



Christian Identity Ministries

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"Blessed be the LORD God of *Israel*; For He hath visited and redeemed *His* people, And hath raised up and horn of salvation for *us* in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began; That *we* should be saved from *our* enemies and from the hand of all that hate *us*; to perform the mercy promised to *our* fathers and to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he swore to *our* father Abraham, That he would grant unto *us*, that *we* being delivered out of the hand of *our* enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of *our* lives." Luke 1:68-75; the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic-Germanic-Scandinavian people are *ISRAEL!*

#189

Newsletter

December AD2001

MORALITY OF AMERICAN AND AUSTRALIAN YOUTH

by Ben Williams

edited and reprinted from Feb '88 newsletter.

God.

"Remember your creator in the days of your youth." (Eccl 12:1)

America's and Australia's young folks are Jesus' heritage. American and Australian parents are charged with the safekeeping of Jesus' heritage. The question is, are parents fulfilling their obligation to oversee and protect the young souls placed in their charge? Are parents turning out a blessed generation for Australia and America and Jesus, or a cursed one?

I am worried about the next generation in Australia and America, today's teenagers and young adults. The welfare of these nations rests on the moral condition of our children. Consequently, our nations' future is in the hands of Dad and Mum because they alone are capable of making sure that Godly standards are upheld in the family and passed on to succeeding generations. If our nations fail, we all suffer, but the fault will lie at the feet of the parents!

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Psalm 127:3.

Upholding standards and maintaining morality is not always an easy task; however, the rewards are great. The parents' position is clear. They must enforce the Law! God has not commanded parents to indulge their children. He has commanded parents to **command** their children:

"Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of Yahweh, to do justice and judgment; that Yahweh may bring upon Abraham that which he has spoken of him." Gen 18:18-19.

It is important to reason with older children about what is right and proper, but the fact is that just telling is not enough. Behind the talk there must be enforcement. If good standards are not enforced, and thus ingrained into the children, the parents will be held responsible before

Looking at the phenomena of erratic standards, we find that moral trends ebb and flow with the tides of popular opinion. Generally, they are created by the legislature and the courts, since laws and courts are for setting and enforcing standards of morality. Law systems define morality by defining crime (sin). When such a law system allows immorality to become acceptable, it encourages sin. Moral trends sink. Standards are lowered. Harlots (movie stars), effeminates ("gays"), and gladiators (pro-athletes) become the heroes and heroines of that generation. Young folks are encouraged to pursue gratification instead of accomplishment. History has shown that national hard times are always preceded by a decay of moral standards.



First the adults debase themselves, then they pass it on to their children. It is predictable. It does not happen by chance. When we plant crops of carelessness and immorality it produces the fruit of hard times. Since **Israelite** Christians are a **Covenant People**, our covenant-keeping Heavenly Father watches us like a responsible parent watches his own children. When we break our covenant, God holds us responsible. He disciplines us the

same as any loving parent punishes his children for disobedience. Without this loving disciplinary action, morality cannot

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The views and opinions expressed in the articles herein or herewith are those of the authors and not necessarily those of CIM. They are written by fallible men. You must ask Jesus to guide your studies!

be instilled in us, or in our children. The basis of our Covenant with our God is that we are His “holy nation; a royal priesthood” (1 Pet 2:9). As beneficiaries of the New Covenant, **we are required to be an exemplary society** amidst the nations of the world! We must be “lights upon a hill” to the world around us. And if we, as a people, backslide into immorality, breaking our covenant and practicing ungodly things in the sight of the nations of the world, then our Covenant-Keeping God comes against us until **we repent**, just as He also commands a father to come against a naughty child. The writer of the book of Hebrews explains the principle:

“And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks unto you as unto sons, ‘My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when you are rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loves he chastens, and scourges every son whom he receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chastens not? But if you be without chastisement, whereof all (sons) are partakers, then are you bastards, and not sons. Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Heb 12:5-8, 11.

Neither the parent nor the child can rely upon the general prevailing attitude (current trends) as a yardstick to measure his own personal morality. Whims and fads are poor substitutes for truth. Following the will of the majority will not suffice! “Feeling good” about what we do will never change wrong into right. God’s Word is our standard; popular mood is not. Good intentions aren’t enough.

“There is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” Proverbs 14:12.

Elders are responsible for defining morality for the benefit of the younger generation, and they cannot use peers or current trends as standards. Morality must be defined by Scripture and by an objective overview of the historical record of cause and effect. To understand our present moral status (especially with respect to the youth of our land) we must look to God, and employ strict mental discipline.

As the moral character of our youth swings to the left (or toward amorality), that doesn’t mean that they are making a conscious decision to be amoral. Rather, it more than likely means that their definition of “acceptability” has become flawed. Without God’s standards before him daily, man forgets what is right. Instead he conforms to “acceptability” as he perceives it. Acceptability, then, replaces morality and becomes the standard of right and wrong.

“All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weighs the spirits.” Prov 16:2.

What causes the definitions of “acceptability” and “morality” to change? They change as the courts and legislatures influence the minds of the people. This molds the parents’ consciences, which in turn molds the children’s consciences.

Thus, a degenerate nation will be blind to its true condition since that condition grew out of a gradual degradation in perception of “morality.” A society is **always “moral”** in its **own eyes!** People see themselves as “normal” and “moral” as long as they fit into societal norms. It all depends upon what the current law system has taught them.

So, parents must be careful! We must base our morals upon God’s non-fluctuating laws and not upon general opin-

ion. When the courts and the legislatures fail to uphold God’s standards, then it is up to the parents to break the pattern and save their children.

Another point: don’t fall for the “better than average” excuse. In an immoral society, your child can be “better” than his peers and still be deprived. It’s not good enough to be “better” in a community of immoral people. In an immoral society, a moral person will stand out like a sore thumb. He will be considered a “radical” or a “fanatic.” So don’t expect to be popular with the crowd. When the world kicks you in the teeth for not conforming to the herd, feel blessed! Following the herd is spiritual suicide.

Today, Australian and American consensus says it is morally acceptable to abort babies. People generally believe it is OK to divorce and break up families. They also think it is fine to let TV, public schools, and daycare centers raise their children for them. The moral standards of the nation are bad. The moral standards of your community are bad; some worse than others. Children in public school are learning how to live with and accept depravity, in fact they are taught depravity!

But, let us get closer to home. If your home is an average home, the moral standards in your home are bad! Being “average” or “politically correct” is not good enough! Indeed, if your morals are average, then in God’s eyes **you** are an immoral person. **You** and **your children** are due to receive punishment from our Covenant-Keeping God!

I’m not trying to insult anyone; I’m just pointing out a fact of our times here in this land. We must know where we stand. When we consider the development of our own moral standards, we must not use the prevailing standards around us. We must use the Bible! Otherwise we will not have an accurate concept of virtue in these times.

The daughters of Lot grew up in Sodom and were tainted by that culture (Gen. 19:31-38). By the standards of Sodom they were “normal.” They did not think of themselves as corrupt. The Sodomite culture had taught them that harlotry was acceptable. Indeed, the first thing they did after God delivered them out of Sodom, even as fire was raining down from heaven upon the wicked city, was to trick their father into a drunken stupor in order to commit incest with him. They believed they were doing a good thing. They feared they were the last survivors in the whole world, and needed to raise children unto their father, Lot. Having learned their moral standards in Sodom, they were ignorant of what was acceptable to God.

By the same token, we are affected by current moral trends in America (modern Sodom) whether you know it or not. It is always a challenge to try to see yourself objectively. The challenge before today’s family, and especially before the youth of today, is great. Take for example current American trends teaching that:

1. **Pornography** is OK because it is just “Freedom of the Press” ... but the **Bible** is dangerous because it teaches hate and discrimination against certain classes of people.

2. **Modesty** is false piety and hypocrisy. Modesty is admired only by the witless. The truth is that “modesty” is a rare term in modern man’s vocabulary. When was the last time you saw a clothing advertisement based upon the modesty and usability of the particular piece of clothing?

TAPES OF THE MONTH

A-7613 What Manner of Persons

Ought Ye To Be? (1 & 2) *As the age closes, Christians are given all sorts of instructions, much of them wrong.*

A-7618 Righteousness In Israel (1&2)

Webster (‘s 1828 Dictionary) says: “conformity of heart and life to divine law.” There is no other source of “right way” except God.

A-7619 Righteousness In Israel (3&4)

Continuation of the above.

A-7620 Some Believe & Some Believe

Not. (1 & 2), *Is it a failure of God when some do not believe? What is our responsibility when they do not?*

This month only! 4 tapes \$18



When was the last clothing fad you remember that didn't undermine modesty and virtue in women?

