks.

I believe in activism. I am an activist trying to affect societal change as I have for years. However, more important is loving, listening, caring, sharing, speaking and living truth from the bottom up right where I'm at.

Not Ashamed to be on the “Shame List”

by Lisa Van Houten



In the history of tyrannical regimes, there is a progressive system of squashing opposing thought. As Elwood McQuaid wrote for Charisma News: “Although methods may differ, the objective is always the same: **demean, discriminate, disenfranchise, criminalize, then destroy. And to every despot who lives that dream, Jesus Christ is always an obstacle to be removed.**”

Today, the secular Left represents the despots seeking to remove every vestige of Christianity. We are well past the “demeaning” stage and are quickly moving from “discriminate” to “disenfranchise”. You can see from the list above what is next.

One of the latest examples comes from the Department of Education (DOE) which had their rubber arm twisted by LGBTQ activist groups to post a “Shame List” of Christian colleges who applied for waivers from Title IX regulations which conflict with their religious tenets.

Title IX, passed in 1972, prohibits schools which receive federal funding from discriminating based on sex – as in male and female – not the alphabet soup of LGBTQ. Yet in 2014 the Obama administration decided, without authority to do so, to apply Title IX to “transgender” students as well.

However the 1972 Title IX law has always allowed for exemptions for religious colleges if any aspects of the law require them to violate the teaching of their faith. So, when Obama’s Department of Education began amping up pressure on colleges to comply to their LGBTQ edicts, hundreds of Christian colleges began applying for waivers.

Over 260 Christian colleges have applied for and/or received waivers. This number is huge - especially considering that the exemption applies only to schools

affiliated with a denomination, and so does not apply to non-denominational schools such as Wheaton College, for example.

Yet for those institutions affiliated with a denomination, a Title IX waiver must be granted when sought – the DOE does not have the authority to deny the exemption. That doesn’t mean, however, that the DOE isn’t making it difficult for those who apply for waivers – forcing schools to jump through hoops of paperwork. (A whole other issue is why should any entity have to get a waiver in order to exercise their First Amendment rights?)

Of course LGBTQ groups such as the Human Rights Campaign and Campus Pride are referring to the list of colleges receiving waivers as a “**Shame List**” – targets to bully for having the gall to exercise their freedom of religion. As Campus Pride decried: “Religion-based bigotry is careless and life-threatening” and railed against Title IX exempted schools, claiming they “openly discriminate against LGBTQ people due to their anti-LGBTQ religion-based bigotry.”

Yet while this published “Shame List” smacks of despotism rather than democracy, it unwittingly serves as an example of over 260 Christian colleges who refuse to compromise Biblical teaching – who will not bow to Nebuchadnezzar’s demand to worship the LGBTQ god. For Christians, this is not a “Shame List” – but a “Fame List.” (Parents looking for a Christian college, this list may be a good place to start.)

The “shame list” should be those denominational colleges who are not on the list.

Noticeably absent from the list was my alma mater, Calvin College, affiliated with the Christian Reformed Church (CRC). Another CRC college, Dordt College, did request and receive a waiver from these coercive policies - writing a very solid defense of Biblical sexuality in their waiver request.

However, Calvin has joined other “Christian” colleges who have compromised the name of Christ, bowing the knee to LGBTQ political correctness. Instead of holding fast to the truth of God’s design for gender, Calvin College affirms the confused feelings of transgender students. For example, the college will notify professors of the preferred name and pronoun “transgender” students want to be called; provides a campus map to “gender-inclusive bathrooms”; will make housing accommodations; and provide support through groups such as their “Sexuality and Gender Awareness” group.

To see Calvin College’s self-named “Guide for Transgender/Genderqueer Students” go to: <https://www.calvin.edu/dotAsset/efe8261c-1780-453b-9d99-e8d40a555a62.pdf> (As one person wrote us: “This craziness knows no bounds. I don’t see how this squares with anything Scriptural or from Q&A #1 of the Heidelberg Catechism.”)

