

What are We Trying to Conserve?

By Chris Johnson



Well known conservative radio host Dennis Prager recently mourned the religious ambivalence of many intellectual champions of the conservative movement.

In his words, *“Most leading Republicans and most of the wealthy donors to the Republican party — in addition to virtually all libertarian politicians, and think-tank scholars — are either uninterested in the death of Judeo-Christian religions and values in America and the West, or are okay with it. They think that America can survive the death of God and religion, that fiscal and other forms of conservatism without social conservatism can preserve America.”*

Although Prager doesn't name any names, doubtless we all have our own examples in mind. This election year has had a notable side effect of separating the wheat from the tares, so to speak, or perhaps it would be more Politically Correct to say it has simply highlighted our differences.

At ADA, we have been sometimes shocked and often disappointed in the conservative giants who have either noticeably failed to denounce or have even flat out supported a candidate who is the antithesis of Biblical morals, whose businesses have disenfranchised people, whose political ideology has been unstable at best, and who has made a mockery of our religion which he claims to share and thus represent.

As if we could, “Make America great again,” by forgetting what greatness actually is. It is often said, “America is great, because

America is good; if America ceases to be good, she will cease to be great.”

I believe that is what this election is about: can America be great again, when we no longer know what “good” is?

In an interview about his article, which we've been quoting, Prager gave this explanation:

“...if you cut flowers from their soil - someone who knows nothing about biology or botany would say, ‘look at that, that flower doesn't need the soil; it's still beautiful, it smells great.’ But, of course, a week later, it's dead.

If you cut ethics in the west from the religious soil that nurtured them they last a lot more than a week - they could last even 50 or 80 years - but eventually they will die.”

Christians often find ourselves lined up with conservatism because many of the ideas we are trying to conserve are founded on Biblical truths - but they are often, also, common sense.

However, as the culture changes, what we know as common sense becomes less common! The conclusions that we've taken for granted are abandoned, because no one remembers the reasons for them in the first place.

The house of conservatism - without the foundation of the Bible - is simply built on sand, and is doomed to fail.

As Christians, we must be working to

strengthen those foundations, not just the ideals that are built on them, but the foundations themselves - mankind having inherent worth because we're made in the image of God, our universal sinful nature that will always cause trouble, even the Ten Commandments, which enshrine the value of life and the right to personal property! These Biblical concepts and many more are the foundation that is too often abandoned and forgotten.

But, as you know, it is not a foregone conclusion that those foundations will hold in America, and what will Christians do if they do not?

Psalm 11 has the answer: *“In the Lord I take refuge; how can you say to my soul, “Flee like a bird to your mountain, for behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart; if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?” 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. Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup. For the Lord is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.”*

If the foundations are destroyed, God is in His holy temple!

America's last best hope has always and only ever been Jesus Christ. Let us pray we realize it.

\$5,000 Match Grant



From the desk of Bill Johnson

In the world there will be tribulation but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.

A local pastor and I recently discussed how some people can be helped by reading the word of God - along with devotional books - and then, contrasting, how so many never even pick up the Bible or give a thought to seeking first the Kingdom of God, as the Scripture directs.

Just as exercise invigorates and strengthens the body (and it surely does), so scripture reading, meditation, and heart-felt prayer invigorates, strengthens, and encourages the soul.

I write this as a person whose major in college was physical education. I write this as a guy who once took a religion class at Michigan State University to get two credits that would allow me to reach sophomore status - I flunked the class. (I wasn't a Christian at the time, so don't be too hard on me).

Sometimes when I think about how God has seen me through so many experiences, I stand amazed at how His word lifted me and helped me stay the course when all seemed so futile. Believe me when I say it would take a short book to show you the ways.

I feel so strongly about this because when I look around I see so many dysfunctional lives. I also see families where there is peace, love, joy, harmony, coordination, and goodness.

By no means free of sin, health issues, suffering, brokenness, etc., but still not falling apart, not caving in to Godlessness, not conforming to the powers of darkness, not capitulating to politically correct thinking. Keeping their eyes upon the ultimate prize: eternal salvation and pleasing their Lord

and Savior, Jesus Christ. Fueled and kept fresh by a life committed in word and deed, far from perfect, but strengthened and renewed day by day, seeking forgiveness and making things right when they're wrong.