In true Christian societies, modesty is mandatory in education of young folks. But, times change and trends evolve. Young people in our nations today are taught to be "assertive" (selfish, brazen, uninhibited). Our nations' morals have been on a declining slide now for many years. For example, when I was young I remember that girls were expected to be modest, and boys were expected to honor that modesty. But today, young girls emulate the soiled and adulterated starlets of Hollywood (and the starlets of Australian soaps). Modesty and innocence are an evidence of ineptitude or lack of sophistication.

3. **Masculine women and effeminate men** are "in," and traditional male/female role models are "out." The "women's lib" movement (see *God's Answer to Women's Lib*, #715 @ \$1.85) has redefined the family image. It has reshaped our homes where dominant women seek "careers" instead of motherhood, and children are raised by Television and public schools, or by "house-husbands." Taking mother out of her rightful role has broken the foundation of society.

Today, women bodybuilders show off their muscles, while effeminate men display their ear rings and body jewelry. Christian values cannot survive in homes where the woman wears the pants (so to speak) and the husband is weak and faithless. In a strong Christian society, a man who will not stand up and be the leader of his house is considered faithless and totally unfit for Christian service. Paul taught that anyone who wanted to be an overseer for Jesus the Anointed One must first:

"Oversee his own house well, having his children in subjection with all respect. For if a man does not know how to oversee his own house, how shall he take care of the Ecclesia of God?" 1 Tim 3:4-5.

"Likewise, you wives, be in subjection to your own husbands." Peter 3:1.

A husband who abandons his responsibility as head of the family, forces his wife (who should be second in command) to take over, and deprives her of her natural place in the family. A spineless man will have the responsibility taken from him by an aggressive woman. Inevitably, when things go sour, he will blame her for their problems. Such a man deserves the horse whip.

Men should be men, not spineless and faithless! When Christian men are real men, women stop being insolent and pushy. Christian homes become stronger, and our young people have the role models they need to develop wholesome family standards of their own. Children need to see mum's example of being in submission to God ... and to her husband whom God has placed over the family. If you are a young Christian man looking for a wife, my advice is to stay clear of pushy, "assertive," world-hardened girls.

4. **Un-chaperoned, unsupervised outings and parties** for boys and girls, as well as single men and women are OK.

Today, kids are encouraged to gang up like a pack of dogs and "party" into the wee hours. I suspect that this trend comes, in part, as the result of children being herded like cattle into government school classrooms. It is nothing today, for boys and girls to travel together for several days in an automobile without family or proper supervision. In college dorms they even live together - coed style. These

kind of compromising situations should be avoided at all cost.

Furthermore, parents today willingly give their sons or daughters the keys to the car and let them go out on what's called "*a date*" without thinking about what they are actually doing. (On TV, mothers give their daughters condoms for a night out - McLeod's Daughters, 31-10-01)

Dad! When you send (or allow) your son or daughter out with a member of the opposite sex to be together in that car, alone, for several hours, **you are committing a sin** against your child, and against Jesus' heritage! Single people should avoid this kind of compromising situation. Their welfare, as well as their reputations, are at stake. Abounding temptations can confuse a young man or woman whose parents permit him or her out alone on dates. Natural instincts are sparked, then dowsed ... repeatedly. This leads to inevitable violation of things that should be strictly reserved for married life.

Many a Christian parent has prayed, "... *lead us not into temptation,*" and then turned right around and condoned the tempting of his son or daughter through dating. (listen to the tape *The Hypocrites Prayer* by Kenny

Anderson, #AC-2001 @ \$5). God created a natural chemistry between male and female. By the same token, He lovingly created a wholesome way for that chemistry to occur. It is called "**marriage.**" The chemistry is strong. You can try to ignore it, you can even try to overcome it, but if you are normal and healthy it won't go away. Today, parents are closing their eyes to common sense and Scriptural commands. They are rebelling against Biblical standards: tempting fate and abandoning their responsibility to Jesus' heritage (their children to getting married and having more children).

- who are supposed to be getting married and having more children). Although dating, as we know it today, is considered "normal" and "morally acceptable" with current standards of society, be warned: If you want to be acceptable in the eyes of God you'd better think again! Whether you are a single teenager, or a single adult, it is NOT respectable for you to be alone with someone of the opposite sex except for short structured periods of time. There is a difference between "courting" and "dating." So-called "dating," as we know it today, is NOT morally acceptable in a Godly society. (with some reservations we recommend tapes **P-904, P-905, P-906, P907**, @ \$5ea)

Courting is the Christian way. And there are acceptable ways for single people to get to know one another. After an initial period of introduction, there are acceptable ways for them to have private conversation and semi-private togetherness.

However, if total privacy and intimacy with someone of the opposite sex is what you want, then **MARRY THAT SOMEONE!!** It is the only Christian answer. When young adults are ignorant of this, they get confused and do great harm to themselves ... and to their families.

Moral responsibility begins long before marriage. This is the opposite of what you commonly see and hear today. It isn't what you learn in paperback novels, or on TV. Modern "dating" trends have laid a terrible burden upon our young folk. The young folks are told, in effect, that it is normal and good to "play the field while you are single. Then, when you get married you can suddenly become respectable."

CLEARANCE

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ELOHIYM AND YAHOVAH IN GENESIS
by "Gabriel"
need to go to make way for new stock that
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This is insane! In their early training, kids are taught to act like rogues with the opposite sex. Then they foolishly suppose that their early training will not affect them as adults when they are supposed to be morally upstanding husbands or wives. It is nonsense! Teenagers who have been trained to be morally irresponsible will continue to be morally irresponsible later in marriage. No wonder about seventy-five percent of marriages fail these days.

MARRIAGE is acceptable in the eyes of God!

NOT promiscuity!

NOT "dating"!

NOT "going steady"!

NOT "living together"!

NOT unsupervised parties and outings!

NOT co-ed dorms at college!

NOT 'unisex' jobs where men and women work together for the day! and flowing from that

NOT women in the military - whether in the front lines or not! and

NOT staying single all your life.

Marriage is the institution given to us by our God to provide for private and personal relationships between men and women. There is no other institution - period!

Reject this truth and you not only reject centuries of wisdom, but you will find yourself in rebellion against God! You may be accepted by your peers; you may be accepted by cheap friends; but I can assure you that you are not acting in your own best interest or the best interest of your family! You are asking for trouble in your life, and you are admitting that you do not care about the future of your children and grandchildren, **NOR ABOUT THE ECCLESIA OF GOD!!!**

Parents! Show interest in your children! Don't ignore them, and don't allow them to indulge in the modern "punk" fashions, or listen to the modern brainscrambling noise called "music" (yes, Dad, that includes your "cowboy" bar-room music). Don't encourage your children to emulate the perverts in Hollywood and on TV. Don't allow them to put up posters of Hollywood perverts/sodomites on their walls or on their Tee shirts. Don't stand idly by while your child uses the profane terms and street language and mannerisms they learn from the mind-rotting movies and the rock music slang. Don't encourage them to make fun of the decent children who try to stick to better morals. When I consider the modern liberal parents who tolerate these things, my spirit groans within me! They are destroying their children as well as our nations' future. Avoid them, and teach your family to avoid them. Don't allow the insanity that has infected them to infect your family! Love your family and help them to be virtuous ... so they will not lose their promise to a blessed, happy life. Don't let your family get hurt by immoral people.

Young people! Parents! **AVOID THOSE WHO PRACTICE IMMORALITY AND THEN TRY TO GET YOU TO**

JOIN THEM! STAY OUT OF THEIR CIRCLES! Let them practice their ways of death upon themselves. Don't let them use you. Don't let them influence your life. **BEWARE!** Evil ceases to seem evil when you've been near it too long!

Remember: children cannot grasp principles of moral standards at first! Parents cannot simply trust children and turn them loose. It takes the wisdom of years to grasp the seriousness of it. Sometimes it takes becoming a parent. Then, and only then, will they understand it.

But, kids don't have to understand - they just have to obey their parents, and parents must be responsible and diligent. **DO IT** for the sake of the next generation: Israel's Christian Heritage!

NEW BOOK

The Third Paradigm

Dr Mark A. Ludwig

We are living in an age in which great nations are failing. Once prosperous nations strive to hide their bankruptcy so they can continue their borrowing and spending. Once righteous nations now populate their highest posts with every kind of corruption. And ideals like freedom no longer seem to merit public discussion, even when laws are enacted that are a slap in the face to every friend of liberty and every thinking man. The failure we are experiencing is a paradigm failure - one that involves the very ideas upon which modern governments are founded. This book analyzes this failure in the light of scripture, taking a grand tour of history to look at past failures of a similar magnitude. Armed with this keen insight, you will understand how today's great failure can only be resolved by going back to the Bible for a model of civil government, which is the third paradigm. You will also learn just what this biblical model consists of, and see that it is not a model for the distant past or the future. Rather, it is something for real men in today's world.

