

Come What May



By Bill Johnson

Many of you reading this are thankful for the strong rhetoric that President Trump used as he spoke before the United Nations on Tuesday, September 19.

His 42 minute speech was most impressive and hailed by some, including Frank Gaffney, President of the Center for Security Policy, as perhaps Donald Trump's finest hour as President, but with a caution.

Frank Gaffney summarized it as follows:

"Donald Trump's address to the United Nations yesterday was tough love, minus the love. Its leitmotif was a full-throated and oft-repeated extolling of sovereignty, which he described as not only his duty to champion for America, but also a corrective for what ails the UN.

"The President spoke the hard truth about the threats posed to the world by Rocket Man's North Korea, Iran, Cuba, Venezuela and even Russia in Ukraine and China in the South China Sea. It could be a Trump Doctrine's defining blueprint.

"Unless, that is, two things now occur: First, will the President be countermanded, or otherwise undercut, by his own subordinates? And second, will his forceful rhetoric be unaccompanied by the deeds needed to actualize it?"

"...The President's past tolerance of such behavior has not only undermined him, it has emboldened the adversaries he rightly castigated yesterday.

Gaffney interviewed Diana West (author of *American Betrayal*, a nationally noted thinker and blogger as well as a big supporter of Trump, even in the primaries) on his daily radio broadcast asking her to provide her critique on the President's UN address:

"Well, I'm pessimistic at this point. I can have my mind changed by evidence and watching as things develop. But I don't have very much confidence at this point... And I would say the place where the Presidency of Donald Trump will stand or fall is much more at home than abroad... We are under such an assault at home... We have a Justice Department either letting a special counsel to run amok and not do anything that we expected for restoration of law and order; the border, the wall, Mexico, drugs. I mean these are things that Trump connected with the people on. And it was much more about standing back to an extent upon the world stage and not continuing the useless, interventions in a place like Afghanistan/Iraq, etc. and taking care of the America First... This is kind of where I think it will rise or fall, and I think rhetoric to the world is great. It may only be somewhat entertaining..."

I, along with most of you reading this, want Donald Trump to succeed! We pray faithfully for him. His strong rhetoric is inspiring as when he spoke in Saudi Arabia before nations of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC). And now this powerful address before the United Nations, a predominantly socialistic institution. It is certainly encouraging (and entertaining), but is it just mere rhetoric?

If President Trump allows Secretary of State Tillerson, National Security Advisor McMaster, and their ilk to countermand his articulated public policies, history will record Trump as a windbag articulating momentous rhetoric spoken for the purposes of international exhibition and pomp, but ultimately contributing to greater societal cynicism due to its emptiness.

We have a President who speaks strongly on issues that matter to many of us! One refreshing example: the President actually identified who the terrorists really are: He called them out in his United Nations address: **RADICAL ISLAMIC TERRORISTS.**

Nobody on such a world stage has ever exhibited the intestinal fortitude to do so. (Shameful as this is, but it is the case.)

[Continued on page 2]



From the desk of Bill Johnson

[Continued from page 1]

President Trump spoke boldly as if he really believed what he said. Does he? Or is it just entertaining rhetoric? So much hinges on this in terms of true action that confronts lies, injustice, and oppression.

Is Trump still just getting his house in order in his new presidency? Or is this just plain old "ineptitude?"

Why does he allow Tillerson, McMaster, John Kelly (Chief of Staff) to undermine him?

Can the Commander in Chief be oblivious to this reality? Doesn't he get it - that if this continues he will be the laughing stock of the nations, starting with his own base?

Personally, I am dealing with two weighty issues in these moments. One of them I'm presently describing - the Donald Trump presidency - strong, powerful commanding presence and words, but will there be any action to back it up?

Come what may, God rules and overrules - God is sovereign. Has God taken His hand of grace and mercy off from America?

Only God knows and only time will tell. In the meantime, keep your candle lit. Watch. Pray.

And now the second case of "COME WHAT MAY" that I have alluded to. This one less heavy, but more personal.

I was moments away from starting to write this portion of the newsletter when my cell phone rang. It was from Kamal Saleem.

Kamal said: "Brother Bill I have some bad news for you."

He was calling with embarrassment. His office had double-booked. He had just discovered there was a conflict between our October speaking engagements with him (October 13,14) and those of the Values Voter Summit in Washington, DC. Kamal was scheduled to be speaking on the platform with Frank Gaffney and General Jerry Boykin.

Kamal said: "Brother Bill. I told them I could not break my promise to you. The General said, 'Kamal you need to be with us here in DC. Many are needing to hear you.'"

