

## *The War is Real and the War is Now*

By Bill Johnson

In these days of such societal goofiness (am I a boy or girl, a he, she, it, ze, ....) rather than calling it societal goofiness a more accurate term would be: reprobation - a society with leaders bent upon substituting the truth for a lie.

Let me be perfectly clear as I begin: **I believe in the sovereignty of God!** I believe that God is in control. And, I believe with all of my being that we are not robots; that God gave us a brain, spirit, will, a mind to think, act, mature, labor, serve, and to work out our salvation with fear and trembling!

I believe that in these days of such societal turmoil and upheaval (you'll be updated regarding it once again in this newsletter) that in all likelihood you have been thinking about such things as well. [To read more about the matter of sovereignty, you'll want to read my personal note on page 2 that is entitled: "*The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon.*"]

The writer, C.H. Spurgeon states in part - *we can do nothing of ourselves, but we can do everything by the help of our God.*

Why do I mention this in such a pointed way? Because we at American Decency earnestly seek to act in accordance with God's will and His mighty power (imperfectly though that may be as we are sinners in need God's help) at all times, but perhaps more so than ever before at times such as these!

It is truly in this vein that our fall conference, *The War is Real and the War is Now*, flows out of a high sense of working out God's will just days before the 2016 Presidential election scheduled for November 1.

Why this conference? To fulfill the important calling we have in educating, informing, stirring lives - that God would be Glorified!

You may ask, what's the big deal, Bill?

Here is my short answer:

Recent news items like (1) terrorist attacks in New York City, New Jersey and at a Mall in St. Cloud, Minnesota, (2) the turmoil in Charlotte, NC where the Governor had to call for a state of emergency as protestors gathered inciting a riot as a result of another black man being shot, even though it was done by a black police officer, and (3) the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights warning that religious freedom must take a back seat to other civil rights, stating that the phrase "religious liberty" is code for discrimination, racism, and homophobia.

With the Presidential election just around the corner, our religious freedoms have never been more at risk. We have one candidate telling us that our deep-seated, religious beliefs will have to change. Christians all around this nation are being forced to act against their consciences and people who stand for decency are put into a "basket of deplorables."

THAT'S why we have scheduled these two excellent truth-telling speakers for such a time as this. We believe that God wants to use them, us, and you to further get the word out and to take action.

I'm sure that many of you get it; you understand what is at stake and the perils that lie ahead of us and the dangerous waters that our nation is heading into. But, some of you have friends and family who are not aware of these dangers.

Help them to understand, by bringing them with you to this most-important event. I'm not overstating it to say that our religious liberties are in the cross-hairs of a socialistic government that is hoping to make even greater changes to this nation that we love. Some changes could occur overnight while others may take time; but these detrimental changes will occur if we do nothing.

**Two separate locations (Fremont and Grand Rapids, MI on two separate days. Please carefully note times and locations)**

What: *The War is Real and the War is Now*

Where: ADA, 203 E. Main, Fremont, MI

When: Friday, October 21 - 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Where: Calvin College - Prince Conference Center, 1800 E Beltline SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

When: Saturday, October 22: 9 - 12:30 PM

Speakers: Sandy Rios, Host of *Sandy Rios in the Morning*, American Family Radio and Frank Gaffney, Founder and President of Center for Security Policy



**Sandy Rios** is Director of Governmental Affairs for the American Family Association, one of America's largest, pro-family grassroots organizations. Based in Washington, DC, she is host of "Sandy Rios in the Morning on AFR Talk" which can be heard on nearly 200 stations through the American Family Radio Network.



**Frank Gaffney** is the President and Founder of the Center for Security Policy in Washington, DC. [www.centerforsecurity.org](http://www.centerforsecurity.org) From August 1983 until November 1987, Mr. Gaffney was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Forces and Arms Control Policy under President Ronald Reagan.



From the desk of Bill Johnson

***“The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon” Judges 7:20***

“The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon”. Perhaps you remember the Biblical account. God called out Gideon. He was the fifth Judge over Israel in the Book of Judges. An angel came to Gideon and asked him to take on the task of overthrowing the Midianites. And Gideon did, by the grace and power of God, defeat the Midianites.