God and Government in the 21st Century

#609 @ sug don \$22.50

(If you live in a particularly bad area, as far as your children are concerned. Consider moving where you and your children can grow together with other like-minded, home-schooling families, so that you can "come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean and I will receive you, And I will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." 1 Cor 6:17-18. **

(the above article in its original form is available as a reprinted pamphlet #801 @ \$2 for 2 copies)

**"FLIRTA
TION AND
FONDLING"**

from Husband and Wife (pg 88)

by Dr Lyman B. Sperry (copyright 1900)

The period of courtship needs most careful guarding against insincerity, deception and flirtation. It is worse than downright meanness for young people to trifle with each other in matters of such importance as love and marriage. A flirt, male or female, is worse than an ordinary thief. Flirting is mental adultery; it is a foe to morality.

During the period of courtship young people need to be guarded against undue intimacy of association. The tendency with lovers, both genuine and spurious, is to indulge in close bodily contact and physical expressions of endearment. For this purpose they wish to be much by themselves, entirely unobserved. It is a dangerous practice, and parents and guardians who consider the best interests of their children and proteges will not allow habitual and protracted seclusion on the part of young couples during this sentimental, impressible and important age.



No girl or young woman should permit an admirer to spend much time with her where no other human eye can see (God is always present!). She never should allow him to embrace and kiss her or fondly hold her hand or toy with any portion of her body. She should not permit herself to sit on his lap or nestle closely against him in the seductive hammock, the convenient carriage, or on the tempting sofa. Such intimacy between the young endangers, to some extent, not only their physical and mental development, but their moral character as well. Through such conduct during the years of adolescence, sexuality is almost certain to be over-stimulated, amorousness unduly cultivated, and lust developed and made chronic. Indeed, virtue and chastity are seriously endangered by excessively intimate association.

It is a sad fact that by undue familiarity the delicate bloom of purity is brushed from the cheek of the character; the young woman, though she remain a virgin, is soiled and mussed by overmuch handling; she becomes 'shop-worn' or 'second-hand goods' and, by the world's best judges, is invoiced at a discount.

Let every young woman, in her relations to every man, always conduct herself as if it were certain that the relation is but transient, and that by and by she is to become the wife of some other man - a man so noble and true that he can accept in a wife nothing short of chastity of body and purity of mind and heart, together with an unstrained and unclouded record. Let every young man conduct himself toward every young woman as he would have other men conduct themselves toward the one who is some day to become his wife.

Indiscretion easily soils the character, and imperceptibly leads to sin. ** (dancing - holding someone not your wife or husband can also lead to moral problems, and/or divorce!)

Where distance is a problem, young people can establish contact with other like-minded young people through the mail. With letters, both parents can keep an eye on what is being discussed, and at a later time they may progress to occasional phone calls. But contact between young people is critical if you wish to avoid them making close contact with worldly people! Remember that.

Courtesy *The American Christian*, Box 740 Grangeville ID 83530

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 Cultural Rebellion against God, II:
**DENIAL OF ECCLESIASTICAL
 AND FAMILIAL AUTHORITY**
Timothy D. Terrell

Cultural Rebellion against Authority

Modern culture has a warped view of authority. In some instances moderns grant nearly infinite powers to one institution (usually the state), while in other cases individual authority seems to be of paramount importance. We know that God has ordained at least three authority-holding institutions: the family, the church (Ecclesia), and the state. The

Westminster Confession of Faith warns against opposition to lawful authorities:

*"And because the powers which God hath ordained, and the liberty which Christ hath purchased, are not intended by God to destroy, but mutually to uphold and preserve one another; they who, upon pretense of Christian liberty, shall oppose any lawful power; or the lawful exercise of it, whether it be civil or ecclesiastical, resist the ordinance of God."*¹

Previously we have dealt with a small part of the problem of undue powers being granted to the state. Here we will consider our culture's rebellion against the church and the family.

Denial of the Church's Authority

Rebellion against the church takes many forms. An extremely common form of that rebellion in our modern culture is the rejection of Biblical Church discipline. Most churches are so afraid of inciting rebellion that they refuse to administer discipline, and thus forsake one of the marks of the true church.

The church itself has contributed to its own impotence. Several years ago my wife and I were visiting a certain large Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), that we knew had dropped the ball on disciplinary issues. As two teenage girls joined the church that morning, I saw part of the reason why. An elder, with the PCA's *Book of church Order* in his hand, "read" the question, "Do you submit yourselves to the government and encouragement of this church?" I had been in the PCA long enough to know that the word "encouragement" had been substituted for "discipline." Members of that church could easily have been unaware that discipline was part of the church's responsibility!

The church has cast off its own authority in many ways, some subtle, some not. A certain "seeker-friendly" church-chain has rejected pulpits as too imperious, and pastors refrain from holding a Bible while preaching because it appears too authoritative.² Even in Reformed denominations, it is common for preachers to eschew clerical robes or even a coat and tie. Black robes, more common in Presbyterianism, signify authoritative teaching. While there is nothing necessarily wrong with preaching in jeans and a polo shirt, formal attire of any sort encourages respect and conveys a sense of the high office of those called to preach with authority. (even the listeners should wear appropriate attire, remembering that they are in God's presence. An audience with the Queen or the President of the US, would most likely not be done in jeans and a polo shirt!)

Denial of the Father's Spiritual Authority

With the church willing to play down or even negate its own authority, can it be surprising that those under its teaching mimic its reluctance to lead? Husbands and fathers no longer act as masters over their own families, but allow their wives to assume the leadership functions. Fathers and mothers alike permit their children to wander aimlessly in a cultural morass.

As husbands and fathers neglect their role as spiritual heads, the church stands willing to coddle them, not exhort them to perform. Modern developments such as

NEW TAPES:

Rocky Mountain Family Bible Camp 2000

AC-2001 **The Hypocrites Prayer**, *Kenny Anderson*: a fresh look at what is "commonly" called The Lord's Prayer.

AC-2002 **An Example For Youth**, *Kenny Anderson*: Christ, perfect model for us in His youth.

AC-2003 **The Daddy or The Dictator**, *Kenny Anderson*: principles of leadership applied to fatherhood, and any other sphere of influence.

AC-2004 **Youth Night Comedy Skit**, *Kenny Anderson and Peter J. Peters*.

AC-2005 **The Drugging & Killing of Our People**, *Ken Anderson*: drugs, sorcery, witchcraft, and the practice thereof.

sug don \$5ea or **\$20 for all 5**



Sunday school classes and women's Bible studies, while not bad in themselves, have soothed the consciences of men who will not teach their families at home.

Because God works redemptively in whole families, evangelistic activities ought to be directed toward whole families, and particularly husbands and fathers.³ Evangelistic activities targeted toward children, while certainly not prohibited by Scripture, can encourage a decapitated view of the family if heads of households are not also being called to faith in Christ Jesus and obedience to God's Word. Children, evangelize your parents? If this is the primary strategy for spreading the gospel, something is wrong with our view of the family.

Husbands and fathers seeking to lead their families Biblically will face disapproval and outright attacks from all quarters. Our culture hates godly male leadership, and takes every opportunity to tear it down.

Denial of Paternal Authority in Marriage

For centuries, writers of love stories have incorporated the disapproving father into the plot as a barrier that must be overcome before the couple can be married. In a way, this is appropriate. The father is sometimes required to protect a child from an injudicious match.

Yet it seems that most love stories in this vein portray the father as a selfish, obstinate troll who lives to keep his lovesick daughter as a perpetual housemaid. Such caricatures, which flagrantly mock paternal authority in marriage, say much about our culture.

In an excellent defense of the necessity of parental consent in marriage, Francis Turretin contends against the Roman view on clandestine marriages or monastic vows. Arguing partially from the Fifth Commandment, Turretin writes that honor to parents:

"... consists principally in the obedience due to them and since it is to be rendered in all things 'in the Lord,' ... marriage cannot be excepted, which is of so great importance to settling the condition and fortune of the whole life and which, as the most difficult thing, exceeds the age, understanding, and judgment of children. How can they be said to obey them in all things, who in the most momentous case pay no regard to them?"⁴

Passages such as Exodus 22:16-17 and 34:16, Deuteronomy 7:3, Jeremiah 29:6 and 1 Corinthians 7:38 make little sense unless they are predicated upon a father's authority in a child's marriage. Numbers 30:4, which empowers a father to make void a daughter's vow, might apply to marriage vows as well. As Turretin puts it, "If a vow, which is a promise made to God, comes under the parental will, how much more a promise made to men?"

Questions about the conditions under which a father might "veto" a marriage are not easy to answer, but the modern culture hardly acknowledges his role. In most weddings, fathers have become an expected tuxedoed ornament, rather than performing the necessary function of transferring covenantal headship on that occasion. In many wedding ceremonies, the traditional question, "Who gives this woman to be married to this man?" meets with the modernized response from the front row, "Her mother and I do." One wonders what would occur if the father were to respond: "As this match goes against my better judgment, no one gives this woman in marriage."⁵

Contentions Between Church and Family

If it were not enough that individuals rebel against God-

ordained authority of family and church, the two institutions increasingly do not act "mutually to uphold and preserve one another" but instead rebel against God's boundaries for each.