I agree with the general and have released Kamal, giving him our blessing.

He asked: "What are you going to do, brother Bill?"

There are a lot of "Come what may's" in our lives aren't there? What is God doing? What is His will? What is He trying to teach me?

So it goes, dear friends. We send our regrets for those of you who were specifically planning to come and hear Kamal.

Seeking to replace Kamal with another warrior, I called Philip Haney, author of "See Something Say Nothing." He was not available until November.

I sought the Lord's will throughout the following evening and early the next morning and continually got the sense that it is meant to be me.

I do believe in the providence of God, and I believe these events were orchestrated so that I might share what burdens my heart.

"The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon" will be the title of my message, and it will be on the subject of how our sovereign God uses the actions of His people to fulfill His will.

I am, of course, honored to share the podium with our highly regarded speaker, Dr. Norm De Jong.

You'll get a sense of the heart and direction of Norm from this email he sent me in anticipation of our event.

"I am excited about the opportunity to speak at the conferences. The primary reason I

invested in "The Cross & the Double-Edged Sword" [Dr. De Jong's most recent book] is because of the deep concerns I have for the church today. I am deeply concerned by what I call internal threats, but also external threats, one of the most terrifying is Islam."

Dr. De Jong told of someone that he knows who "married a Muslim and then, to keep peace in the family, became a Muslim himself. I also know of a CRC in Grand Rapids that is holding joint worship services with a mosque."

Messages will be recorded, but we would love to have you be there WITH us!

Page 3 which will give you the revised details for October events 13, 14.



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Former CRC Prof to speak Christ or Chrislam? October 13 and 14, 2017



Dr. Norm De Jong, Calvin College grad joins with American Decency Association President Bill Johnson who together will head a two day mini-speaking tour in West Michigan on October 12 and 13.

Dr. De Jong's career in education included teaching and administrative positions in Christian schools in Pipestone, Minnesota, Manhattan, Montana, Allendale, Michigan, Artesia, California and North Haledon, New Jersey. His influence was more far-reaching, however, at the college level where his 20 years as a professor impacted future teachers-in-training at Dordt College and Trinity Christian College. The Dordt years also saw publication of his first of many books, *Education in the Truth*. His contributions greatly encouraged the Christian School movement in the U.S.

Dr. De Jong has a new book out entitled: "The Cross and the Double-Edged Sword."

As Dr. De Jong writes: "*The primary reason I invested in The Cross & the Double-Edged Sword is because of the deep concerns I have for the church today. I am deeply concerned by what I call internal threats, but also external threats, one of the most terrifying is Islam.*"

Norm also contrasts how Islam guards the name of Allah with the abysmal failure of Christians to guard the precious treasure and the exclusivity of Jesus Christ.

It is a timely book for our day marked too often by lethargic, dutiful worship as opposed to worship that truly glorifies Our God and King.

The subtitle too is intriguing "God Hates Sin and Sinners, But Loves Saints."

The book addresses this thoughtfully and Biblically.

The subject of the wrath of God and/or hating sin and sinners is one seldom touched on in the present day. It has become a controversial topic and poorly understood. This, along with the ancillary subject challenging the reader in regard to ourselves, and, too often a wide-spread failure to hold high the worship and adoration of the one true God, the Holy God.

Bill Johnson takes on the unenviable task of replacing Kamal Saleem who had been scheduled to be a featured speaker. See page 2 for further information.

Though once a regular speaker particularly throughout Michigan and frequently interviewed by national and local media regarding the battle against pornography, obscenity and indecency, Johnson's emphasis in recent years has shifted. In the late '80s and '90s, ADA under Bill's leadership was credited with driving Howard Stern off America's airwaves. In addition, through the faithful and strong efforts of ADA, Abercrombie and Fitch discontinued the production, sale and distribution of their pornographic catalog.

In recent years, through Bill's leadership, ADA has been a leader in educating and informing Christians throughout the state of Michigan on the threat posed by the Muslim Brotherhood, Shariah Supremacy and the deception of Interfaith Dialogue. ADA has sponsored many cutting edge speakers urging citizens to understand the threat of terrorism." Speakers have included Frank Gaffney (on four occasions), Sandy Rios, radio host of American Family Radio, Philip Haney, a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) whistleblower and many others. Johnson's Decency Minute reaches nearly 200 radio stations nationwide on AFR.



Bill pictured with wife Jan of 47 years.

Mark your calendar and plan to be with us either on Friday, October 13 at 7:00 PM at American Decency, in Fremont, MI or on Saturday, October 14 at 9:00 AM at Double Tree by Hilton, Grand Rapids, MI to hear powerful messages from these two men of God.