I was drawn to the title above “The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon” in the reading of a C.H. Spurgeon, “Morning by Morning” devotional (September 20). The title struck me hard as I felt right away that it related to not only the Providence and Sovereignty of God, but also to the actions or inaction of man. Does man have no responsibility for standing in the gap?

In our morning time as a staff, this very subject comes up regularly. Do we not do anything? Is it just “Let go and let God?” or are we as Christians to do something?

There are probably thousands of books on this topic looking at it from this perspective or that, using this portion of Scripture or that, but this devotional flowing out of the Biblical account of Gideon in the book of Judges resounded with me.

It goes like this: *Gideon ordered his men to do two things: covering up a torch in an earthen pitcher; he bade them, at an appointed signal, break the pitcher and let the light shine, and then sound with the trumpet, crying, “The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon! the sword of the Lord, and of Gideon!” This is precisely what all Christians must do. First, you must shine; break the pitcher which conceals your light; throw aside the bushel which has been hiding your candle, which conceals your light; throw aside the bushel which has been hiding your candle,*

*and shine. Let your light shine before men; let your good works be such, that when men look upon you, they shall know that you have been with Jesus. Then there must be the sound, the blowing of the trumpet. There must be active exertions for the ingathering of sinners by proclaiming Christ crucified. Take the gospel to them; carry it to their door; put it in their way; do not suffer them to escape it; blow the trumpet right against their ears. Remember that the true war-cry of the Church is Gideon’s watchword, “The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon!” God must do it, it is His own work. But we are not to be idle; instrumentality is to be used - The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon!” If we only cry, “The sword of the Lord!” we shall be guilty of an idle presumption; and if we shout, “The sword of Gideon!” alone, we shall manifest idolatrous reliance on an arm of flesh: we must blend the two in practical harmony, “The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon!” We can do nothing of ourselves, but we can do everything by the help of our God; let us, therefore, in His name determine to go out personally and serve with our flaming torch of holy example, and with our trumpet tones of earnest declaration and testimony, and God shall be with us, and Midian shall be put to confusion, and the Lord of hosts shall reign for ever and ever. [C.H. Spurgeon]*

It sounds simple, but in the hearts and minds and souls of man it is anything but simple.

I’ve heard some blame solid Calvinistic pastors for promoting the theology of finding rest in God; that God is in control and we are not to fret or worry. Some claim they don’t, therefore, stress engaging the enemy. After all, isn’t Christ the victory that overcomes the world!

Others blame pastors who preach and teach about the rapture. That in the day of advanced horror, wickedness, violence and societal reprobation that they will be raptured - taken out of this world in a twinkling of an eye leaving those who don’t know him left to face the wrath of God that is yet to come. Therefore so the argument goes not too worry - we’ll be out of here in that day anyway so no need to struggle and oppose those who are attacking Christians, the Bible, the church - for it will all be over at God’s appointed time. So come Lord Jesus.

Still others would just simply say there is no God. That believers are idiots.

Each day I receive an email from a person who believes the latter. Here is one of his nicer missives: “Sorry, but you believe in a bunch of fairy stories, myths and absolute nonsense and you want to have your children follow the same ignorant path.”

There are others, as one of our staff persons stated, who fit into one or more of these categories: lethargic, self-centered, addicted to their adult toys or sports, pleasure seekers, needy but not seeking to mature, etc....

A friend of mine from the mid-Michigan area shared her disgust with the lack of activism from Christians. She wrote very recently:

*Sure hope you have a full house (referring to our October 21, 22 conferences), but I am sick and tired of being told what is happening. ... BUT WHERE’S THE ACTION? Can’t believe the low number of people that attended the State Board of Ed’s mtg. where they determined to vote in Obama’s Transgender Policy. We (our side) should have OVERWHELMED the Board. Now that they tell us how bad it is, WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSE TO DO?*

Here was my response (though shortened due to space): The Bible does tell us that in the later days there will be such things as we are seeing and experiencing. Still, we don’t give up or give in - we stand in whatever way we can. We are salt where we can be.

I tried to have the Grand Rapids event be a true teach-in with Calvin professors. I met with an influential insider/aquaintance and sought his help. He tried. I emailed five professors with invitations. We rented the Prince Conference Center to be on the campus. Still not one professor accepted the invitation. So we are standing anyway, teaching anyway, gathering, praying.