Even in Reformed circles there is often little deference to family authority in matters regarding their children. Not too long ago, a PCA minister in Georgia, with the backing of his sessions, agreed to officiate in a wedding to which the Christian father of the bride strenuously objected.

Families likewise reject Biblical authority structures sometimes rebelling against ecclesiastical authority, on other occasions surrendering family functions to the church. Some parents refuse to have their children baptized, thus cutting little ones off from the people of God.⁶ Other parents neglect family worship and the continual instructing of their children in the Christian faith, assuaging their guilt with the thought that Sunday school classes or youth groups or summer camp or short-term missions trips will satisfy those obligations.

The State against Church and Family

Contentions between family and church are harmful partly because they distract both institutions from a much

more intrusive enemy - the state. This is perhaps best seen in the state's usurpation of various welfare functions from the church and the family. Ultimately, the modern state seeks to subjugate all other institutions. In a well-known current case, a Baptist church in Indianapolis asserted that it should not be made a tax collector for the state (by withholding from its staff) and found itself confronted with the threat of armed force [they had previously sought and obtained 501(C)3 tax-exemption, thus becoming a state-ruled corporation, CIM]. Families are undermined by a thousand state interventions, ranging from income, property, and inheritance taxes to truancy

laws, welfare, and Social Security. Legislative and judicial attacks on biblical practices such as homeschooling, corporal punishment and adoption further weaken the family.

The continuing assault on the family requires a concerted, Biblical response by Christians. It should include a re-evaluation of the church's approach to the family, as well as efforts to remind the civil magistrate of the Biblical limits on his jurisdiction.

1. *The Westminster Confession of Faith*, Ch 22, sec 4.
2. But see Titus 2:15.
3. See Genesis 17:7-14; Acts 2:38,39; 11:14; 16:15; 16:31
4. Francis Turretin, *Institutions of Elenctic Theology*, vol.2 (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 1994), 108
5. Furthermore, the modern response further dilutes the father's headship as his wife shares the vestigial practice of giving away the bride. Nowhere in Scripture is the mother's consent required.
6. See Genesis 17:14. **

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THE DARK AGES DEFINED

by R. J. Rushdoony

The term "Dark Ages" or "Dark Age" is of recent

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Lawrence Blanchard

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radio: Capt, Israel - Judah - Jew

B-411 Praise, Joy & Fellowship -

radio: Capt, Joseph of Arimathea

B-412 The Curse (2) -

radio: Capt, The Resurrection Tomb

David Barley



usage. Not long after the French Revolution, it was used by historians to define the period after the fall of the Roman Empire to the Renaissance. They soon realized that the centuries that produced the cathedrals, the universities, scholasticism, and more could hardly be called "dark," and so the terms "middle ages" or "medieval era" were invented. "Middle" meant between the fall of Rome and the Renaissance. For these men any kind of Christian era was a lapse between Roman and modern humanistic statism. "Dark Ages" was used for a time to refer to the time immediately after the fall of Rome. Those times were "dark" because Christianity had succeeded.

For Christians, the term "Dark Ages" is wrong, and "medieval" not too much better. A *dark age* is an age without Christ, and we must say that we are drifting into such an era all over the world. Most revelatory of that have been public schools, films, television, and the impeachment trial of President Clinton in early 1999. In the trial, only one Senator referred to the Biblical Law against adultery, and that citation was brief and cautious. Any examination of current events shows that we are drifting from a Christian culture to a humanistic, statist one.

Imposing structures are no evidence of faith or freedom. The pyramids of Egypt, the imposing buildings of Rome, and the same emphasis on power in other cultures gave more evidence of tyranny than light. The world of our day gives more evidence of the vainglory of the taxing state than anything else.

This means that the church cannot be the chaplain to an anti-Christian order. The United States has a chaplain for Congress, but its Supreme Court has virtually outlawed the influence and application of Christianity in national life. England has a state church, but the lowest percentage of practising believers of any religion. Sweden, Germany, and other countries have state churches and no prevailing Christianity. And so it goes everywhere.

We are now moving into a dark age the world over, and few seem concerned. All too many churches that claim to believe the Bible reject its law, which constitutes much of the Bible. Sinning public officials have cited the belief that the law is dead as justification for adultery.

The heart of any culture is its law. The law defines what is right and wrong, and where ultimate authority rests. The modern state sees itself as the definer, not God. The church, in the process of its modernism and its antinomianism, has in effect conceded to the state the power to make law. In the U.S., the Ten Commandments have been barred from state schools, and moral and social authority have been reserved to the state. The church is too often better at teaching good citizenship than Biblical Faith. The marks of a dark age are appearing all around us.

Basic to any society is *faith and obedience*. The two are inseparable; we cannot speak of a consistently lawless man as a man of faith. While professing a desire to live under God's Law, while failing to tithe, this man is consistently lawless. His contempt for law is a mark of his contempt for the Lawgiver, God. Present day culture is marked by a contempt for law and in the churches this contempt is called faith. Churches, as a result, increasingly see their youth imi-

tating the world. The practical cathedrals of the modern era are not only its public schools and state buildings, but also its huge prisons.

Christians must live under God's Law - all of it, and they must apply it to every area of life and thought. Some churches reject God's Law until the millennium, which is to say that they reject Christ as King. In fact, in some "Bible believing" churches it is held to be wrong to see Christ as King. Is it any wonder that we are losing? To say that Jesus Christ is our Saviour but not our King is to say that He and His Law do not command us, which means that the state's plan of salvation does.

Perhaps you want to live in a Dark Age; you find God's Law distasteful, and want Jesus Christ as your Saviour, not your Lord. If so, be content with the world around you. But, if not, believe in and apply God's Law. For to see the Lord as our Saviour and Lawgiver is truly to believe in Him. It means that we are not a part of the realm of darkness, but the people of Light.**

"LET MEN THEIR SONGS EMPLOY"

by Rev Mark R. Rushdoony

I was pleased recently when I learned that the favourite hymn of the late Dr. Greg Bahnsen was "*Joy To The World*" by Isaac Watts. I am also very fond of that carol. The majesty of its lyrics, in combination with its uplifting and assertive tune, combine to present the claims of Christ to the world in a magnificent way. It is truly a moving sermon in an unforgettable presentation. We must never relegate music to anything less than a central part of life and worship. The Scriptures repeatedly tell us that we are to **sing unto the Lord**. We are told that the creation itself rejoices and sings out at the presence of the Lord (1 Chr 16:32-33). When I was in high school, my church often sang Psalm 150 which com-

mands the praising of God with trumpet, psaltery, harp, stringed instruments, timbrels, cymbals and Organs. It concludes, "*Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.*" [in fact in Europe, this verse is inscribed on many organs, as they are blown with the same air - breath - that we breathe] To the Psalmist, music was not a form of abstract expression. This robs it of the clear context of praise that Scripture puts it in. God does not want our abstract praise. Neither is music to be seen as merely a technical procedure or it loses its vitality and relevance for most people.

Scripture sees music as a necessary response of joy to God's majesty and grace. Not only the angels and the creation, but we His creatures must sing His praises. "*Joy to the earth! the saviour reigns. Let men their songs employ,*" Isaac Watts wrote. But if praise is an inevitable part of music, it must also be a necessary part of all life. Our response to God must display itself in all of life, for the totality of our life and being finds its meaning in Him. When Isaac Watts wrote, "*Joy to the World,*" he expressed the glory of the birth, and gave testimony of the person and work of Jesus Christ that reaches millions still.

We tend to like the music we grew up with. It became part of us in our youth. It is a form of self-identification as

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- S-886 Prophecy, Power, Destruction & Deliverance (2)
- S-887 Prophecy, Power, Destruction & Deliverance (3)
- S-888 Prophecy, Power, Destruction & Deliverance (4)
Peter J Peters



well as a form of communication and expression. If God **demand**s music in His worship and there is music before the throne of God, certainly its value to man and his life cannot be legitimately marginalized. Those who refuse to sing, defy God!

As John Calvin wrote in 1543, "*As for public prayers, there are two kinds: the one consists simply of speech, the other of song ... And, indeed, we know from experience that singing has great strength and power to move and to set on fire the hearts of men in order that they may call upon God and praise Him with a more vehement and more ardent zeal. It is to be remembered always that this singing should not be light or frivolous, but that it ought to have weight and majesty [that is why organs form ideal accompaniment to singing], ... Now what Augustine says is true, namely that no one can sing anything worthy of God which he has not received from Him. Therefore, even after we have carefully searched everywhere, we shall not find better or more appropriate songs to this end than the Psalms of David, inspired by the Holy Ghost. And for this reason, when we sing them, we are assured that God puts the words in our mouth, as if He himself were singing through us to exalt His glory....*"

(order your **Christian Identity Psalter** today, and start learning to sing the Psalms to God's praise! #708 @ \$20.90)

"THE LEAST OF THESE IS WORTH MORE THAN YOU MAY THINK"

by Rev Monte E. Wilson III

In the early days of my ministry, my Dad and I had a running argument regarding how to relate to churches, especially concerning financial matters. Dad, a Southern Baptist pastor, thought my love and honour for the brethren commendable but also thought it void of discernment and wisdom. I then would accuse him of cynicism (which was not true) and would lament how sad it was that he had never met the sort of people that I was serving. - Little did I know.