For more information and to register, call us at 231-924-4050. We hope to see you there!

When: Friday, October 13

Where: American Decency Assoc.
203 E Main Street
Fremont, MI 49412

Time: 7:00 PM

When: Saturday, October 14

Where: Double Tree by Hilton
4747 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

Time: 9:00 AM to Noon

Call 231-924-4050 to register

Dr. Norm De Jong

"The Cross and the Double-edged Sword"

Bill Johnson

"The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon"

A Nation Divided ... down the 50-yard line

by Steve Huston



Lined up on the 50-yard line we see two opposing forces. On one side we see people like the Dallas Cowboys owner, Jerry Jones, who said in September of last year, *“You are all simply paid performers on a stage and that field is my stage! You will stand, with your hand over your heart and with respect, when our Country’s National Anthem is being played or you will no longer be a Dallas Cowboy, a Coach for the Dallas Cowboys or have any association with the Dallas Cowboy Organization! I will immediately fire you, no matter who you are!”*

Facing off against such patriotism, there are other coaches, like Jim Harbaugh, when asked if he agreed with President Trump’s statement that players who kneel during the national anthem should be fired stated, *“No, I don’t agree with the president, that’s ridiculous. Check the Constitution.”* There are many NFL players and team related personnel who decide to kneel during or disrespect the national anthem. **They protest what they mistakenly think—and have been indoctrinated to think—this country stands for.**

Is this country perfect? By no means... but the words of Pittsburgh Steeler—three tour of duty soldier in Afghanistan, Army Ranger veteran, and only Steelers player to leave the locker room for the national anthem—makes sense, *“I don’t know if the most effective way is to sit down during the national anthem with a country that’s providing you freedom, providing you \$16 million a year ... when there are black minorities that are dying in Iraq and Afghanistan for less than \$20,000 a year.”* (Quoted from 2016)

But it’s crazy, there are many who try not to stand on one side or the other; they stand ON the 50-yard line, hoping to avoid the

politicization of this national pastime. **Granted, politics should never have entered the football arena; but nonetheless, it’s here and really can’t be avoided now.**

Who’s on the 50-yard line?

There’s the Pittsburgh Steelers team that stayed in the locker room during the national anthem, not to protest the anthem but in an attempt to be apolitical. Neither the fans nor this writer sees it that way though. Alejandro Villanueva, who came out for—and respected—the national anthem, received cheers while his teammates who took to the field afterward were the recipients of many boos.

Martha Ford, owner of the Detroit Lions, left her luxury box to join her players on the field, locking arms as a sign of solidarity with the team stating, “We do not support Trump’s call to fire NFL players.” Also that his words *“are contrary to the founding principles of our country, and we do not support those comments or opinions.”* **At 92 years of age one would hope that she would remember the sacrifices at home and the bloodshed abroad that are symbolized by our nation’s flag and anthem.** How foolish to claim that any actions or words—particularly anti-American ones—shouldn’t have any consequences.

Perhaps craziest of all is having someone singing the national anthem that kneels with clenched fist raised in the air as he sings the last two words, “the brave,” as occurred at the Detroit Lion’s game Sept. 24. If he’s against the national anthem and the flag—symbols of courage and freedom—why sing it? Why kneel on the words “the brave,” while these players kneel with ingratitude for the freedoms they have, voicing their disdain for the millions of fans who pay their salaries? How is it brave to drop to a knee while someone’s son or daughter is having a flag draped over their coffin? These ungrateful gold-diggers disrespect every gold star family.

Many of those who locked arms and stood with those who disrespectfully knelt during the anthem were really standing against President Trump and his comments made in

Alabama about firing those who disrespect America and its symbols of freedom. But let’s not forget, President Trump isn’t the one who started all this; he isn’t the one who made it political. **The blame lies at the feet of Colin Kaepernick, who began this movement of disrespect, and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, who allowed it to continue.**

He could’ve put a stop to this politicization of a national sport long ago; but instead, he allowed the divisiveness and disrespect to continue. He hasn’t put a stop to disrespecting American soldiers and American values, but he denied the Dallas Cowboys’ request to wear a decal in honor of slain police officers. His organization’s players can spit in the face of soldiers who fight for our freedom abroad AND police officers who put their lives on the line to protect the law and its citizens at home. He has called President Trump’s words divisive but ignores the divisive actions that his clubs promote, even among young children in this country who look up to their sports heroes.