God’s ways are not our ways. Outside of God’s intervention, we are on the verge of....?

***Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth .... Eph. 6:10-19***

# Interfaith Insight or Blindness?

by Steve Huston



What if your college student joined a group and, as a result of joining, went from weekly church attendance to an appearance of “becoming disengaged from the church”? What if your student’s Christian worldview was “reshaped”, focusing on the “peace, hospitality, love of neighbor and similar themes [that] are shared across religions,” thereby lessening her focus on the exclusivity of Christ and His atoning work? What if belonging to such a group encourages these students to carry their “lessons of humility, service, hospitality and interfaith dialogue,” yet leaves the central person of their faith, the Lord Jesus Christ, banished to the shadows, silenced, and untaught? What if, for the banquet of unity, Truth has been slaughtered?

The above “what ifs” are actually what was, as students from Christian colleges took on the role of interfaith interns with the Kaufman Interfaith Institute. As they share their stories, one can’t help but notice the lifting up of other faiths while the name of Jesus has become like “Old Aunt Mildred” put away in the nursing home that no one talks about.

If one reads many of the “Interfaith Insight” articles found in the Grand Rapids Press or the Muskegon Chronicle on Thursdays, one finds that either Islam is often the religion of choice to lift up or they attempt to show that all religions are basically the same. For example, one recent article entitled, “Abraham is father of the faith for Jews, Christians, Muslims” states, “*We are all children of God, made in God’s image. We may not think alike or understand God in the same way, yet we are called to love each other. That is the core of interfaith understanding.*”

While on the surface that sounds good, it’s not the core of Biblical teaching. Love the Lord your God with ALL of your heart,

soul, mind, and strength; love your neighbor as yourself. THAT’S the core of Christianity and Judaism.

The Kaufman Interfaith Institute brings in people who would lessen the exclusivities of these faiths. If religion were nothing more than a social club, that would be fine; but, the eternal destiny of one’s soul is at stake. Those who promote the meshing and melding of every religion into one seem to focus on the temporal, the now, without regard or serious thought to eternity, the state of one’s eternal soul, and the God who created each one of us for His glory and His purpose. The focus seems to be getting along with our fellow man rather than getting along with God.

One name that is no stranger to interfaith dialogue across America, in general, and with the Kaufman Interfaith Institute specifically, is Eboo Patel. This man is portrayed as a benign bridge builder, but he is dangerous on several levels.

First and foremost he (and interfaith dialogue) presents a spiritual danger to those who would listen without discernment. Eboo dresses well, chooses his words carefully, and passionately uses the Christian’s Bible to craft a scenario which draws people into a world where definitions are changed, religions are melded, and a guilty condemnation is placed upon any who will not buy into his web of deception. This man is actively engaged in spiritual and educational jihad.

When I heard Patel speak at Calvin’s January Series, he redefined salvation, ignored the exclusivities of Jesus and Allah, and focused on service rather than salvation. The Christian knows that there is no other way to God except through Jesus. The Christian is called to share the gospel message of reconciliation to God through the atoning work of Jesus. We are called “ambassadors of reconciliation.”

Instead of ignoring or fighting over our differences we must speak to the truths of our faith. It’s not about our comfort and temporal peace. **The destiny of eternal souls is at stake!**

Looking at things from a temporal view, Mr. Patel brings another danger as well. It’s a danger that took retired Department of Homeland Security agent, Philip Haney, to bring to light to the American people. Haney reported in his book, *See Something Say Nothing*, that six American Muslim leaders with significant influence on U.S. policy were Muslim Brotherhood operatives working inside the Obama administration. So much more could be said here, but we have and will continue to report on him.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks was featured in another of the Interfaith Insight articles. He said, “*The message of monotheism is not one God, one truth, one way; but rather the miracle that unity in heaven creates diversity on earth.*”

“Not one God, one truth, one way” seems to be the chosen mantra for those who buy into the interfaith dialogue. That falsehood denies the truth that there is only one true God and only way to heaven. BUT—God ALWAYS has the final say.

*“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates .... Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you.” Deut. 6:4-9; 13-14*

Never check your brain at the door; always keep your mind engaged, especially when talking about spiritual things. Beware of wolves in sheep’s clothing, of “ambassadors of peace.” Make it your habit to always be “looking unto Jesus...”