I remember one time I had just agreed to pastor a particular church and was asking Dad for counsel. He told me that I needed a written contract with the elders that would spell out financial agreements, job requirements and such things. I was shocked. These were covenant friends whose "word was their bond." These "friends" orally agreed to a severance package that they later decided not to give me. "Hey, it wasn't written down so we are not going to pay you. Can't afford it anyway." While my Dad was no longer living by the time this occurred, I could still hear him telling me, "I told you so."

There was one occasion when I was deeply hurt by a church. I began wondering where God had been, why He had not defended me and cared for my family. His wisdom came to me through the metaphor of a joke.

Have you heard the one about the guy who refused to leave his house, even though his neighbourhood was sinking beneath a flood? There were warnings over the television and radio telling everyone to head for shelters and higher ground. He thought to himself, "God will take care of me." Then there were the police who went door to door telling people to run and seeing if anyone needed help doing so. He told them that God would take care of him. Hours later a man in a boat came by, saw our guy on his roof, and offered to whisk him away, but the man shook his head no and said, "God will take care of me." Finally, still sitting on his roof with the water lapping up around his feet, a helicopter came, let down a rope and the pilot yelled, "Grab on, we'll save you!"

A few moments later, standing before St Peter, the man was shocked. "Where was God?" He had trusted God to save him and here he was standing before the pearly gates. St Peter said, "Hey, listen to me, we tried to save you. We

sent warnings, we sent the police, we sent a man in a boat ... we finally sent a helicopter but you refused all of the help!"

God continually sent me men and circumstances to teach me to be wiser, but I was hard-headed and immensely naïve. "The church will act honourably. God will take care of me." After being run over by more boards and committees than I care to remember, I began listening to the police and helicopter pilots that God had been sending my way all those years.

Yes, God will take care of me. He will send me experiences that give me wisdom. He will give me opportunities to make wise financial arrangements. He will give me the boldness to tell people what I am worth and if they disagree we do not have to work together. He will give me the needed understanding and patience in teaching people what God expects of them regarding how they are to care for His servants. He will remind me of my obligation to provide for my family - which includes college education for my children, savings for future needs, retirement and other concerns - and that to knowingly allow people to rob my family was *not* virtuous on my part, but sinful.

Our churches are made up of people of various degrees of maturity. Even with the best of intentions, these people are often ignorant as to how to properly care for a minister. If the minister doesn't show them how to do this and graciously insist that these people appropriately honour the office and care for the man whom God has sent, then they will continue to abuse ministers. Consequently, they will also continue to displease the Lord of the Church.

Understandably, most of the lightning and thunder today is all about Rogue Reverends: Jimmy Swaggart this, Jim Bakker that. As Paul said, teachers incur stricter judgment. Fine. But the fact remains that the vast majority of ministers are good men who love God and are doing their best to care for their charges. Sadly, those whom, they are serving are abusing many of these good men.

SINFUL NEGLECT

Most often the abuse comes in the form of neglect. For example, how often do we genuinely praise our ministers? This is especially so in the case of those leaders who exude great confidence. People either think, "He certainly doesn't need any encouragement" or, worse, "We had better remind this guy of his frailties or he'll get a big head." This may come as a shock to some of you; but believe me, the typical minister is ridiculed and condemned on a daily basis: he doesn't need anyone to *purposefully* "keep him humble." What he does need are people who inspire him toward deeper love and great works.

Another form of neglect is when the church fails to see to it that their pastor is not putting on too many hats, *seeking to fill too many roles*. How often is the pastor, the associate pastor, the youth director, the counselor, the Bible teacher, the maker of disciples, the Sunday School director, Sunday School teacher, head of missions, plumber, lawn boy, and taxi cab driver - and all for the low, low salary of one employee! Of course, this doesn't include all the roles his wife is expected to fulfill for free.

Along these same lines, there is also the abuse of unspoken and, most often, unrealistic expectations. (Thus, the need for written job descriptions). Such expectations run the gamut from what ministry-model he should adopt, to how he should or shouldn't dress, from how many new members he should bring in every year, to whom he must speak to after church services every Sunday. Most every member has expectations of his pastor



that the pastor is unaware of and yet is constantly expected to fulfill. The leaders of the church should make it clear from the beginning of the pastor's tenure: this is what he *will* do, this is what he will *not* do ... until further notice.

I have been in the ministry for 30 years. I have known and worked with hundreds of ministers from about every evangelical tradition there is. After all these years, I can name three men who went to their boards and asked them to *stop* giving pay raises because they were being paid far more than what was appropriate. Almost every other minister I know struggles financially from month to month to survive. Amazingly, many of these men could easily make three times more money in another profession, but they are utterly committed to serving their charges. Tragically, rather than churches rewarding such devotion, they take advantage of it. And this may be one of the cruelest yet most common forms of abuse throughout the church.

Let's just look at one of the minister's responsibilities: Do you know how much effort goes into constructing a sermon? No, it is not hours or even hours upon hours. It is months and years. It wasn't merely ten hours your minister studied for this week's sermon. He has been studying for weeks, months, and years; and this is what made it possible for him to spend only ten hours on this message. Further, did you know that the amount of energy it takes to deliver one sermon is often the equivalent of eight hours of digging ditches? And how many sermons does your minister deliver each week? Your pastor expends far more energy for far less financial reward than you have realized.

When that guest speaker came and your church gave him \$150 for the morning, the amount of time it took for him to travel, prepare his message, pray for and counsel your lonely pastor, meant that he barely received \$5 an hour. How many other men with graduate degrees, who work the amount of hours this man does, do you know who earn so little money?

If Jesus Christ were the minister, these people would do everything in their power to lavish Him with care. Sadly, what these people haven't remembered is the passage of Scripture that says, "Inasmuch as you did it *not* for the least of these, you did it *not* to me" (Matt 24:45).**

Cultural Rebellion Against God
RISK, KNOWLEDGE, AND REGULATION
by Timothy D. Terrell
God Takes No Risks

Though Christians are quick to profess God's omniscience, we are slow to recognize the enormous consequences of this attribute. God has never learned anything.¹ He has always known everything that has been, is, and ever will be, in the minutest detail. He knows everything, from the number of electrons spinning in the atoms that make up our bodies to the thoughts you will be having five years from this moment.

Since there is nothing unknown to God, and since He is sovereign over all things, God does not take risks. He faces no uncertainties. We can have absolute confidence in Him that He will accomplish all His purposes.

Man, on the other hand, because he is finite in knowledge and power, faces uncertainty. There are ways to reduce risk, and a Christian will take steps to reduce unnecessary risk.² Yet it is impossible to eliminate all risks, and our culture's attempts to do so are ultimately pretences at the

knowledge and power of God. Retreating from one small hazard, without humbly recognizing our limited knowledge, often results in our backing into another, more serious hazard. If we instead recognize that only God is able to act risklessly, then we will understand that the ***surest way to reduce our overall risk is to obey God's Word!***

The Scarcity of Economic Knowledge

Those who fail to recognize the scarcity of knowledge and of physical resources will self-confidently attempt the impossible. Among the offenders are economists, who have typically downplayed the scarcity of their own knowledge and refused to acknowledge an omniscient God.

In the 1930s, the British economist John Maynard Keynes gained international renown by giving an economic justification for what politicians had already begun doing -- actively intervening in the economy to eliminate recessions. His well-timed work resulted in decades of data gathering, computer modelling, and bureaucrats' machinations. Yet all the activity was futile at best, and dreadfully injurious at worst. Political meddling could never succeed because it presupposed an omniscient state. As Keynes contemporaries Ludwig von Mises and F.A. Hayek were to point out, the knowledge necessary to run an economy is not measurable or comprehensible by any government. Even if the Keynesian system "worked," Keynesians' attempts to

reduce the risk of recessions introduced a far greater hazard - a vastly more powerful centralized civil government with practically unlimited authority to intervene for the sake of economic stabilization.

Risky Regulation

This is precisely why it is dangerous to entrust civil government with the responsibility of attacking daily hazards with regulation. Perhaps because the civil magistrate cannot have the information about risks to make wise decisions, perhaps because of the fallen nature of those who would enforce the law, Biblical Law bars the civil magistrate from most regulation. Attempts to eliminate safety hazards, health risks, or environmental destruction through regulation only tend to multiply the problems.