It doesn't come by chance.

I remember in my mid-twenties hearing a sermon from a lay pastor, Bud Somers, as he preached from Ephesians 6:10-18.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places...

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

This passage is a case in point. As one reads it, it is rich with meaning, encouragement, instruction, direction, assurance. Can you see it? **Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.** How do we be strong in the Lord? It shows us as the verse unfolds: "Put on the whole armour of God

In this very short passage it tells us that spiritual warfare is real, how to fight, who the enemy is and who it is not, and lays out the importance of prayer and perseverance.

I think it is becoming increasingly clear - the fight is on! It's a fight that is very real. It is far bigger than any national security threat. It is far deeper and wider than even that.

As I see individuals and families drifting into dysfunctional ways: I see behind the Godless choices. In some cases, they know better, but they substitute the truth for a lie. Dysfunctional lives, dysfunctional families leads to a dysfunctional Godless nation.

May it be different with you. May it be different with me. Seek Christ. Call upon Him throughout the day. Call upon His mighty Name.



When the news broke about the alarming transgender policy proposed by Michigan's Board of Education, American Decency was one of the first to respond, urging Michigan citizens to express concern and giving them tools to do so. Already our voices are being heard, but much more needs to be done.

One person desiring to help us do as much as possible wants to match your gift to strengthen us for the outreach that we have already been unleashing via our phone caller team, email alerts, newsletter outreach, postcards, and more. This friend of American Decency understands what is at stake and is offering a \$5,000 match challenge to help us raise the funds needed for ongoing ministry.

Your gift of any amount will be matched!
Here are the details:

1. The anonymous donor will match up to \$5,000.
2. Any gift will be matched, whether the donor is a regular supporter or has never given to American Decency before.
3. The funds must be received by May 15.
4. Designate your gift by marking the "Match Grant" box on the enclosed response card or by writing "Match Grant" on the memo line of your check.

Will you stand with us today with a gift of any amount? Each dollar will be doubled and will strengthen us for the fight!

The Pursuit of Holiness

June 3 - 5, 2016

Power in Purity

by Lisa Van Houten

www.theshackbandb.com

www.shackcountryinn.com



“11 Incredible Women BARE ALL”

That magazine headline comes not from Playboy or Sports Illustrated Swimsuit – but from Weight Watchers magazine. In the May/June issue, the magazine displays 11 full-page photos of naked women in all shapes and sizes. This latest marketing gimmick from Weight Watchers is supposedly designed to foster a positive body image, for women to love their body no matter what their size –as the company sells their weight loss program.

Healthy living is important. And pushing back against the norm that female beauty is found only in a certain shape and size is also a worthy goal. But I have to ask, if these women are already “incredible” as the title tells us, why do they need to pose nude to prove it? Does taking off their clothes for the all world to see make them more incredible?

In their claim to “empower” women, Weight Watchers is using the most tired, yet sadly true, sales pitch – shock and sex sells. Weight Watchers is joining the cultural trend that convinces women that posing nude demonstrates power over feelings of inadequacy.

Yet there is no “power” in baring it all – it’s simply another form of worshiping the creature, rather than the Creator. The first reaction to their sin caused our first parents to cover themselves. Sin brought shame, and as these women flagrantly flaunt their nudity, it is a denial of that truth – that we are sinners. If a woman truly wishes to be empowered, she can find that in the God who created her for a purpose – for His glory, not to glorify ourselves.

“Strength and dignity are her clothing,” it says in Proverbs 31. So, ladies, dress yourselves in that – and keep your clothes on.

“Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.” ~ Psalm 24:3-5

The pursuit of Holiness is the essence of the Christian life, yet, in the midst of the day-to-day political, cultural, familial, and personal challenges we all face, it is easy for this central subject to be neglected.

It is our great pleasure to bring this topic back into the focus it deserves at our annual weekend at the Shack in Jugville, MI on June 3 -5.

Those who have shared these weekends with us in the past can attest to the good food, great fellowship, relaxing atmosphere, and rich content of these yearly conferences. With this year’s lineup of speakers, the weekend is no less promising!