Kneeling for prayerful righteousness is rejected but kneeling to promote hate is acceptable and promoted, while hatred for truth continues to grow. **We must care about these things.** Instead of raising an apathetic flag of surrender, **let Martha Ford and Roger Goodell know that you’re throwing a flag on this play.** Stand fast for our soldiers; stand united for our nation. Stand up for right and against divisive wrong.

Here’s a thought from a Kentucky preacher that we might take and turn into a prayer: *“Here’s a thought for all of the NFL players who are ‘taking a knee’ as the American flag waves and the national anthem is played. While you’re down there REPENT and ask God to forgive you for your selfish ingratitude!”*

One more thing. It’s easy to be upset about these players and coaches; but how many of us stand at home or place our hand over our heart while the anthem is played? How many stop talking during their parties and respectfully reflect on what has been graciously given up and graciously been given to us?

ESPN's Flagrant Fouls

by Lisa Van Houten



We've gone from *E pluribus Unum* (out of many, one) to a nation divided - splintered by race, ethnicity, gender, religion, and political affiliation.

Sports, however, are one of the last vestiges of unification in our culture – a form of escapism from the rancor and division of “identity politics.” Yet now even this national pastime is being used to push a political agenda.

ESPN, the cable TV giant owned by Disney, originally stood for “Entertainment and Sports Programming Network.” Yet it's earned a new “name” in recent years. FOX TV's Tucker Carlson has dubbed the network “Endless Stupid Political Nagging.” It's a description the sports icon has justly earned as ESPN has gone from analyzing sports to shoving a leftist political agenda down the throats of its viewers. Tune in to ESPN and you'll often find liberal “social justice” diatribes masquerading as sports coverage.

In fact, ESPN proudly boasts of that fact. Jim Brady, ESPN's Public Editor, wrote last April that the comment he most often hears from viewers is: **“Hey, ESPN: Stick to sports.”** Yet Brady dismissed that complaint stating: **“ESPN has made it clear: It's not sticking to sports.”** In a lengthy screed, Brady wrote: **“ESPN, in fact, just removed any question about the sports-politics-culture intersection when it released new political guidelines that loosen the restraints on commentary about politics and culture ...”** And unabashedly stated: **“The volume of non-sports content within ESPN's empire has increased significantly in recent years.”**

Yet what many people have a problem with is the fact that ESPN is not just discussing politics along with pass-rushing, but that they're pushing a decidedly leftist agenda. When liberal protests recently demanded that Civil War monuments be removed, ESPN removed their own Robert Lee, one of their announcers, who was scheduled to call a University of Virginia football game because Lee – who is Asian – is named Robert Lee!

Just a few weeks ago, ESPN anchor Jemele Hill sent out a series of defamatory messages on Twitter stating: **“Donald Trump is a white supremacist who has largely surrounded himself w/ other white supremacists.”**

ESPN's Hill equated the President of the United States and his administration to Ku Klux Klan members, and ESPN's only reaction was to release a statement claiming to have “addressed” the issue with Hill as “inappropriate.”

That's all fine and good if ESPN doesn't have a problem with their employee exercising their freedom of speech in such a denigrating way, yet when conservative ESPN announcers have expressed their opinions on political matters, they've gotten the boot.

Curt Schilling's career as an ESPN commentator was ended last year after he sent out his own Twitter message. The former All-Star pitcher sent a blunt message condemning the idea of allowing men who claim to be transgender into women's restrooms. For not toeing the politically correct LGBT line, ESPN fired Schilling stating: **“ESPN is an inclusive company. Curt Schilling has been advised that his conduct was unacceptable and his employment with ESPN has been terminated.”** This followed ESPN's suspension of Schilling in 2015 after he compared radical Islam to Nazi Germany.

So a conservative announcer is fired, while a liberal announcer gets a slap on the wrist – both of whom sent tweets expressing a controversial political opinion.

It's not the only time ESPN has let their politics show. A headline from the Daily Caller last year stated: “ESPN Removes Mike Ditka from ‘Sunday NFL Countdown’ Days After Pro-Trump Interview,” raising the question if the two were related. While in 2015 ESPN talk show host Tony Kornheiser (and frequent Obama golf partner) compared the Tea Party to ISIS with seemingly no censure from ESPN. And last year ESPN commentator Stephen A. Smith stated that Team USA hockey coach, John Tortorella, should be fired for saying this: **“If any of my players sit on the bench for the national anthem, they will sit there the rest of the game.”**

In 2015 ESPN showed its allegiance to the LGBT agenda in choosing to give their yearly Courage Award to the former Olympian/reality TV star, Bruce - aka “Caitlyn” - Jenner. ESPN passed over truly courageous athletes such as crossfit athlete and distance runner Noah Galloway, an Iraq War veteran and double amputee. And Lauren Hill, the inspiring college basketball player who died that year after a courageous battle with cancer.