But for those who have submitted waivers - the pages of documentation the Department of Education is requiring gives these colleges an opportunity to bear witness to Biblical truth. Letter after letter from these colleges, spells out a Biblical view of sexuality and an unashamed commitment to adhere to God’s Word. Someone at the Department of Education is getting steeped in Biblical theology as they are forced to read and respond to each of these filings!

For these Christian colleges who refuse to pay homage to the towering LGBTQ idol, such stands may eventually land them (and us) in a fiery furnace of our own. If/when that happens I pray our response will echo that of the three Hebrews. “... *be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.*” (Daniel 3:16–18)

[To see the list of colleges seeking waivers and read the letters they submitted go to: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/t9-rel-exempt/z-index-links-list-2009-2016.html>]

Don't Target our Daughters

by Lisa Van Hourten



As we reported in our May newsletter, Target recently made headlines for their transgender bathroom policy - *“we welcome transgender team members and guests to use the restroom or fitting room facility that corresponds with their gender identity.”* - a policy which will give sexual predators free access to restrooms and changing rooms - places where women and girls should expect to have privacy.

The question Target has failed to answer is this: Why is it better to force young girls to be scared and uncomfortable going to the restroom, than it is to require a very small population of those who identify as transgender to use the restroom according to their sex?

Yet Target has made it clear that their concern is not for the welfare of all their customers, but about pushing a radical ideology. And the safety of their customers is already being jeopardized.

Just weeks after Target announced their transgender policy, a man was discovered in the (former) ladies dressing room recording a girl changing clothes at a Target store in Frisco, Texas. While trying on clothes in the Target fitting room, the girl discovered the man recording her with his cell phone. Police are seeking the perpetrator and state that he faces a felony charge for “invasive visual recording.”

Incidentally, the Texas Attorney General had warned of such dangers to safety and privacy even before this offense occurred. On May 3 Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton sent a letter to Target stating: *“It is possible that allowing men in women’s restrooms could lead to criminal and otherwise unwanted activity. As chief lawyer and law enforcement officer for the State of Texas, I ask that you provide the*

full text of Target’s safety policies regarding the protection of women and children from those who would use the cover of Target’s restroom policy for nefarious purposes.”

Yet Target is willing to lose billions of dollars and put the safety of their customers at risk in order to advance their radical ideological agenda.

More than 1.2 million people have pledged to boycott Target and as a result, Target stock plummeted 6 percent in just 10 days for a loss of \$2.5 billion! Yet when a representative from American Family Association met with Target officials to personally deliver the million plus petition signatures and suggest a common sense solution – a single-use restroom for those few customers struggling with gender identity - Target made it clear that they would not be changing their position.

For those of you who have been with us for a number of years, you may recall the pressure we brought upon Abercrombie & Fitch for their pornographic advertising ploys directed at teens. Thousands joined our boycott and A&F profits and stocks dropped like a rock and have never really recovered. Target is risking the same fate as they put the LGBTQ agenda above the privacy and safety of their customers.

Yet ultimately this issue isn’t about safety – and it certainly isn’t about discrimination. Rather it’s about open rebellion against God and His design. It’s not about bathrooms, but defiance against His authority. What Target affirms and celebrates, God condemns and calls an abomination.

It took years of pressure to make an impact on A&F. The same is needed for Target. Use the contact information below to let Target know you are joining the boycott of their stores as long as they put their radical transgender policy above the privacy and safety of customers.

In addition, our friends at Faith2Action are urging people to protest outside of local Target stores on Saturday, June 4 from 10:00 – 2:00 PM – four days before the Target shareholders meeting. For more

information on joining their “Don’t Target Our Daughters” efforts go to www.f2a.org.

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To sign AFA’s boycott Target petition,
please go to <https://afa.net/action-alerts/sign-the-boycott-target-pledge/>

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Obama's Transgender Tyranny

by Lisa Van Houten



On May 13 the Obama administration issued a decree requiring every public school in the nation to allow students who identify as transgender to use the bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers of their choice. Schools that refuse to comply have been threatened with the loss of federal funding and/or the threat of a discrimination lawsuit.