# Think Twice; Post Once

by Steve Huston



What happens when we, as image bearers of God, are more interested in bearing our own image than His? There are many who use social media to do just that, bear their own image rather than glorifying God. Even worse, there are many today who also bare their own image, or images of others. Turning what should be used as an opportunity for homage into a venue for vanity and a path for pornography.

Nathan Bingham put it well at a recent Ligonier conference, as he warned of vanity in a digital world, “As sinful creatures we are really good at putting the ‘me’ into media.”

Let’s face it; the human race is a self-centered people. From Eve eating the forbidden fruit which was pleasing to her eyes to someone posting what they had for breakfast; from Cain killing his brother in the field to the hurt partner posting spiteful words or revenge porn; from Nebuchanezzar’s mind hardened in pride—turning him into a beast—to the posting of our accomplishments and events; our vanity is digitally displayed before an ever-watching world. **Too often people don’t even think about what they are posting. Good or bad, modest or not, happy – sad – angry, informing everyone—even strangers—of our self-important lives is only a click away.**

BUT...

“Is this self-obsession, this vanity, in line with living a life seeking God’s glory; or are we seeking our own?” asks Mr. Bingham. He reminds us that the world encourages us to seek after self; but Christ, calls us to die for self, to live for God, and to love our neighbors.

Although it would ease our conscience a bit to blame social media, we need to admit that

the problem isn’t with Facebook, Twitter, and the ever-alluring internet; it’s with our sinful nature. Social media is just another outlet in which our sinful nature so easily escapes without the restraining power of the Holy Spirit ruling in our lives.

Mr. Bingham encourages his listeners to give thanks for the technology that God has given us, but exhorts us to be ever-vigilant in examining ourselves. Are we pursuing God’s glory or our own in our use of social media and technology?

Throughout his short lecture he reminds us of the carpenter’s axiom, “Measure twice; cut once;” calling people to “Think twice; post once.”

Here are three principles he gives the Christian, to help curb our social media bent toward worldliness.

**1) Seek an outward focus:** Ask yourself—is this ultimately serving God or my neighbor, or is it serving self? Often these things are a matter of motive and are a question that only we can answer. Are we posting things that encourage others to godliness, exemplifying a Christ-centered family or godly relationship for others to see, or are we posting with the motive of being seen? Take care not to judge others. Questioning our own motive may cause us to post nothing at all. Remember, think twice; post once.

**2) Steward your social media:** “The library of Congress is archiving every tweet that is posted. And your Facebook profile is telling the story of your life.” “Tweet by Tweet, selfie by selfie, you are creating your legacy, for God’s glory and the world’s good or for ill.” We have a tremendous opportunity to show others how we are following Christ.

Your social media posts will outlive you. Would you post differently if you knew that your great-granddaughter would one day read your status update? Would you tweet differently if you knew that an unbeliever would read it? Each post and tweet is seen by the Lord God Almighty. Remember, think twice; post once.

**3) Submit to God’s Word:** The Scriptures should govern our lives both off line and online. “*It seems that when Christians connect to the internet all their thinking gets distorted ... I like to call it the digital deception. You put an I-phone in someone’s hand and words they would never say to someone face-to-face they suddenly tweet or leave as a comment on a blog. Images we would never look at, or own, if they were printed in a magazine, we will linger over online, if not seek them out. And even worse, some of those inappropriate images are the selfies, the immodest selfies, posted by Christians.*”

“It’s like we’ve forgotten what holiness is. Abraham Kuyper is known for saying that there is not a square inch in the whole domain of human existence over which Christ, who is sovereign over all, does not cry, ‘Mine.’ Jesus cries ‘Mine!’ over your time, over your Facebook posts, and over your internet history. Are you submitting to the word of God or are you living in the digital deception?”

This digital age can certainly be a blessing, as well as a temptation to evil and self-centeredness. Let’s take Nathan Bingham’s very good advice to: **Think twice; post once.** Think of Christ and His claim on our life, think of what our post says to others, and then post to the glory of God!