ESPN defended their “sports” award to Jenner stating that ESPN was: **“... honored to celebrate Bruce becoming Caitlyn. She has shown the courage to embrace a truth that had been hidden for years, and to embark on a journey that may not only give comfort to those facing similar circumstances, but can also help to educate people on the challenges that the transgender community faces.”**

ESPN is following in the footsteps of its parent company, Disney, who in spite of their “family-friendly” persona, has long pushed the LGBT agenda upon children.

ESPN obviously has the right to control the messaging of its network. ESPN doesn't want to be associated with the conservative opinions of Curt Schilling, but has no problem with the Antifa messaging of Jemele Hill. That's called freedom. (Yet privately-owned Christian businesses are being denied that same freedom to conduct their business according to their beliefs.)

[Continued on Page 7]

Everything is Politics

by Chris Johnson



Boy, Martie Maguire, Emily Robison, and Natalie Maines sure must not be happy right about now. You remember the Dixie Chicks, the dominant female country music trio in the late '90s, prolific enough that even my young self who'd never listened to a country song in my life, was at least aware of their existence.

Secure enough in their popularity to title their 2003 tour, "Top of the World," the Chicks wouldn't make another album for three years following that tour; and the single from their 2006 album was tellingly titled, "Not Ready to Make Nice." After that, virtual radio silence.

So what happened in that misty period between being on "Top of the World" in 2003 and being, "Not Ready to Make Nice" in 2006?

During a concert in the UK, Lead singer Natalie Maines dared to express what was an unpopular sentiment at the time, speaking against the U.S. going to war in Afghanistan and then-president, George W. Bush.

When word came back to the U.S. of Maines' comment, many country stations stopped playing Dixie Chicks songs, they were snubbed from awards shows, and their popularity tanked. After one more tour in 2008, the Dixie Chicks announced a hiatus that lasted until 2016.

This country group and a few other musicians and actors who either expressed support or similar sentiments at the time provoked something of a national conversation on the role of the entertainer in politics.

Should artists and entertainers "preach" through their art forms? Or should they "shut up and sing?" (which is the name of a documentary following the Dixie Chicks controversy).

So what exactly did Maines say to virtually tank the career of a wildly successful country group? She told a crowd in London, *"We do not want this war, this violence, and we're ashamed that the President of the United States is from Texas."*

Can you imagine how our country would react today? The response would be... crickets.

It's almost more surprising when we DO go a day without hearing some celebrity saying how ashamed of our president they are. It's hard to imagine an entertainment industry that isn't politically outspoken.

If we think about it, however, that's just because EVERYTHING is political these days.

Here's just a few examples of headlines, all reported on the same day:

Example 1 – Entertainment awards presented by stars from an '80s movie:

"Dolly Parton appeared on the Emmy Awards show Sunday evening with fellow stars Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda as they appeared to insult President Donald Trump, but she kept her silence as they continued.

The veiled references got a lot of applause from the audience at the Emmys from the stars of "9 to 5," a popular movie released in 1980. ...

"Well, back in 1980," Jane Fonda added, "in that movie, we refused to be controlled by a sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot."

"And in 2017, we still refuse to be controlled by a sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot!" Lily Tomlin responded to great applause.

"So that being said, tonight we're here to recognize some men who conduct themselves with the utmost integrity," Fonda continued.

After some favorable remarks when asked

specifically about Hillary Clinton during the election, Dolly had clarified that she wanted to stay out of it and refused to endorse, but her grimace at the insult says more than anything she could have spoken.

Example 2 – The once near-universal language of the American male - sports:

"The NFL would prefer the players' now-ubiquitous protests take a back seat to the action this season, but it looks like the league won't get its wish.

If anything, the players seem ready to take their social critique beyond sitting during the national anthem.

Seahawks defensive end Michael Bennett, who is among the ranks of NFL players to sit during the anthem, celebrated a sack Sunday afternoon with a single raised fist."

The "single raised fist" is a symbol of the "Black Power" movement, which also connotes what could be called "Black Supremacy." Another example, of course, would be Colin Kaepernick who refused to acknowledge the National Anthem, kneeling in protest whenever it was sung.

Example 3 – Home décor. I have no words:

"Daniell Rider, a Hobby Lobby consumer, found a decoration at one of their stores so offensive, she shared the image on Facebook requesting that they remove the decor from their shelves.

Rider on Thursday shared a photo of a shelf with glass bottles containing what appear to be replicas of raw cotton plants.