The administration states this directive doesn't have the force of law behind it. However, when schools are being virtually blackmailed to fall in line – it may not be law, but it is extortion.

As dictatorial edicts are issued by an out of control executive branch, it proves we have lost the authority of the Constitution and the balance of powers.

As Family Research Council President Tony Perkins stated: *“Once again the Obama administration is going beyond the limits of their constitutional authority to rewrite laws legally adopted by Congress. Under the guise of ‘protecting students from discrimination,’ these federal agencies are using the bully pulpit to strip parents and local school districts of the right to provide a safe learning environment for their children.*

“Parents should demand that school boards not sacrifice the safety of the children out of fear of losing federal funding, which on average only amounts to about nine cents of every educational dollar. It is also time for the Republican leadership in Congress to act and rein in this administration. Bottom line, the president’s decree should be resisted with every legal and moral instrument we have available to us in this country.

“If the American people do not speak up now on an issue like this, there’s no limit

to what President Obama’s administration, or future liberal presidents, will be emboldened to do.”

The letter being sent to every public school district and signed by officials from the Department of Justice and the Department of Education states in part: ***“A school may not require transgender students to use facilities inconsistent with their gender identity or to use individual-user facilities when other students are not required to do so.”***

It goes on to inform school officials that ***“to ensure nondiscrimination on the basis of sex requires schools to provide transgender students equal access to educational programs and activities even in circumstances in which other students, parents, or community members raise objections or concerns. As is consistently recognized in civil rights cases, the desire to accommodate others’ discomfort cannot justify a policy that singles out and disadvantages a particular class of students.”***

Not only does this letter create a “civil right” and a new “class” of persons that does not exist under law, it negates not just the discomfort, but also the safety, of girls (and boys) who will be forced to shower and change with those of the opposite sex.

In addition to a direct attack upon the privacy, modesty, and safety of students, it also usurps the authority of local communities and states to set educational policies as they see fit.

Almost immediately state officials began speaking out against this directive. Numbers of governors urged schools within their states to disregard the letter from the Obama administration and state attorneys general pledged to challenge such federal overreach.

Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, had this to say: ***“President Obama, in the dark of the night – without consulting Congress, without consulting educators, without consulting parents – decides to issue an executive***

order ... forcing transgender policies on schools and on parents who clearly don’t want it.”

Lt. Gov. Patrick even predicted, “This will be the beginning of the end of the public school system as we know it.” Indeed, as parents are already crying foul, they are also vowing to pull their kids from public school and choose home school or private schools as educational options.

And Rep. Diane Black (R-TN) stated: *“I believe the Obama administration is now directly responsible for endangering our students. States like Tennessee should be able to make these decisions for themselves without fear of reprisal from a heavy-handed federal government. ...”*

Some local school officials have also voiced their opinion of the letter being sent. Rodney Canvass, superintendent of Port Neches-Groves, TX made clear where the president’s letter was going - “straight to the paper shredder,” he stated.

Superintendent Michael Shibler of Rockford, MI said the directive doesn’t take into account the rights of all students. Offering the example, “... And a boy walks in [the girls’ locker room] because he felt he had the right to be there because in his mind he’s a girl. That would be very disruptive and disturbing to those 14-year-old girls.” Shibler urged legislators to “come up with policy that is common sense; that protects the rights of all students. And that means the vast majority of the students who believe that they are heterosexual and that they are going to feel safe in the bathroom or locker room that identifies with their birth gender.”

Yet the Obama administration is counting on the masses to acquiesce. That is how culture wars are lost – as we individually and corporately keep quiet and conform. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote as those around him kept silent as another tyrannical regime had its way: ***“Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.”***

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Obama's Transgender Tyranny

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How does a culture lose its moral courage? Al Mohler, president of the Southern Theological Seminary, explains:

“This is where Christians also have to understand that a loss of moral courage points to a more fundamental loss of theological courage and of conviction, because the Christian worldview tells us that it is that conviction that produces courage. Courage means literally to take heart. It means that the heart is emboldened to do the right thing, to act where otherwise it would not act, to speak where otherwise it would not speak. Courage in the Bible is described as acting and thinking rightly, but it is the acting rightly that follows the thinking rightly. And for the Christian that means understanding that theological conviction produces what the Christian would understand to be courage in a biblical sense. But that also points to the opposite. Where there is no such theological conviction, you can't expect the courage to survive.”