We’re excited to hear from the American Family Association’s vice president, **Buddy Smith**, who brings with him his talent for old-fashioned gospel music. We’ll also hear from the editor-in-chief of the American Family Journal, **Randall Murphree**; the founder of Interim Ministries Incorporated, **Pastor Ron Workman**; **Rev. Ken Smith**, counselor at the Biblical Counseling Center in Jenison, MI; and, of course, the president and founder of the American Decency Association, **Bill Johnson**.

The Shack is a peaceful and isolated bed and breakfast, surrounded by woods and

backed up against Robinson Lake in the rural Jugville, MI. Its proprietor is a Christian brother and a long-time friend of American Decency’s; he views his hospitality as a ministry, and it is one at which he is very effective.

The cost of the conference is free, but we do ask that you would call us (231-924-4050) and let us know you’re coming. If you plan on enjoying the overnight hospitality of the Shack, you will also need to call them and make a reservation. Rates are from \$240 for the weekend (Friday - Sunday morning) which includes all meals and a wonderful banana split each evening! To reserve your room at the Shack call 231-924-6683.

If you live locally and wish to attend the conference without spending the night, you are more than welcome! Just give us a call at 231-924-4050 so that we can reserve your spot as space is limited.

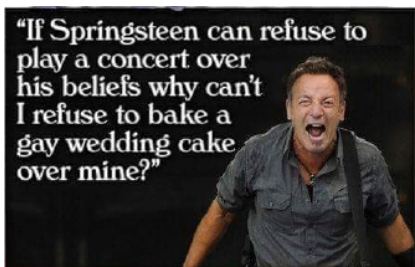
We hope we can plan on you being with us at this weekend of rejuvenation and encouragement, June 3 - 5!

For more information on the weekend go to americandecency.org/ShackEvent/home.php



North Carolina's Backwards Boycott

by Chris Johnson



If you've been with American Decency long enough, you know that our roots spread deep into the soil of activism.

Originally a grassroots organization dedicated to keeping pornographic material out of our geographic vicinity, ADA (then Citizens Against Pornography) cut its teeth on the wooden handles of protest signs.

We've picketed, contacted advertisers, and managed boycotts with the understanding that organizations supplying goods to customers ought to be concerned with what's good for their customers.

We're certainly not the only organization that has used these tactics; as we speak, there are liberals who won't eat at Chick-Fil-A or shop at Hobby Lobby, because their executives have supported traditional marriage or refused to fund abortions.

Boycotting is not an unusual response when consumers are not happy with the way a business is run.

What had been unusual, until recently, is corporations turning that tactic on their customers - threatening to withhold services until consumers bend to their way of thinking.

Yet, this tactic has proven effective in states where the duly elected representatives of the people have chosen to stand for religious liberty or, more recently, common sense bathroom laws, as Ryan T. Anderson notes in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution:

"We've seen this play out in state after state. Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer (R), vetoed a religious liberty bill in 2014 after the NFL threatened to move the Super Bowl out of her state.

In 2015, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence (R) signed a religious liberty bill into law—and then promptly worked with the legislature to gut it—after Salesforce, Inc. threatened to pull out of the state.

South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard (R), vetoed a bathroom privacy and safety bill earlier this year after a similar uproar."

Companies are no longer even pretending to be concerned for the preferences, let alone freedoms, of a large section of their customer base - Christians.

Some of them are quite forward about it, like Starbucks where the CEO in 2014 told supporters of traditional marriage they could "sell your shares in Starbucks and buy shares in another company, thank you very much."

More recently, entertainers Bruce Springsteen and Bryan Adams have cancelled shows in North Carolina and Mississippi out of protest of these states' recently passed bathroom privacy law and religious freedom protection, respectively.

Paypal has also pulled out of NC, and - a little silver lining here - a major pornography company has blocked access to its site from the state as well.

Some of the companies who have discovered their "activist" side, like PayPal, Apple, Microsoft, and Coca-Cola, nonetheless do business in nations like Kuwait where homosexuals and cross-dressers do prison time, or Saudi Arabia where they face literal flogging or execution. Talk about hypocrisy

Add to these boycotts the travel bans enacted by the Ohio cities of Dayton and possibly Cincinnati and Cuyahoga County, including Cleveland, and New York state, San Francisco, and Washington state, which restrict non-essential travel to North Carolina for city/state business.