She captioned the photo, 'This decor is WRONG on SO many levels. There is nothing decorative about raw cotton... A commodity which was gained at the expense of African-American slaves.'

I'm sure if Daniell stopped to think, and check the tag on her shirt, she would realize

[Continued on Page 7]

Everything is Politics

[Continued from Page 6]



that raw cotton has moved on from being a tool to keep the black man down, although it is still the material from which most clothing is made and is still one of the main products of the southern states.

There's nothing racist about a stick with white fluff on it, even when, hundreds of years ago, white people forced black people to pick it for them. But, alas even home décor cannot escape politics.

Now, we all know that racism is wicked and Hollywood is overdramatic by definition. We know that politics tends to divide, and that everyone is political at some level. Even those who would call themselves apolitical will have an opinion if we explain the diverging opinions.

When there is no level at which you can simply commune with someone as a common human being, we're heading in a dangerous direction. We're heading towards a society where everyone is immediately judged as being either an ally or an enemy, where there's no middle ground where people can just watch funny movies together, enjoy a football game together, or even admire the ways someone decorates their home without first ensuring they're on the same political team.

Politics are divisive only because they are important and have huge consequences, but a nation divided against itself also has huge consequences.

As Christians in this ever-more divided country, our task is summed up in some of the most well known and least followed words of Jesus: **“Love your enemies and pray for them.”**

Loving our enemies means telling them the truth that will set them free. It means standing up for what's right. But it also means treating them with respect, like the image bearers of our Creator that they are.

ESPN's Flagrant Fouls

[Continued from Page 5]



Yet just as ESPN has the freedom to turn an iconic sports network into a political mouthpiece for the Left, viewers have the right to turn the channel in disgust. And millions of them are doing exactly that.

ESPN has lost more than 10 million subscribers in recent years. Ratings for ESPN are down 16 % from last year alone – having lost over half a million subscribers after NFL's Colin Kaepernick protested the National Anthem and maligned police officers. ESPN's own survey showed that 63% of viewers think the network has a liberal bias.

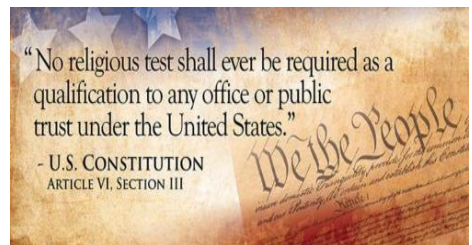
In April, ESPN announced it was cutting 100 jobs – mostly on air reporters and sports writers. National Review, quoted Clay Travis, who stated: *“The people being fired at ESPN today aren't being fired because they are bad at their jobs, they're being fired because ESPN's business is collapsing. That collapse has been aided by ESPN's absurd decision to turn into MSESPN, a left wing sports network ...”*

As ESPN's losses mount, it should be a lesson to other corporations who seem bent on pushing a political agenda on their customers. Just ask the Target Corporation. Millions of Americans are sick and tired of being told by the liberal elite what they should think and are acting with their pocketbooks. It's encouraging that in a nation that worships sports, there are still millions of people who will put principle above entertainment.

We are called to be stewards of our resources and our time. What you do with your dollars – and with your TV remote – can have an eternal impact.

Living Loudly

by Lisa Van Houten



It's increasingly evident that the Left wants to silence Christians. Amy Barrett, President Trump's nominee for the 7th Circuit Court, found that out at her recent Senate confirmation hearing when liberal Senators such as Dianne Feinstein grilled Barrett about her Catholic faith - sending the chilling message that Christians aren't qualified to serve in public office.

Barrett has impressive credentials. She had clerked for Supreme Court justice Antonin Scalia and currently teaches constitutional law at Notre Dame. Yet what makes Barrett unfit to serve as a federal judge in the mind of Feinstein?

This quote from Amy Barrett speaking at the Notre Dame Law School graduation in 2006: **“Your legal career is but a means to an end, and . . . that end is building the kingdom of God. . . . [I]f you can keep in mind that your fundamental purpose in life is not to be a lawyer, but to know, love, and serve God, you truly will be a different kind of lawyer.”**

Feinstein accused Barrett of actually living out her faith – or as Senator Feinstein stated to Barrett – **“The dogma lives loudly within you.”**

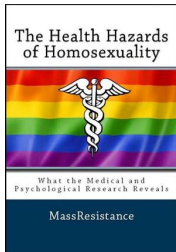
Yet what about the liberal dogma that “lives loudly” in Dianne Feinstein?

How terrible, in the minds of liberals, that a judge would desire to know, love, and serve God. Yet our nation's first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Jay, stated it is in the *“interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.”* How far we've fallen.