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# World Wide Web Becoming World Wide Weapon?

by Steve Huston



Imagine posting an article on Islamic supremacism or jihadist terrorism only to find that it was censored because a group of people called it hate speech. Imagine doing an online search for freedom, patriotism, or the First and Second Amendments but instead of articles to read, there's just a page stating that your search was deemed unacceptable and therefore denied because it was not consistent with the standards of some international governing body. Imagine that the attempt of posting or searching for "unacceptable content" resulted in a fine, your incarceration, or even worse. Imagine if you will, the World Wide Web becoming a World Wide Weapon of censorship.

Many are unaware that President Obama, attempting to further destroy America and put us at even greater risk one more time before leaving office, has made plans to illegally give up sole American governance of the internet to a United Nations-like body of international countries. Many of these countries are our enemies; they censor their own citizens and would be an ever-increasing threat to our freedom and safety.

The body that manages Internet names and addresses is the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). ICANN is currently under contract with the U.S. government but this administration plans to give over control to 162 foreign countries. Although the U.S. has allowed ICANN to govern itself, "it has always maintained the authority to pull the nonprofit's contract, which allowed the federal government to ensure that its contracting partner did not stray from its original mission." [from The Daily Signal- for a better understanding, read their article here - [http://dailysignal.com/2016/09/19/saving-internet-freedom/?utm\\_source=TDS\\_Email](http://dailysignal.com/2016/09/19/saving-internet-freedom/?utm_source=TDS_Email)]

Senator Cruz—always fighting for the American people—has stood firmly against this illegal move, and has exhorted Congress from both sides of the aisle to protect the American citizens from imminent censorship and the nation from potential harm. He says:

***"We built the internet and America maintains it as free for all. We don't use it in an imperialist manner to impose our views on others. We maintain it as an oasis of freedom."***

***"Foreign nations void of free-speech protections have no place regulating U.S. internet usage."***

He warns that ICANN seeks to flee U.S. jurisdiction and U.S. laws, quoting a representative from Iran: *"We should not take it for granted that jurisdiction is already agreed to be based on U.S. law."*

This Texas senator warns of national security concerns: *"Congress has received no assurances from the Obama administration that the U.S. government will continue to have exclusive ownership and control of the '.gov' and '.mil' top level domains and perpetuity, which are vital to our national security."*

[To watch one of his speeches on this topic go here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmqVW5v0wSw>]

Imagine foreign countries - that hate freedom of speech and are socialistic or dictator states - having power over what you can say, read, and search for online. If they deem it unacceptable, it is removed. Eventually, one could be fined, incarcerated, or even worse if the powers that be consider it "hate speech." Remember, the definition of "hate speech" can be very malleable depending on who's in charge.

Even today, without 162 countries butting in, a form of censorship rides the waves of the internet. When looking for information Google has been known to guide people away from the truth, either away from the bad - like the criminalization of Clinton or

away from the good - toward a negative opinion of truth-tellers like Kamal Saleem, Pam Stenzel, and even Ted Cruz's information on the internet give away. [Watch a 2.5 minute video on this at <http://yhoo.it/2cR14EB>]

Very recently another form of censorship has taken place as Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, and Microsoft have joined forces with the European Union to remove hate speech from their online platforms within 24 hours. If one of these social media entities deems your words offensive or "hate speech," then all of these sites will remove what you have posted.

For now we still have freedom of speech, but those days could be coming quickly to an end. Whether it's the internet giveaway or the inauguration of a candidate who hates the First and Second Amendments, our freedoms are fleeting and hanging by a thread. These socialists are shredding more than our Constitution; they're shredding our rights and our liberties. They are redefining "hate speech" and telling Christians that we must change our way of thinking and our ways of worship.

With our free expression of speech under increasing assault, where can we turn? First, we turn to the Lord and then we turn to those whom the Lord has raised up to defend our liberties. If you run into assaults of your religious liberty or free expression of speech, run to one of these trusted law firms who are there to help such people in need.

**Call the following:**

**Liberty Counsel**  
(407) 875-1776

**First Liberty Institute**  
(972) 941-4444

**Alliance For Defending Freedom**  
(800) 835-5233

**Thomas Moore Law Center**  
(734) 827-2001

# The Sword is Coming

by Lisa Van Houten



***“But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, so that the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any one of them, that person is taken away in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at the watchman’s hand.” ~ Ezekiel 33:6***

Consider this a blowing of the trumpet. The sword is coming. It may or may not be a literal sword, but there’s no doubt those who live out their Christian faith are being targeted for destruction – and the wielders of the sword are our very own government institutions.