Even Donald Trump has criticized the state, calling the

addition of separate gender-neutral bathrooms "discriminatory in a certain way" and implying that transgenders should be able to use the bathroom of their choice.

Keep in mind that these boycotts and travel bans are in response to the deeply held religious beliefs of the voters of North Carolina and Georgia.

It seems like there's a word for refusing to do business with someone because of their religion...

Oh, yeah, it's "discrimination."

And unlike, "sexual orientation" or "gender identity," discrimination against a particular religion actually is a violation of federal law - the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

I'm not suggesting these are grounds for a lawsuit. I'm not Donald Trump and the courts are stacked against us anyways, but Christians should recognize these offenses for what they are - signs of a culture turning against us. More importantly, they are signs of a culture turning against GOD.

That makes our call to be "salt and light" that much more important, Heaven help us. He's the only One who can.

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Michigan Board of Education Putting Children at Risk

by Lisa Van Houten



In our April newsletter, we reported on breaking news regarding a proposed transgender guidance statement issued by the Michigan Board of Education. This policy would allow students of all ages to choose their gender, change their name and pronoun, and use the bathroom of their choice – all without parental knowledge or permission. In essence, the policy recommends that schools should deceive parents about their child's gender identity and allow children of any age to make life-altering decisions that have immense ramifications. **[See page 6 for action points.]**

As I was writing this article, news broke that the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against a Virginia school system which provided a commonsense solution to transgender bathrooms – providing single-use bathrooms for a girl who “identifies” as a boy and had demanded to use the boys’ facilities. In a 2-1 decision the court ruled the school “discriminated” against the student, using a phony interpretation of the 1972 U.S. Department of Education Title IX policy, which prohibits sex discrimination in schools, as the basis for their ruling. Obviously when the law was adopted in 1972, it did not include “transgender” students. **This first-of-its-kind ruling is chilling, and unless changes occur at the presidential/federal level, will set precedence for the mandating of transgender bathrooms and locker rooms in all public schools.**

Those pushing such gender-neutral policies claim that not providing such accommodations to students who identify as transgender is a form of discrimination and leads to bullying, depression, and suicide.

So as Christians, what should be our

response? No true Christian would be in favor of bullying; indeed, we should have great compassion for those struggling with gender dysphoria. Yet many school officials and legislators claim that compassion requires affirmation of gender confusion. However, as those who still recognize truth know, compassion is not equated with celebration - it does not mean we affirm or encourage a lifestyle that leads only to despair. That's not compassion; its cruelty.

The American College of Pediatrics (ACP) has another word for it: child abuse. The American College of Pediatrics recently came out with a strong statement shedding much needed light on this issue. According to these pediatricians, *“Conditioning children into believing a lifetime of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex is normal and healthful is child abuse.”*

The ACP goes on to explain that gender is not self-determined, and to suggest otherwise will cause life-long harm. In this eight-point report, the ACP makes clear that gender confusion is a mental disorder – a condition that should be treated, not accepted. *“When an otherwise healthy biological boy believes he is a girl, or an otherwise healthy biological girl believes she is a boy, an objective psychological problem exists that lies in the mind not the body, and it should be treated as such”.*

With what other mental illness do we encourage those suffering to embrace their condition? As commentator John Hawkins writes: “We don’t do this with depression, schizophrenia, paranoia, multiple personality disorder or almost anything else because it’s a terrible idea. It’s like telling someone who’s depressed that he’s worthless and everyone else would be better off without him. We would be appalled if anyone did that; yet encouraging someone to mutilate himself in a futile attempt to change genders is an even more horrible thing to do to another human being.”

Studies prove that those who fully embrace a transgender identity don’t find contentment or happiness. As the ACP also points

out, suicide rates are twenty times higher among adults who use cross-sex hormones and undergo sex reassignment surgery, even in Sweden which is among the most LGBTQ – affirming countries.