A classic example is the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) regulation, which specifies the minimum average miles per gallon that each automobile manufacturer must achieve for its fleet. This may reduce Americans' gasoline consumption, but the cost is immense human suffering. One way to meet CAFE requirements is to reduce the weight of automobiles. However, lighter cars tend to be less crashworthy and many people have died in car accidents as an indirect result of the regulation. A 1989 Harvard/Brookings study estimated that CAFE standards have increased motor vehicle fatalities by 14 to 27 percent, which comes out to 2,000 to 4,000 deaths every year. Yet, far from retracting their support of the law, environmentalists have advocated raising the minimum MPG standard again to avoid global warming.³

Environmentalists are perhaps the worst contributors today to overall human risk. Promoting various regulations that purport to protect humanity from various highly speculative or miniscule risks, environmentalist groups frequently expose us to greater hazards. Not least among these increased risks is that of an intrusive civil state.



Some environmentalists hold to the “precautionary principle:” the idea that all technologies should be rejected that *might* be harmful, whether or not they are actually proven to be harmful. What about precaution with respect to granting power to the civil magistrate? We know that government acting outside its Biblical limits is harmful, yet men seem willing to accept the risk of tyranny and massive physical suffering if only the civil government will take on the responsibility of eliminating a host of small risks.

Not only do environmental regulations often exchange a small risk for a much larger one, but some environmentalists seem to have abandoned the reduction of risk for humans as a major goal. Moving toward outright nature-worship, they pass up even enormous advances in human well-being to acquire a nugatory environmental benefit. Environmentalists have supported the EPA’s 28-year-old ban on the wonder pesticide DDT because of its supposed risk to human health and to wild birds. The results of the law border on genocide. When used in moderation (and not dropped by the ton from WWII bombers, as was sometimes done), the human and environmental risks were slight. Because of worldwide bans on DDT, however, millions of people have suffered serious illnesses and died. In Sri Lanka, mosquitoes had been so effectively controlled by DDT that malaria declined from 2.8 million cases in 1946 to only 110 cases in 1961. In the early 1960s, the Sri Lankan government prohibited DDT, after which the number of malaria cases rose dramatically, to 2.5 million annually by the end of the decade. In developing nations worldwide, about 3 million children under five years of age die each year from malaria.

Environmentalists usually don’t restrict their skepticism of Biblically limited government to matters regarding care of the Earth. Politicians like Ralph Nader, for example, combine visions of hazard-free living with clean-Earth rhetoric. Well-meaning “consumer advocates” and other groups can easily become enraptured with the fantasy of a risk-free world as they lobby for stricter product safety laws, workplace safety regulations, or the like.

The result is a riskier world, even in the short run. However, regulators, narrowly focused on reducing risk in their tiny area of relative expertise, cannot or will not see the destruction they cause in other areas. One health hazard may be reduced by a regulation that increases other types of health risks. Or, a lower rate of accidents is accompanied by a greater risk of government tyranny.

The examples are legion. Safety regulators who insisted that children’s pyjamas be made resistant to flame failed to note that the chemical used to treat the fabric may cause cancer. The regulation requiring child-resistant medicine bottle caps, one study shows, actually resulted in 3500 additional poisonings of children under age five annually from aspirin-related drugs as consumers have been lulled into a less-safety conscious mode of behavior by the existence of the safety caps.⁴ Restrictions on gun ownership intended to reduce the risk of accidental death or misuse now create two risks: 1) occasions arise in which the presence of a gun would have prevented death or injury, or 2) the government becomes tyrannical, and a disarmed people are victimized. A law requiring infants to be strapped into safety seats while travelling by air may reduce children’s deaths in airplane crashes, but because some parents cannot afford the additional ticket, more families will travel on the highway and incur a far more serious risk.

When it becomes obvious that many risks are associated with poverty, wealth redistribution inevitably becomes part of The Plan for health, safety, and environmental regulators. For many, it is a comfortable fit ideologically. As economist Walter Williams astutely noted, “Now that communism and socialism have lost all respectability, ... in general those people who have those inclinations have changed their agenda and call themselves environmentalists.” And consumer product safety advocates, we might add.

But God’s Law - Today?

When we pretend omniscience, our concerns should include not only increased earthly hazards, but the certainty of God’s judgment on those who reject the source of all knowledge. Increases in earthly risks are merely the downpayment on God’s judgment on covenant-breakers.

Even Christians who have respect for Scripture sometimes second-guess God by asserting that His instructions for civil government can’t be correct, because that would mean that the environment would be destroyed or that people would be hurt by defective products. If God had been aware of the risks of living on the Earth today, it is implied, surely He would have changed His law to allow civil government to intervene. The God of the Bible, however, has never

changed, never learned. From the beginning He knew not only His whole Law, but every actual and every possible application of His Law for all time. He laid it down perfectly, without need to wonder how it would be interpreted in AD2001. Because God’s Law is perfectly suited for all time, obeying it is always the best policy.

1. Isaiah 40:13,14
2. Ecclesiastes 11:2
3. See Ben Lieberman, “Deadly Light Card,” The Freedman (April 1999).
4. See W. Kip Viscusi, “The Lulling Effect: The Impact of Child-Resistant Packaging on Aspirin and Analgesic Ingestions,” American Economic Review (May 1984): 324-327.**

Courtesy Chalcedon Report, Box 158 Vallecito CA 95251-9989

WHAT MAKES PRICES RISE?

Is the Federal Reserve Note (“US Dollar”) [we could say our Australian Reserve Bank Note] shrinking? Each year our money buys less and less. A house that cost \$20,000 in 1970 now costs \$80,000. That’s a 400% increase. In 1970, a new car cost \$5,000. Today a comparable car costs \$20,000 - again, it takes four times as many Notes as it took thirty years ago. In 1970 a husband alone could provide a better living for a household than both husband and wife can provide today. Prices continue to rise each year. Is this happening because money is losing value?

This steady increase in the price of things has continued so long that we have become accustomed to it. We take it for granted. Indeed, we expect it ... as if it were the working of some immutable economic principle. It seems to be a natural feature of US economy. As sure as “death and taxes,” the mere passing of time brings a rise in prices. No one seems to know exactly why the passing of time should force prices to rise. But it does. Like the increase in one’s age, the increase in prices seems to be

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driven by the chronometer.

Economists and politicians tell us this phenomenon is the result of "INFLATION." They tell us that "inflation" erodes the buying power of the dollar by causing it to depreciate year by year. Most patriots seem to agree with this statement.

This mystery is apparently accepted by the masses. They don't understand it .. they just accept it because the politicians, economists, and university professors tell them it is true. "Inflation" is the official culprit, say the "experts." But, before you accept that official explanation you should finish reading this article.

"Inflation" is defined as "too many dollars chasing too few goods." In other words, "inflation" occurs when banks issue too much currency into circulation, causing an imbalance in the ratio between the volume of currency and the volume of goods to be purchased with that currency. This imbalance creates an "inflated" money pool (i.e. too much money in circulation). When too many "dollars" find their way into circulation they begin to compete for the goods to be purchased ... in effect bidding up the prices. This causes the dollar to lose value against the goods it is purchasing.

In an inflated economy prices are not the only things affected. Wages rise, unemployment disappears, and Wall Street explodes ... at least for a while. Compare this to the effects of a depression - the opposite of inflation. A depression occurs when the money supply is too low. In a depression, prices fall. However, people can't buy much because money is too scarce. In 1929, US banks pulled too many dollars out of circulation and caused "the Great Depression." Wages dropped, people couldn't find work, and Wall Street shut down. To cure the problem banks and government had to start putting more money back into circulation. It took a few years, but the depression ended when the money supply was adequate to facilitate commerce.

Inflation is certainly possible. In fact there are instances in history where inflation did lower the value of a national currency. However, inflation puts banks out of business, so bankers usually see to it that it doesn't happen. The Great Depression of the 30's was an orchestrated take-over of banking by the large commercial banks. The small banks went out of business, and the big banks conspired to take and keep control of the nation's money system.

Inflation is caused by too much currency in circulation, and it is cured by removing the extra currency out of circulation. Money is removed from circulation by two methods: by taxing it out of circulation, and by slowing down the creation of money through bank lending. (see **The Goldsmith and The Temple of The Thirteen Suns**, #499 @ \$2 for 5). Thus, the remedy for inflation is not to raise prices, but rather to extract the excess money out of circulation. It is simple! Banks purport to do this by raising interest rates.

But this does not answer what has been happening to our money in our lifetimes. Instead of curing inflation by restoring the balance of currency and goods, bigger imbalances have been created by raising prices and taxes. The prices and taxes never go back down to their former levels! Prices and taxes go up, but do not go down. If these hikes were being caused by inflation the prices would go up and down in correspondence with the balance between money and goods. But that has not been happening. When in your lifetime has the dollar's buying power reversed, causing it to purchase more goods for a sustained period? We have not seen such a reversal in this trend since the Great Depression of the 30s.