Leftists push their beliefs – their “dogma” – on others, while seeking to deny Christians their right of religious liberty. **If we remain silent, they'll succeed.**

True Love Wins

by Steve Huston



George Orwell said, *“The further a society drifts from truth the more it will hate those who speak it.”* Oddly enough, not only do they hate those who speak the truth, but they now accuse truth-speakers of being haters. **Is it really love to agree with someone even if that agreement leads to their destruction?** If you tell me that you can break the rule of gravity without suffering the consequences, is it loving for me to encourage you to jump off a cliff? Of course not!

Yet, how many people are encouraged to break God’s law not only by LGBT groups but also by many “churches” in the name of “love?” Essentially they are saying, “You can break God’s laws without any consequences.” This is not loving or acceptance; it’s ignoring the truth as they encourage self-love (maybe self-loathing?), ignoring very real physical, psychological, and spiritual consequences.

You can fire truth-tellers—like Dr. Paul Church—but you can’t fire the truth. To ignore the truth, deny the truth, teach the opposite of the truth, or vote the truth out of one’s government or society, doesn’t change the truth, stop the truth, or eradicate truth’s consequences.

Our children are being “educated” on the importance of inclusion but infections are ignored. They are taught about diversity but not disease. They are sold the joys of self-defining but are robbed of psychological peace because the words of warning have been muffled by the overtures of political correctness.

Yet there are still those who seek truth and do all they can to inform others about the dangerous consequences of ignoring truth. Brian Camenker, MassResistance, and Dr. Paul Church are such truth warriors on the LGBT front and have either helped

with, endorsed, or produced the book The Health Hazards of Homosexuality; What the Medical and Psychological Research Reveals.

LGBT misinformation and political correctness is shouted from every corner of our culture, but perhaps nowhere so loud as in the medical community. Doctors and other truth-tellers are often told to sit down and shut up, but the statistics are out there and the public needs to know. So, MassResistance gathered together these facts and statistics from various sources (including but not limited to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and some gay medical associations), putting them into an easily readable and understandable form. There was no need for exaggeration; the increased psychological, mental, physical, and other dangers for the LGBT group are well documented—and with 99 pages of endnotes, **so is this book!**

If a smoker goes to the doctor, the doctor will list the various health risks and potential dangers; he may even encourage the smoker to quit. Even though the risks are higher and the dangers greater, often an LGBT patient will not be given a warning or encouraged to stop the self-destructive behaviors they are engaging in.

Here are a few of these dangers:

“A 2014 study showed self-reported suicide attempts for homosexuals and lesbians are 10-20%, vs. 4.6% for the total population.” (p. 412)

“Both gays and lesbians have 3-4 times as many partners as heterosexuals.” (p. 100)

From a 2012 study by the LGBT-affirming Williams Institute: “Gay men had elevated risk of experiencing intimate partner violence... Almost all (97%) of the annual incidents of intimate partner violence incidents occurring to male victims involved a male intimate partner.” (p. 138)

This 597 page book deals with the “Born Gay Myth,” the increased risk of disease—particularly those more common to these

lifestyles, shortened life spans, accurate population estimates, why these truths have been covered up, and much more.

Listen to Sandy Rios interview Brian Camenker about this book at <http://bit.ly/2xXtEPM>

The Health Hazards of Homosexuality; What the Medical and Psychological Research Reveals covers the LGB lifestyles in such detail and references so many sources that it is a veritable wealth of information. At the same time, the lifestyles they must describe and the content which is quoted from other sources brings with it much vulgarity, obscenity, and indecency. To this we would urge our readers to take the book’s own caution to heart:

“Caution: Much of the information, language, images, and some links in this report are sexually graphic and may be offensive to some readers. This is just one result of the coarsening of our culture that has accompanied the normalization of homosexuality (and the sexual revolution in general). Such graphic information is needed, however, to make real the dangerous behaviors and practices that define the homosexual lifestyle and the harm that follows from them.”

Order a copy at massresistance.org.

The only thing that could make this book more in-depth would be to cover the spiritual travesties that accompany these lifestyles. That’s not the purpose of this book but **let us recognize that there is a spiritual warfare that is taking place.**

The truth is that these deviant “crimes against nature” are an abomination to God; **but, that is NOT the whole truth.** Let us remember that behind each of these persons is a family member whose heart breaks and loves them. **The whole truth** is that God is merciful and loving, drawing people to Himself out of ALL kinds of sin—including the LGBT community—and forgiveness is obtained only through Jesus, making people whole. This begins by hearing the truth—for “...faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” **Be truth tellers; but be whole truth tellers.**

A Nation Divided ... down the 50-yard line (Part 2)

by Steve Huston



After this newsletter was printed, new information emerged. Sometimes things aren't always as they seem; regardless, **one must always strive to seek the truth and stand for truth while still being gracious at the same time.**

In our article on page 4, we pointed to Jerry Jones and the Dallas Cowboys as patriotically giving due reverence to the symbols of our freedom and to the soldiers who have given some—or all—to protect those freedoms.