Will this attack upon the privacy and safety of our children ‘embolden us to do the right thing, to act where otherwise we would not act’ - or will we roll over and accept this transgender decree? The response of Christians will be a true indication of the level of theological conviction within the American church.

Todd Starnes states better than I what our choice entails:

“But now the country stands at the edge of a great moral abyss. And we must ask ourselves -- do we defy the president and save the nation or do we keep the peace and sacrifice our children?”

We have seen where moral cowardice has led. It's time for some moral courage.

He Said ~ She Said

by Lisa Van Houten

SUBJECT	SHE	HE	ZE
OBJECT	HER	HIM	HIR
POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE	HER	HIS	HIR
POSSESSIVE PRONOUN	HERS	HIS	HIRS
REFLEXIVE	HERSELF	HIMSELF	HIRSELF

He said – she said. Wait! What about ze? Ze is just one of the new pronouns used by those pushing the LGBT agenda. Not only is this sexual revolution taking over bathrooms, but it's also radically transforming the English language. Facebook lists 70 gender identities users can choose from – literally from A to Z. And in New York City, one can be fined for not calling people the pronoun that they demand you use.

New York's Human Rights Law requires employers and landlords to use the preferred name and pronoun of employees, tenants, and customers. Under Mayor de Blasio, the discrimination laws of New York City have been changed to impose a whopping \$125,000 fine upon employers for using the wrong pronoun to describe a transgendered person under their employ. The fine goes up to \$250,000 for violations that are the result of “willful, wanton, or malicious conduct.”

The New York City law requires employers to use an individual's preferred name, pronoun and title regardless of the individual's sex at birth, anatomy, gender, medical history, appearance, or the sex indicated on the individual's identification. Other violations of the law include refusing to allow individuals to use single-sex facilities such as bathrooms that are “consistent with their gender identity,” failing to provide employee health benefits for “gender-affirming care” and “imposing different uniforms or grooming standards based on sex or gender.”

The government is now forcing people to use made-up words that affirms sexual deviancy.

Our freedom of speech guarantees us the right that we can't even be required to

display a license plate on our car if we disagree with the message of the state motto. [As the court ruled in *Wooley v. Maynard* (1978) regarding the New Hampshire motto, “Live Free or Die”.] Yet, as Eugene Volokh writes in *The Washington Post*: “... New York is requiring people to actually say words that convey a message of approval of the view that gender is a matter of self-perception rather than anatomy, and that, as to “ze,” were deliberately created to convey that a message.”

And what happens in New York won't stay in New York. Don't be surprised to see such outrageous regulation spread across the country. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has already asserted that under federal law it's illegal for employers to call employees by pronouns that align with their biological sex, instead of their “gender identity.”

The main goal of those pushing the sexual revolution is not only to force Americans to accept sexual deviancy, but to endorse it. One way to do so is through the threat of law.

According to New York officials, your freedom to believe the undisputed facts of biology is trumped by those who deny the facts of their own DNA. Those who know the truth - that gender is binary – male and female – are being commanded to lie. And if the people don't speak the way the government tells them to, they will be fined hundreds of thousands of dollars.

When people are forced to betray their beliefs even with the very words they speak, we have lost our freedom.

It's time for people to use their freedom of speech - while we still have it - and speak out against this madness.

Battle of the Kingdom

by Steve Huston



I remember Sunday evenings as a child, wondering if dad and mom would stop talking after church in time for us to get home and watch “The Wonderful World of Disney.” The fireworks colorfully exploding around the Disney castle was a call to enjoyment and entertainment that took place weekly, instead of the once a year “oohs” and “aahs” that July fourth would bring. Sometimes a cartoon, other times an animal documentary, and still other times a movie designed to make one laugh or cry, but always entertaining and believed by all to be family friendly.