As you know, anytime the cost of gasoline, cars, housing, etc. has fallen a little, it doesn't last. Within a few weeks it comes back with a vengeance. Something insidious is at work in this nation causing an inexorable increase in prices and taxes. It isn't answered by the official excuse of "inflation."

If inflation were the problem it could easily be addressed, could it not? It may take a few months, or even a few years to correct ... but it could be corrected. However, it has not been addressed. Nor is it being addressed even now. In fact, we have been trained to not expect it to ever be addressed. Thus, most of us simply shrug our shoulders and say, "It must be inflation!" And no one seems to know how to stop the erosion of our properties, our labour, and our liberties. We live in an era in which the only enterprises that prosper are the banks and the government ... or schemes tied in with banks and government.

So, who or what is to blame? What if "inflation" is not the real culprit? What if the real culprit is something else? And what if the real explanation is not so mysterious that no one can grasp it? What if you and even your children could understand the problem? And what if there were a real cure for the problem?

Sound impossible? Read on. There are three things which consistently move together - up or down. These three things increase or decrease in direct proportion to one another. They are: Prices, Taxes, and Government. These three are directly tied together. When one grows, the other two grow in direct proportion. When government grows, taxes go up, and merchants must raise their prices to pay their higher taxes.

Here, then, is the simple answer to the rise in prices. It is caused by the rise in taxes, which is caused by growth in government. This is how prices rise without "inflation."

Governments bring in taxes and fees both for revenue and for control of the citizens. When governments grow, taxes and fees grow. To pay those higher taxes and fees, merchants raise their prices. The consumers pay higher prices, and demand higher wages from their employers to meet their "cost of living." This perpetual cascade of extortion, from government down to the wage earner, repeats itself on a regular basis.

But what can we do about it? How can we stop this creeping death? How can we reverse the trend of wealth and power flowing away from the private sector over to the government?

The answer, and the cure, can be found only at the top of the food chain ... where the problem originates. Government, and the banks that control government, are the top of the food chain. They have been on a continuous feeding frenzy for several decades. They have grown fat and arrogant. To cure the problem, government must be placed on a restricted diet, and the people must stop doing business with the banks. The feed must be cut off. Cut off the feed and the monster shrinks. [but they introduced the GST to make it harder for you to do that; and also to increase what they take]

As long as the monster is allowed to feed to its heart's content it will never stop growing, and we will never stop donating our wealth and our lives to government instead of to our own families, and to Christ.**

TAXES: HOW MUCH DO YOU REALLY PAY?

by Don Stott

"The power to tax is the power to destroy."

Chief Justice John Marshall

The income tax was begun in 1913 as an amendment to the Constitution, ratified by far fewer than the legally required 36 states. (Government had operated without it for 130 years). Was it legal? ... a bit of theft from the extremely rich, whom politicians had decided, 'didn't need it'?

That was the idea, and like all government plans to steal, transfer, and subsidize, it has become a monumental



horror. Today, some corporations spend more on tax preparation than on any other single expense, including raw materials and labor. The IRS has become a social tool, the true "Elixir of Life" for the social manipulators and denizens of D.C.

When I was a teen, beginning work in the early fifties, Uncle Sam took less than 3% in income taxes, and only 1% out of the first \$3,000 in wages (that's \$30) for Social Security, totalling less than \$100 taxes a year for the average beginning worker.

According to an article in *The New Republic* of Dec 2, 1991, in 1948, a married couple with median income and two children, paid only 2% in state, federal, and Social Security taxes. In 1999, out of the first \$62,700 in wages, 15.3% was taken for Social Security, 2.9% more went to Medicare, and then about 30% more was taken for federal taxes if you were lucky. That is approaching 50%, on top of which there are hundreds of hidden taxes: taxes on every phone call you make, over 40 cents on every gallon of gas (petrol) you buy, luxury and excise taxes, and hundreds more at the federal level alone.

There are taxes on payroll, personal property, pensions, severance, Social Security, corporation stock transfer, tobacco, tonnage, transportation, utilities, accumulated earnings, advalorem, alcoholic beverages, amusements, apparel, business, capital gains, consumption, corporate income, dividends, employment, estate, excise, franchises, fuel, furnishings, gas, sales, gift, gross receipts, health care, holding company, income, inheritance, land, license, life insurance, luxuries, motor oil, motor vehicle, occupation, operators license, ... and the list of taxes go on and on. Sales taxes at the local level are usually four to eight times higher than when I was a youth, and property taxes, especially in the east, can be a couple of hundred dollars a month for a small ordinary home.

In 1916, the income tax code contained around 11,000 words. The 1996 version had over 7 million words: ten times the number of words in the Holy Bible.

In 1928, the income tax was 1.5% on any income over \$4,000 (the equivalent of \$100,000 income today). It has all happened so gradually that we haven't noticed it. The old frog-in-the-water story applies here. If you place a frog in a pot of cold water, and very gradually raise the heat to a boil, he won't notice the difference: a painless execution. If total taxes had gone from 3% to the current 75% all at once, people would have mutinied.

Yes, I said 75%! Think about it. Everything we buy, has all or some of the above-mentioned taxes glued onto its price. Ajax widgets are made in a factory somewhere, employing people whose wages are taxed. That factory pays fuel taxes, property taxes, and a hundred other taxes, which factor into the price of the widgets. Food and manufactured goods of all kinds have the makers' taxes included in their prices. A loaf of bread bought in a grocery store or bakery has property taxes for the farmer, bakery, garage for the delivery trucks, oil refinery, truck factory, tyre factory, and the factories for every single part in the truck, tractor, and various pieces of machinery that go into making and delivering the bread. There are taxes on the property and workers for the milling of the flour, egg producer, maker of yeast, milk, wrappers, slicers, ovens, electricity, and even the printers who print the wrappers, and ink that goes into them. All these factories, shippers, farmers, stores, etc. have labor and

property taxes as well as telephone, fuel, and a host of other taxes, all of which add to the cost of that single loaf of bread. One economist 30 years ago, said that a \$1.00 loaf of bread had \$0.95 in taxes. Then, on top of that, you pay your own taxes of Social Security, income, property, sales, telephone, etc. Is a 75% taxation estimate too low? I think so!

The National Taxpayer's Union says taxes have gone up 175,000% in the last 83 years. Taxes are THEFT, defined as obtaining someone else's property through force. Almost everyone is willing to be hurt, stolen from, or taxed a little, in order to accomplish a great good: a good such as catching thieves and punishing them, administering justice, or protecting our shores. But a point can finally be reached when we refuse, revolt, or at a minimum, cheat on our tax return. We may still harbor a love of what taxes should do, but deeply resent what they are doing: such as redistributing wealth, being used as a tool of the pig-headed politicians' ideas of social justice,

or other incongruous schemes. Upon realizing what tax money is being used for, most will do everything in their power to avoid the pestilence.

The consequence of taxes being levied on everyone and everything is that the average one-wage-earning family is rare, and almost extinct. We have become a virtual feudal society with the federal government as our "lord." Mum has to work, as does Dad, just to survive. So many taxes are hidden and obscured that most families actually believe they are working "to make ends meet," or raise their standard of living, when in fact they are working to pay the taxes. Taxes consume most of the primary income and the entire second income ... if all the hidden taxes are included. Many marriages go on the rocks because both parents have to work just to survive.

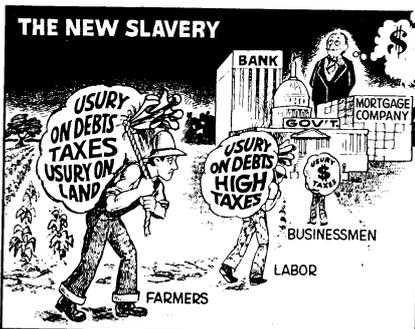
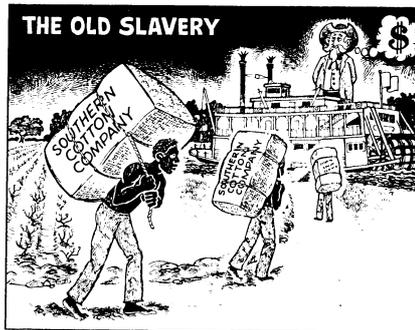
The consequences of the current tax system and the myriad of hidden taxes are, that poverty is widespread,

people can't seem to "get ahead," home ownership is impossible for many, marriages fail due to stress, and of course delinquency is common among those kids who do not come home to a mother, but may be classed as "latchkey" kids, or who may have to go to a daycare center. No one in his or her wildest dreams in 1913 could have envisioned what has happened to the size of government and the abuse poured on us by the IRS (Internal Revenue Service, the US tax office)

"The hardest thing to understand is the income tax." - Albert Einstein

Everything we buy costs more and more dollars, pesos, yen, francs, guilders, or marks. When I was a kid, a hundred dollar bill was a thrill to see, and now they are so common as to not even rate a second glance. The 13 cent hamburgers at McDonalds, and 25c carwashes, in 1962 have faded as snow in springtime. Hamburgers and car washes both cost exactly six times as much. (I think the average burger is more like \$4 today, CIM). And then taxes are about six times as high also, so no wonder that in my small town, in the year 2,000, foreclosures were six times as high. Ain't government grand? Let's see now, "... you can fool all of the people all of the time ..." or something like that.