There’s no doubt a moral revolution is taking place in our nation, seeking to make one’s sexual orientation and gender identity the freedom that trumps all other freedoms. And what happens in a revolution, a coup d’état? Those in opposition are silenced – quashed – eliminated.

Before President Obama was elected he signaled who he saw as the problem in America with his comment about “bitter” Americans “clinging to their religion.” It’s been obvious that the religion he was referring to wasn’t Islam or Buddhism, but Christianity. With nearly eight years in office he has done much to undermine the exercise of that faith. President Obama has radically transformed the federal judiciary, appointing two Supreme Court justices, 55 appeals court judges, and 268 district court judges. We have already seen the impact of this leftist swing of the courts. From the legalization of gay marriage to the overturning of abortion restrictions - the ideology of the left is being codified into law by judicial fiat.

But the push extends even farther than the federal courts as Christian bakers, photographers, and florists have found out.

For declining to take part in homosexual weddings, we have seen bakers and florists lose their entire livelihood, fined tens of thousands of dollars, sent to “re-education” training, and forced to file quarterly obedience reports with the government. It’s clear that the state has the power and the determination to crush dissent by forcing citizens to choose between their livelihoods and their faith.

And now the gauntlet has been officially thrown down by the United States Commission on Civil Rights. The Civil Rights Commission, which once nobly opposed racism and shameful Jim Crow laws in the 1950s and ‘60s, has now labeled people of faith as the bigots. In an ironically-named report called Peace Coexistence, the Commission states:

***“Religious exemptions to the protections of civil rights based upon classifications such as race, color, national origin, sex, disability status, sexual orientation, and gender identity, when they are permissible, significantly infringe upon these civil rights.”***

In other words, religious freedom cannot stand – it will not be allowed to stand - if it does not align with the sexual/gender revolution.

With the report, Martin Castro, chairman of the Civil Rights Commission, released this stunning statement:

***“The phrases ‘religious liberty’ and ‘religious freedom’ will stand for nothing except hypocrisy so long as they remain code words for discrimination, intolerance, racism, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia, Christian supremacy or any form of intolerance.”***

Notice that Commissioner Castro put what are referred to as ‘scare quotes’ around the terms religious liberty and religious freedom. The use of quotes in that way is in essence saying, “so-called religious liberty” – as if it’s not real - a denial that this is the first freedom guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution. Progressives ignore that Constitutional fact and instead seek

to replace it with a fictitious right – one that will stand above all other rights – the right to have one’s ‘sexual orientation’ and ‘gender identity’ not just accepted, but affirmed, and codified.

While this made up right doesn’t appear in the Constitution, the First Amendment does guarantee our right to the “free exercise” of our faith. The word, exercise, indicates action. I believe “exercise” was specifically chosen because our Founding Fathers understood that one’s deeply held religious beliefs could not be restrained within the walls of a church, but would shape every aspect of one’s being and actions.

As Archbishop William Lori, chair of the Committee on Religious Liberty, stated: ***“We do not seek to impose our morality on anyone, but neither can we sacrifice it in our own lives and work. We respect those who disagree with what we teach. Can they respect us?”***

The answer is becoming increasingly clear. No. They will not respect us, they will not respect our faith, and they will not respect our rights emblazoned in the First Amendment. Rather, they will force all citizens to adhere to the government-sanctioned religion – the new orthodoxy of this sexual revolution. Those who don’t will be added to Hillary Clinton’s ‘basket of deplorables.’”

You’ve probably heard that at a recent LGBT event Hillary Clinton labeled conservatives who support her opponent as “deplorable”. Clinton described vast numbers of Americans, who she seeks to serve as president as: ***“racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, Islamophobic. . . some of those folks, they are irredeemable.”***

This is how the left attacks those who don’t go along with their radical agenda. If you believe marriage is between a man and a woman, you’re labeled a homophobe. If you’re concerned about the threat of radical Islam, you’re called an Islamophobe. If you don’t want men using the ladies restrooms, you’re a bigot.