It was like a weekly family reunion; every Sunday “Uncle” Walt would stop by for an hour and regale us with his stories of Davy Crockett, Daniel Boone, or some other historical figure. Sometimes he’d make up stories about cars with a mind of their own, animals that would seem human, or stories of fantasy, mystery, and intrigue. Yes, everyone loved “Uncle” Walt and couldn’t wait for him to entertain us.

There’s no doubt that the magical kingdom has captured many hearts and minds throughout the years. I specifically chose the word “captured” instead of “captivated” because there was a war raging for our hearts and minds and most didn’t even recognize it.

Who knew, other than Don Wildmon of AFA, that “Uncle” Walt wasn’t really our friend and that his kingdom was really attacking our family instead of helping? Who would’ve thought that “Uncle” Walt’s magical kingdom was an affront to and an enemy of the Majestic Kingdom of Jesus Christ? The battle raged and rages on for our affection with every minute of mind-altering entertainment. One thing’s for sure though, so many have been taken in by Disney and its fun, that speaking truth about

the magical kingdom and asking people to not trust them is like attacking a sacred cow—should I say “sacred mouse”?—or a well-loved “Uncle.”

The magical kingdom - through all of their entities including ABC television - has attacked the Majestic Kingdom and the family, its most basic building block. Through subterfuge, they make parents and those in authority seem foolish and inept, as they promote an LGBT agenda, occultism, evolution, and various other sins. As the attack mounted against us, they convinced us to laugh at these sins, acclimating our thinking and society to them, and even bringing us to an apathetic acceptance of those very sins which destroy the family and would have us depose Jesus as Lord and King.

The magical kingdom has attacked the Majestic Kingdom through the making of alliances with those forces who stand in direct opposition to it and its King, Jesus. They’ve aligned themselves through the promotion/allowance of “gay day” at their parks, the use of both overt and obscure LGBT characters in television and featured films, and hiring of occult rock bands to produce music for them. The AFA Journal reported in 1997 that *“The group’s [Danzig] music video It’s Coming Down has been banned because of scenes of sadomasochism, masturbation, urination and genital mutilation. Even the pornographic Playboy Channel cable network will not air the work of the group that Disney produces. Just think about that for a minute. Playboy, one of the largest pornographers in the world, won’t air Danzig’s video, yet Disney, which bills itself as the world’s largest provider of family entertainment, sees fit to promote Danzig’s music. It just doesn’t make sense,” said Wildmon.*”

The magical kingdom has also made direct attacks on the Majestic Kingdom by continually pushing the decency boundaries in film and television, attacking the character and maligning the name of Christ and His followers. Let me share just a couple examples. In 1998, amidst the Disney boycott, *“Disney CEO Eisner likens Southern Baptists to Hitler,”* the AFA Journal headlined.

And just recently ESPN (owned by Disney) fired Christian sports reporter Curt Schilling for speaking out against the transgender bathroom issue, on his own time and on his own social media account. Apparently the magical kingdom likes to attack the first amendment too.

The magical kingdom attacks absolute truth by entertaining us with stories that **transform our minds little by little.** Their stories would have us believe that truth is relative, the Bible outdated, and morality a thing of the past. Their agenda moves us to set our affection on earthly things ignoring the eternal consequences. Paul, standing for the Majestic kingdom, calls us to “Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.” (Colossians 3:2) He warns us, “Don’t be conformed to the world.” Then he exhorts us, “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” (Romans 12:2) Regardless of where our entertainment comes from, we must ask ourselves, **“Does this fall in line with God’s precepts? Would Jesus approve of this?”** (Then give Biblical rationale that falls within the whole counsel of God). Finally, ask, **“Does this company support things which run contrary to God’s standards?”**

We can not belong to both kingdoms; they run contrary to one another. The attacks from the magical kingdom are on various fronts. Yet in many ways the church—the body of Christ—the Majestic Kingdom—appears to not take up her weaponry and fight back. Instead, even as the United States funds its enemies in the Middle East, so also those who claim to belong to the Majestic Kingdom are continually funding the magical kingdom’s attacks on themselves, as they purchase the films, books, toys, cable stations, attend their theme parks, and in many other seemingly innocent ways. **To fund the “enemy” is to attack yourself, your family, and the Majestic Kingdom.**

Make no mistake; Jesus will win the war. The Lion of Judah WILL destroy the mouse of media. The question before us is

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Battle of the Kingdom

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about the battles, where we stand, and who we stand with.