Yet children as young as three-years-old are being “diagnosed” as transgender as their parents enable and encourage them to live as the opposite sex. The Center for Trans Youth Health and Development in Los Angeles had approximately 400 patients in 2014. In 2008 that number was only 40. They are currently adding 3 to 4 new patients a week.

And such young people are not being treated for the mental disorder of gender dysphoria; rather they are counseled on how best to embrace the transgender lifestyle. Some are given hormone suppression treatment to prevent them from naturally entering puberty, others are given hormone replacement therapy so that a boy develops female characteristics and vice versa, and then there is gender reassignment surgery. Remember, we’re not talking about adults – but children and teenagers!

Such treatment will have lifelong consequences, including losing the ability to have biological children of their own. No young person can grasp all the weighty implications.

And as school officials such as the Michigan Board of Education push students to embrace this “identity,” the American College of Pediatrics tells us that **“as many as 98% of gender confused boys and 88% of gender confused girls eventually accept their biological sex after naturally passing through puberty.”**

While those figures are very encouraging, it only highlights the incredible moral insanity of pushing gender-confused young people to pursue a harmful lifestyle they will most likely outgrow. And for those few who continue to struggle, we do them no favors by treating gender dysphoria as a civil right, rather than the mental illness that it is.

[Continued on Page 6]

Michigan Board of Ed Putting Children at Risk

[Continued from Page 5]

And they won't be the only ones who suffer. As policies such as those proposed in Michigan are adopted in schools across the nation, the safety, privacy, and innocence of every student is compromised - all for the comfort of a tiny minority of gender-confused kids.

Instead of doing what is in the best interest of all students—including those with gender identity issues—education bureaucrats are using our nation's children as pawns to implement and legitimize their radical gender ideology and undermine parental authority.

Transgenderism is not a sexual orientation - it's in part a mental disorder, but ultimately it's rebellion against God and His design. It's not about bathrooms, but defiance against His authority. And, sadly, those struggling with their gender identity won't find peace no matter how much affirmation they receive. Only by embracing God's design, and finding salvation in Him, will true identity be found.

Urge the Michigan Board of Education to rescind their proposed transgender guidance policy which smacks of social engineering, puts children at risk, and usurps parental responsibility to guide and protect their children.

**Your comment must be
received by May 11.**

Express your concern at www.everyvoicecountsmi.org or by mail to:

**Kim Kovalchick, Supervisor
Michigan Dept. of Education
P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, MI 48909**

In addition, to request a petition to circulate, call ADA (231-924-4050) or sign our online petition at <http://americandecency.org/petition.php>.

Target's Radical Agenda: Customer Safety in the Crosshairs

by Lisa Van Houten



Pick a bathroom, any bathroom. That's the new policy of Target stores. The retail giant and long-time supporter of the LGBT agenda is the first national chain of its kind to implement a transgender bathroom policy. In a corporate statement taking a shot at laws requiring people to use the restroom according to their biological sex, Target states: *"In our stores, we demonstrate our commitment to an inclusive experience in many ways. Most relevant for the conversations currently under way, we welcome transgender team members and guests to use the restroom or fitting room facility that corresponds with their gender identity."*

While Target implies that restricting bathrooms based on sex is a form of discrimination, they ignore the very real concern and the purpose of laws such as that passed in North Carolina – safety. As North Carolina Lieutenant Governor Dan Forest stated: *"If our action in keeping men out of women's bathrooms and showers protected the life of just one child or one woman from being molested or assaulted then it was worth it."*

Why is it better to force young girls to be scared and uncomfortable going to the bathroom or changing room knowing that a male could walk in at any minute, than it is to require a very small population of those who identify as transgender to use the restroom according to how they were born?

And the number who identify as transgender is miniscule! In a July 2015 U.S. Census Bureau report which breaks down the maximum number of people who identify as transgender by state, the highest population in any state is 10.6 people out of every 100,000. The transgender population

estimate for Minnesota – the home of Target's headquarters – is 6 per 100,000. That is 0.006% of the population – far less than even one percent. Looking at it another way, the population of Minnesota is roughly 9.5 million. That means there are approximately only 570 people in the entire state of Minnesota who identify as transgender! (And Minnesota's estimated transgender population is higher than the majority of states according to the U.S. Census Bureau.) **Yet we as a nation are turning society on its head and putting the safety and privacy of millions at risk for the comfort of a few confused souls.**

And privacy and safety are the reason for these "bathroom" laws – not discrimination. Knowing human nature, there will be countless heterosexual predators who use open bathroom policies such as Target's to prey on women and girls. It's already taking place. How do we keep out the voyeurs, rapists, and pedophiles if we say that any man who "feels" like a woman can enter the ladies room?