[Continued on Page 7]

# NCAA - Taking Their Ball Away

by Lisa Van Houten



## The NCAA is taking their ball and going home.

When North Carolina passed a common-sense law requiring that the use of bathrooms in government buildings correspond with one's biological sex - corporations, entertainers, and sports leagues sought to punish North Carolina for daring to oppose the LGBT agenda.

And now the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) is piling on - stating they will pull seven college sports championship tournaments out of the state. This follows the NBA pulling the All-Star game from North Carolina and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, stating, "anything that discriminates, we oppose."

The NCAA hypocritically declared that the North Carolina law, designed to protect women and girls by keeping men out of their bathrooms and locker rooms, was in conflict to their commitment to "fairness and inclusion."

This comes from the organization that makes billions of dollars off the backs of unpaid college athletes - many of whom are minority students - and has turned a blind eye to the sexual assault of women by college athletes.

However, if the NCAA thinks men and women should share the same locker rooms and bathrooms, why are men and women sports teams separate? If teams are separated by sex - why shouldn't bathrooms be separate? Here the NCAA hypocrisy shows again. Their motivation is not "fairness and inclusion" - rather it's bowing to the liberal agenda of the LGBT movement.

Yet the NCAA may want to be a little more

discerning about who they play ball with, because the next step in the LGBT agenda is eliminating gender altogether in sports. It's already taking place from the middle school level all the way to the Olympics as biological males are allowed to compete in women's sports. If the NCAA complies to its own standard, how can they not de-sex their sports teams?

The NCAA and other sports leagues such as the NBA and the NFL won't integrate their teams based on sex because they know it would be financial suicide. The American people don't want to see a female quarterback being sacked by men twice her size and they don't want to see a women's team forced to compete with men. However, the NCAA, the NBA, and the NFL will continue to push their liberal agenda as long as it doesn't affect their bottom line.

And so we see the NFL affirming liberal-approved protests by Colin Kaepernick, but denying the Dallas Cowboys' request to wear a decal on their helmets to pay tribute to the five police officers killed in Dallas. Free speech is allowed only if it aligns with the progressive movement. Just ask former major league baseball star, Curt Schilling, who was fired by ESPN because of conservative comments he made on his personal Facebook page.

As David French wrote for National Review: *"I don't mind if individual players or owners express themselves, so long as it is clearly understood that all viewpoints are welcome. I mind, however, ... when social-justice warriors try to wield the awesome economic power of sports - built via the pocketbooks of all Americans - to punish conservatives, especially Christian conservatives."*

According to our friends at AFA: "This means that if a college or institution does not allow men and women to share the same restroom or locker room, the NCAA will not allow them to host a championship event. Even more restricting, if the city or state law in which the college is located does not allow men access to the same facility as little girls, then the NCAA can

deny the college the chance of hosting a championship event."

And it won't stop with bathrooms. There are already efforts to have schools such as Brigham Young University kicked out of the NCAA because the school believes marriage is the union of a man and a woman.

What courage the Republican leaders of North Carolina have shown against such immense pressure. Pray for the courageous leaders of the Tar Heel state who are digging in their heels and not bowing to these cultural bullies. Also, tell the NCAA to keep their political agenda out of sports. Call the NCAA at 317-917-6222 and/or mail the enclosed postcard.

## The Sword is Coming



[Continued from Page 6]

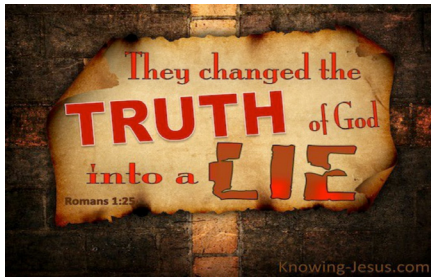
I began this article with a warning about the coming sword. I end it not with a warning, but a threat from Hillary Clinton - the candidate who could very well be the one who places her hand on the Bible and pledges to defend the Constitution of the United States, including the freedom of religion.

In 2015 Hillary Clinton stated to a Planned Parenthood audience: *"deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs and structural biases have to be changed."*

The religious beliefs she threatens must change are yours and mine. Elections have consequences. And in this election, the freedom of religion is at stake. Consider yourself warned.