The weapons of our warfare are spiritual, not earthly; let us use every means of grace available to us. We must stand for the absolute truth of Scripture and for the holiness of heart and life which is the pursuit of all true Christians. However, we should be using our earthly possessions – including our entertainment choices - to make an eternal impact as well. In taking a bold stand for what is right, others will see it as an attack. As one lives a life loving holiness, he will be accused of hate. J.C. Ryle writes, *“A true Christian is one who has not only peace of conscience, but war within. He may be known by his warfare as well as by his peace.”* **Let us be at war with the world and at peace with Christ.** It’s a matter of perspective, it’s a matter of choice. To which kingdom do you belong? **Now go and live for it.**

Letters from our Supporters



Dear Bill ... Of the several newsletters in my mail, Frontline is the one I look forward to the most. The monthly articles are “right on” toward the chaos and moral decay in our culture today.

And my prayers are joined with yours for the Church of Jesus to regain holiness, and for America to return to the faith of most of our Founding fathers.

For God’s continued blessings – V.H.

*Thank you for keeping us updated on what is going on with our schools. The postcards are sent with our own comments added. We will pass on the info to others.
God Bless, L.& L. R.*

Is All Hope Lost?

by Chris Johnson



I have to admit, when I first heard the news that Senator Ted Cruz was suspending his presidential campaign and that Donald Trump was the presumptive Republican nominee, my heart sank. My imagination jumped in its time machine and gazed at my children’s future in a post-Trump or, much more likely, post-Hillary America.

Will they be allowed to worship or express their faith publically? Will they be allowed to defend themselves? Will there be jobs for them? Worst of all, will their little hearts and minds be pried from their heritage of Christianity and conservatism by an arrogant, militantly anti-Christian culture?

And then it occurred to me, was my faith really in Ted Cruz to prevent all that? Could electing a president who shares the majority of my beliefs really ensure a bright future for my kids? Of course not. Cruz is a good man, and I think he would have made a great president, but the only thing he would have ever been is a tool of Almighty God.

Just like Trump is a tool of Almighty God.

And maybe that’s why God allowed Donald Trump to happen, to remind His people that He is the only One who can save them. God is, as conservatives like to blasphemously credit America, the “Last Best Hope for Mankind.”

The Bible is full of stories about God’s people putting their faith where it doesn’t belong.

The early humans who tried to build the tower of Babel so they could reach heaven on their own, for example, or the Israelites who wanted to abandon their journey to the Promised Land so they could cook their quail in some Egyptian spices. How about when Israel chose an earthly king over their

Heavenly King and ended up with Saul?

God shows His people over and over again that He is control and He doesn’t share His power with anyone.

Think about the way that God turned the powerful heathen king, Nebuchadnezzar, into His own servant in Daniel 4. Nebuchadnezzar came out of that experience saying, “I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.” How about God winnows Gideon’s army from 32,000 to 300 lest Israel say, “My own power has delivered me.”

In Isaiah 31, God condemns those who put their faith in human might, rather than Providence, “Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the Lord!”

Unless I’m the only guilty one, maybe the lesson American Christians need to learn is that election cycles and politicians have no hope of turning this nation towards Him, and - though we should use the vote He’s blessed us with to honor Him - we can leave the restoration up to Him. May we prepare ourselves to be used by Him in His own way.

I’m writing this the day before the National Day of Prayer, an event which pulls many eyes to 2 Chronicles 7:14, “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

What an opportunity to rethink what it means to “humble ourselves” - repent of our own sins, admit that we are powerless to stem the tide of evil in our country, even recognize that we have been part of the problem, and give God the authority that is already His.