That is the real concern. And based on the many angry online comments posted by Target shoppers in response to the store's new bathroom policy, Target may find as they open their bathroom and changing room doors to a few "transgender" shoppers, millions of customers will be heading for the store's exit.

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America: A Follower of the Trends of the Left

by Lisa Van Houten



While America once boldly wore the mantle of the leader of the free world, in recent years we more often have become a follower of the trends set forth by the leftist, often socialist, ideologies prevalent in Europe. Not only in moral issues such as euthanasia and homosexuality, but also in national security and sovereignty.

To observers of the current chaos surrounding the flood of Islamic immigrants throughout Europe, what is taking place across the pond should concern us all. For as things now stand, we have a presidential administration which seems bent on following Europe's reckless open door policy.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has led the way, lecturing other nations to throw open the floodgates to Islamic immigrants as Germany has done. Since September 2015, Germany has registered as many as 10,000 refugees a day, bringing the number close to 800,000 as of November 2015. As reported by the Wall Street Journal: "Towns and aid organizations have struggled to accommodate the large numbers, while officials at the country's main refugee agency have complained they didn't have enough resources to perform sufficient background checks on asylum seekers."

But having inadequate resources is the least of the concerns. **Since the massive flood of Islamic immigrants into Europe in the last year, not only have there been widespread reports of sexual assaults and violence perpetrated by refugees, but unknown numbers of terrorists posing as refugees have entered Europe. Two of the Islamists involved in the November terrorist attacks in Paris had entered Europe as refugees with fraudulent Syrian documents.**

Yet in spite of these very real risks to their own people, little is said, let alone done, by European political elites. Just days after the Paris attack, German lawmaker Wolfgang Bosbach, who has been critical of Merkel's immigration policy, made this incredible statement: "Nobody wants to create the impression that they're using the disaster of Paris for the domestic political debate." In other words, we can't use this very real danger to our people as a reason to reexamine a failed immigration policy, because we might be perceived as being anti-Muslim.

Europe has become victims of its own political correctness – and America is close behind.

Not only is national security at risk for the nations of Europe, so is their own national sovereignty. Each nation has already sold part of its national soul to form the European Union (EU) – in which they have relinquished much of their sovereignty and national identity to the European Commission, the executive body for the EU, and to the European Court of Justice.

And as European nations abdicate their sovereignty to the EU, they are also putting their national security into the hands of this bureaucracy.

Just recently a troubling report was released by Frontex, the group that coordinates and develops the European border management for the nations of the European Union. The Telegraph of London reports on the concerning findings by Frontex:

Terrorists are using the migration crisis to enter Europe and plot atrocities across the continent, the European Union's own border agency has admitted. ...

Frontex said that EU member states had reported a record 1.82 million illegal border crossings last year, six times higher than the previous record set in 2014.

However, it admitted that the number of illegal crossings is an underestimation because so many migrants have "continued their journey without being detected".

It warned that a "staggering number" of EU citizens have travelled to Syria to fight with Isil and that they are now posing as refugees to gain entry to Europe.

The border agency's shock admission will increase fears that the EU is unable to track potential terrorists like those who committed the atrocities in Paris and Brussels. ...

In the ultimate of understatement, the Frontex report states: "With no thorough check or penalties in place for those making such false declarations, there is a risk that some persons representing a security threat to the EU may be taking advantage of this situation."

Demonstrating the EU's complete inability to protect its own borders, the Frontex report stated: "There is no EU system capable of tracing people's movements following an illegal border-crossing. Therefore it is not possible to establish the precise number of persons who have illegally crossed two sections of the external borders of the EU." And added that it's "difficult for (EU) member states to ensure an efficient, high and uniform level of control at their external border."