# Transforming Policy—Transforming Minds

by Steve Huston



Attempting to transform minds, the transgender bathroom guidelines were approved by the Michigan State Board of Education by a 6-2 vote. The two board members who voted against the guidelines were Republicans Richard Zeile and Eileen Weiser.

One board member stated that “family engagement is the cornerstone of this document.” Really? Their revised guidance states that consultation with parents shouldn’t take place when parental knowledge “*might threaten the student’s safety and/or welfare.*” Such an ambiguous guideline could be used against parents who disagree with this guidance, yet have great care and concern for their child.

Another member said they met with pediatricians, adding, “Real pediatrician groups, not the HATE pediatrician group ...” It’s likely he was referring to the American College of Pediatricians. They warn that normalizing and encouraging gender dysphoria in children is both dangerous and unethical.

Is John Hopkins a hate group too? Paul McHugh, a John Hopkins psychiatrist who has studied transgenderism and sex-reassignment surgery for 40 years, says that transgenderism is a “mental illness”; to enable it is equal to “collaborating with madness.”

One board member mentioned that “God made all kinds of people, including gay and transgender.” The Scriptures tell us, God created them male and female (Gen. 1:27) and God is not the author of confusion. It tells us that sin brings us to confusion.

Repentance and seeking God brings us to clarity of mind and a renewed relationship with our Creator.

Eileen Weiser encouraged schools to address the culture of bullying as a whole, that way everyone will be helped, including the 8% of LGBTQ students. She also mentioned that a part of this guidance is currently under litigation.

Dr. Zeile took exception to the statistics presented. LGBTQ students were said to be the highest percentage of bullied people. However, Dr. Zeile claimed that obese students are actually the most bullied. **He refuted other statistics too. He also had problems with the child choosing their own sexual identity; stating that 80% of children who claim to be LGBT later on settle into an identity congruent with their physical body.**

The American College of Pediatricians states, *“A person’s belief that he or she is something they are not is, at best, a sign of confused thinking.”* The school system is really harming the very students they claim they want to protect, by encouraging them to deepen their confusion. They’re harming the larger percentage of the population by forcing this agenda of acceptance and normalcy, rather than dealing with the real problem and providing the real answer.

If free-rein use of any bathroom by either gender is not the answer—what IS the answer? The answer for the LGBTQ student is the same for any who fight against their God-given roles. Whether it’s a husband who will not lead his family, a wife who usurps her husband’s authority, those who fight the authority that is over them, or the person who chooses an identity which is not congruent with their physical body—the answer is the same.

Jesus IS the answer. We must never bully anyone, regardless of where they stand on an issue. But instead of supporting their delusion, we should be telling them the truth—in love. The truth is that sin has entered into the world and people fight against God’s authority and their God-given roles - straight and LGBTQ alike. The truth is that God desires to truly transform our mind and our life. The truth is that we are made to be image bearers of God and

that He offers salvation and purpose to His creation—each one of us—you, me, and the LGBT.

As the Federal Government and our public schools raise anchor and sail from our spiritual moorings, as they reset our moral compass one degree at a time, we find ourselves in turbulent waters - deep, stormy waters of godlessness. **As both those in authority and those under authority do what is right in their own eyes - disrespecting each other and the laws which are meant to constrain - lawlessness abounds and threatens to capsizize our nation.** All these things lead to anger, hatred, and disunity. Yes, our ship is in danger of being torn apart from bow to stern. As we have unanchored from the sure rock of Scripture, we drift out deeper into further moral degradation and deeper lawlessness; we have become a nation adrift. We have become the epitome of Paul’s description of “perilous times.”

*“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God” (2 Timothy 3:1-4)*

**Spiritually, the landscape resembles a post-apocalyptic wasteland of movie lore. It’s with trembling that we recognize a nation’s spiritual condition will soon become its earthly condition.**

Turbulent water? Yes! Uncharted seas? No! God’s word makes clear the path of those who refuse to hold Truth as a precious treasure. The end of those who refuse to glorify God as God and keep a heart of gratitude is charted out clearly in Romans 1:16-32).

Continue to pray for these issues which plague our nation. Live out a life of holiness before a watching world. As during “Show and Tell,” at school, so many years ago: **Show and tell them about the love of Christ.**