Monday night, many were surprised as the country witnessed this team, and its aforementioned owner, interlock their arms and take a knee **just prior** to the playing of the national anthem. Some from both sides of the controversy felt that it was a form of compromise, while others focused on the fact that the entire team rose before the national anthem was played, went to the sidelines, and, with arms linked, stood respectfully for the national anthem, the flag, and what these symbols stand for.

Actually, these actions are in line with Mr. Jones' statement from last week: *"I do not think the place to express yourself in society is as we recognize the American flag. So that's not the place to do anything other than honor the flag and everybody that's given up a little bit for it."* And The New York Times reported that *"Mr. Jones addressed the news media after the game, saying he had never been more proud of his organization. He said he believed the demonstration was not a departure from his previous comments in which he had said he would not tolerate players protesting during the anthem, and that the team was unified in that regard."*

The other person we pointed to as an example of respect was bronze star veteran Army Ranger turned Pittsburgh Steelers tackle Alejandro Villanueva. Some believe

that because he accidentally ended up outside the tunnel, he doesn't deserve the acclaim that has been awarded to him. With jersey sales sky-rocketing, Villanueva feels badly that he made his coach and his team look bad, but don't they rightly look bad? In choosing to not be present for the national anthem, they not only showed disregard for America but also for the NFL game operations policy which states that "all players must be on the sideline for the National Anthem."

Keeping in mind that his training as an Army Ranger would have impressed upon him the importance of standing as a team and following the decisions made as a team, it's only natural that he says, *"Every single time I see that picture of me, standing by myself, I feel embarrassed."* Standing in the open for the anthem was the right thing to do and at least one of his fellow players is questioning the team's decision to not come out. It's a shame that Villanueva wishes he had done things differently. **We all understand the collateral "regrets" from doing the right thing; but those collateral hurts and losses should never make us feel regret for doing the right thing.**

Why bother pointing all this out? Because with all the fake news, the half-truth news, and the highly electrified-politicized culture we live in, it's important to seek truth, show understanding and grace, yet find the truth and point to it.

There are undue pressures thrown upon entertainers, sports figures, educators, idols, pastors, and even upon you and me to be politically correct. Granted, some in the above mentioned arenas take the mantle of politics upon themselves, which forces this politicized fervor onto others as well. Why do we need political analysts on ESPN? On the Grammys or the Oscars? Why do teachers teach history from today's politics instead of teaching today's politics in light of history?

In light of this, let us recognize a few things: There are more "spin-doctors" out there with their own agenda than there are truth tellers. There is much pressure on people to

behave or react in a certain way according to the political climate of the times. That the lawlessness and disregard for the rule of law has trickled down from our courts into our police force (there are many sodomy laws and laws regarding pornography which are still on the books yet ignored), down into our sports and other industries (the NFL game operations manual states in part, *"The National Anthem must be played prior to every NFL game, and all players must be on the sideline for the National Anthem. During the National Anthem, players on the field and bench area should stand at attention, face the flag, hold helmets in their left hand, and refrain from talking..."*).

Recognize also that truth transcends politics, entertainment, sports, and all else. We must allow truth to use us to transform first ourselves and then our society. The outside pressures that fall on us should be pushed back by truth, not by our feelings or desire for "peace." So seek out true Truth; stand firm on truth and stand fast for truth.

Regardless of the political climate, political correctness, or the lawlessness and corruption in the political realm and other cultural arenas, we are called to stand fast upon and for the truth. In doing so, we must never forget that there is truth in how we are to respond to those who oppose us—we are to love them and pray for them. Loving—in part—requires reproof (gentle convincing) and rebuking (a stronger denying of the falsehood being perpetuated) with love as our motive. These actions are done in the name of Christ that others might be drawn to Him, for our Lord prefers reconciliation.

This doesn't require compromise; but it means that we need to look beyond our perception of others in search of the truth. It means that we not only present the blinding light of truth but we direct it to their feet rather than in their eyes. It means that as we are image bearers of our Creator, we strive to be full of grace and truth, even as He is full of grace and truth.

Yes, truth divides; but if we are ever to bring unity to this divided nation, it must be through the Truth.