And yet the countries of Europe have their hands tied, allowing the EU to determine their immigration policy. Under a European Court of Justice ruling, European nations are not even allowed to deport immigrants who commit crimes if there is a risk that the criminals may face "inhuman or degrading treatment" in their own country.

Yet what does all of this have to do with immigration in the United States?

As many national security experts are warning, the U.S. is quickly following in the steps of Europe. We, too, are relinquishing our immigration policy to unelected judges, bureaucracies, and international bodies.

As Daniel Horowitz of Conservative Review points out, while our representatives

[Continued on Page 8]

America: A Follower of the Trends of the Left

[Continued from Page 7]

in Congress are supposed to set our nation's immigration policy, we see courts usurping that power by judicial mandate. And when it comes to the influx of refugees, we are at the whim of the State Department who makes that determination – along with the United Nations. Yes, that's right. We are allowing the U.N., an international bureaucracy, to dictate to the United States refugee settlement policies. Our right to self governance has been violated; we are seeing social transformation without representation. This social transformation will impact our society for generations to come, affecting the makeup of the electorate and every future policy issue.

If you need proof, just look to Europe where each country is very quickly being stripped of their national identity. There we see that the recent flood of Islamic immigrants is not just changing the ethnicity of Western Europe, but its values, as well.

After the recent bombings in Brussels at the hands of Islamic immigrants living in their midst, hundreds of other Belgian immigrants rejoiced in the streets. Instead of seeking the welfare of their new homeland, they rejoiced in the death of its citizens.

We are fooling ourselves if we think this can't happen in the United States.

While we are a nation of immigrants, a great melting pot of nationalities, in the past our immigration policy has strived to protect both our national sovereignty and security. Immigrants were expected not only to assimilate into American life and become productive members of society, but also were expected to champion American values and freedom. Yet what happens when those values are not adopted by immigrants who land on our shores?

As we continue to abdicate our national sovereignty and security, we, like Europe, may soon find out.

ADA's Summer Conference ~ July 22, 2016

by Chris Johnson



It is our pleasure, every summer, to select a lineup of top notch teachers and preachers to share with you, our readers and supporters, at our summer conferences.

These events are the occasions for some of our greatest memories as an organization; not only do we get to hear from experts on the subjects we are passionate about, but we get to meet and discuss those subjects with our like-minded reading and listening audience.

At a time like this, when it can feel like we're all alone in our stand for Biblical truth and morality, it's an incredible encouragement to spend an evening with hundreds of people who share our values.

This year, we're excited to hand the microphone to a Michigander: pastor, author, seminary president, professor, **Dr. Joel Beeke**. Dr. Beeke is a well known theologian and sought after speaker. He's the author of over 80 books.

It is possible that when some of us hear "theologian" it conjures images of awkward old men in doctoral robes discussing impractical religious concepts, but it should be remembered that the meaning of that word, "theology," is, "the study of God."

In a way, we're all theologians, some of us just tend to be very lazy ones!

But how valuable could the teachings of a man who studies God for a living be in an era that is more and more defined by Godlessness?

Our second speaker may be familiar to you if you've been following American Decency's work over the past few years.

Are you one of the millions of concerned American's who have seen the movie, "Agenda: Grinding America Down" or "Agenda 2: Masters of Deceit?"

If so, you've doubtless been impressed by the careful research and methodical explanations by **Curtis Bowers**, as he explores the influence that communism has had on our political and social institutions.

ADA is proud to call Curtis Bowers and his family our friends. We've hosted them several times and shown each of their movies in our auditorium, as well as widely recommending them to our readership and supporters.

Curtis also spoke at our 2012 summer conference, leaving the audience inspired and encouraged.

Both of these men are passionate about the influence of Christians on the culture around us. It promises to be an evening of encouragement and information, as we hear how we can better be the "salt and light" that the church is called to be.

Mark your calendar and plan to be with us on **Friday, July 22 from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM at the Harvest OPC church** in Wyoming, Michigan (near Grand Rapids) to hear powerful messages from these two men of God.

For more information, you can call us at 231-924-4050.

We hope to see you there!

**ADA's Summer Conference
Friday, July 22, 2016
7:00 PM - 9:30 PM
Harvest OPC church
930 52nd Street SW
Wyoming, MI 49509**