As you can see, "We the people" have become finan-



cial slaves to our government. A long time ago in the Boston Harbor, some real men had the guts to dump tea overboard. This started a chain of events that broke us from bondage to England.

What are we going to do to break is from the bondage to our present day Government? The Government has become a monster. The Government does not serve the People. Rather, we serve the Government and have become its slaves (if you don't believe that, see who is the slave next time you get pulled over for not wearing a seat belt -CIM)

The IRS claims that over 30 million Americans have stopped filing Income Tax.**

(Comment by *Ben Williams*: Stott shows that "dollar-inflation" is not the reason for higher prices.

Sheldon Emry made a similar case back in the 1980s. He took on the role of the devil's advocate, so to speak, against the anti-paper-money groups. Their claim was that the form of money was what was important. They said that paper money inflates, but gold money (or gold-backed money) doesn't. This was their answer to rising prices.

Sheldon claimed that changing the form of the money would not cure the problem, and that people could be cheated with gold money the same as with paper money.

Then one day, a well-known publisher - an advocate of gold money - sponsored a meeting and invited most of the big names in the "gold money" movement. When Sheldon heard about the upcoming meeting he wrote the sponsor and offered to give a presentation titled "Paper Money is Not Losing Its Value." The sponsor agreed, and I'm sure he figured that Sheldon would be laughed off the stage.

Sheldon showed up at the meeting. When he got up to speak there were a few jeers at the beginning, but the sponsor rose and quieted the crowd, and soon everyone was listening with interest. When Sheldon finished his presentation and returned to his seat, the next speaker walked up to him and said: "Well, you just destroyed my whole speech. I have nothing to say now."

Sheldon's speech basically took the people through the same process as the above article by Stott, showing how modern prices were the result, not of "inflation," but of rising usury, rising taxes, rising fees, rising licenses, etc., etc.. Government theft and usury take more and more out of the dollar until there is not much of the dollar left to buy anything (like for instance, a home). The problem is not that the dollar is losing value. Rather, greater and greater portions of that dollar are being excised to pay for usury, taxes, fees, licenses, etc., etc., leaving a depleted, shrinking portion of the dollar to apply to the actual purchase. The dollar not only has to purchase the house, it also has to pay for all those added government and banking fees.

The government and the bankers are picking the bones of every dollar before it has a chance to be applied to the house. A house that cost \$50,000 dollars 30 years ago now costs \$200,000 ... of which \$150,000 pays for usury, taxes, fees, licenses, etc., etc. Take away the usury, taxes and fees and the dollar would still purchase the same as it did years ago.

As you can see, today more of the dollar goes to paying taxes, fees, etc., than to pay for the actual products we purchase. Needless to say, Sheldon's speech put a different spin on the meetings. I don't think he converted many of them, but he did force them to think. (I recommend Sheldon's tape series, **Should We Put Our Trust In Gold?** tapes A-7418-7420, and **The Utter Impossibility of Gold-backed Money** A-8022 - 4 tapes @ \$20 posted, and if you don't have one, get a copy of **Billions for the Bankers - Debts for The People**, Sheldon Emry #104 @ \$3 from CIM)

Why do abusive and unpopular agencies like the IRS (or the ATO) continue to exist in spite of the objection of the

people? They continue because they are backed by an overgrown, overbearing, overpaid, abusive government. As long as the beast has access to unlimited funds, it will continue to exercise unlimited power over its prey (the people).

Pray that our God will cause people to stop voluntarily supporting and nurturing this beast!

Courtesy *The American Christian*, PO Box 740 Granville ID 83530



5.3 *Why have the Indians of North America been so persecuted, robbed, and killed off, and why has the U.S. Government from George Washington to the present day kept breaking promises and treaties?*

I imagine the old Canaanites from Jushua to David asked the same questions. Our nation has indeed broken treaties, and God is judging us for that sin. However, the Indians were also known to break treaties as fast as they made them, too.

We must first recognize that GOD gave us this land, just as God gave Canaan to our ancestors. Secondly, the killing of Indians did not really begin until the Indians had killed many thousands of white settlers. Most Indian casualties were the result of the white man defending himself and his family from massacre and often torture.

Thirdly, under Indian common law it was understood that land claims were only valid while the immediate territory was occupied. It was understood that when a village or individual moved on, they had just one year to come back. After one year, the land was free for any one to claim and settle. Thus, the white settlers had legal claim to almost all of the land they settled, EVEN BY INDIAN COMMON LAW. North America was so sparsely populated by Indians that hardly 1% of it was ever legally claimed by Indians at any one time.

For the first 200 years or so, the Indians did not generally fight the white man over the ownership of land. They fought for plunder and for glory in battle that would distinguish them as being "great warriors" among their people. They certainly got what they fought for, and so "verily, they have their reward." It was not until the late 1700s that the white man finally began to learn how to fight "Indian style" (i.e., ambush villages and massacre everyone - men, women, and children. Today we call it "Genocide.") But whereas the whites did this only occasionally, genocide was standard policy for many Indian tribes. And, mind you, the motivation was almost always purely for plunder and personal glory.

So it was the white settlers who were persecuted, robbed, and killed off by the Indians, not the other way around. If it had not been for their greater population, the white settlers soon would have disappeared. (For more on this I suggest you write for your copy of **A LESSON IN CULTURE**, #159 @ \$2.)

5.4 *What does Christ or the Bible say about personally protecting ourselves in self-defence?*

The entire spirit of the Law of God promoted the idea of self-defence. In fact, that is the primary purpose in government. The Judgments of the Law were given for our defence against criminals.

Jesus' disciples needed no weapons while Jesus was



with them. But at the close of His ministry, Jesus instructed them: "When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye anything? And they said, No, nothing. Then said He unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip; and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in Me, And He was reckoned among the transgressors; for the things concerning Me have an end.. And they said, Lord, behold, here are two swords. And He said unto them, It is enough." (Luke 22:35-38).

In other words, because the people (gov't) had rejected Christ's Kingdom, they numbered Christ among the transgressors (accused Him of being a criminal, and later the disciples were accused as well). The principle is clear. As long as you are safe, you don't need a weapon. But when you see danger approaching, sell your clothing if need be, and buy a weapon.

But don't go overboard. Remember, two swords were enough for 12 disciples, for God was with them. (for more, see **EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT GUN CONTROL AND PREACHERS WERE AFRAID TO TELL YOU #054 @ \$3.30**)

5.5 1 John 3:15 says, "no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." Is murder a forgivable sin? Does this include abortions? Accessories to murder or abortion? Those causing death from pollution of air, earth, water, foods, and pharmaceuticals?

If earthly courts were enforcing God's Law, then in that sense, premeditated murder is not forgivable. We are to "take no satisfaction (substitution) for the life of a murderer," (Num 35:31), including those who commit abortion and who are accessories.

The sixth commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Kill," (literally "murder") certainly includes all of the above, including pollution, although in that case its practical application in earthly courts would have to be limited (as one has to prove pre-meditation for murder), or else we would all be executed. Keep in mind that violation of the commandments is never unforgivable in the ultimate sense (i.e., at the Great Judgment). King David committed murder and adultery (2 Sam 11), for which he repented, and yet he shall rule in God's Kingdom (Eze. 37:24,25).

1 John 3:15 was not speaking of our future reward so much as our present inward condition. We are to have this life abiding in us right now (by imputation, not by actual fact of being immoral now). Those who hate their brothers show by their actions and attitudes that they do not have this life abiding in them. This verse is actually a solemn warning, which we would all do well to heed.

Courtesy *America's Promise*, Box 157 Sandpoint ID 83864

HIV AND AIDS - An Update

Henry Hofmann

Congregations of Israel - West Virginia

In recent months, we have seen the matter of AIDS and HIV moved from the back burner to the front burner, as the media inundates us with the situation in Africa and appeals to our emotion for sympathy and financial help. At the last report, some 38 million people in sub-Saharan Africa either are HIV positive or have developed full-blown AIDS. Black leaders, and some of the more "liberal" white politicians are seeking massive amounts of US taxpayer funding and aid to help stem and alleviate the problem in Africa.

In spite of all the successes claimed by the churches in bringing the gospel to the heathens, it is becoming more and more obvious that in spite of their claims, they have failed most miserably. Perhaps it is because the Bible was written **for Israel only** and not for "all the world." Prostitution and

loose morals are essentially the problem in Africa in the spread of AIDS. Most of the tribal evaluations of women is that they are inferior to men and exist to serve men, in all categories. We never hear of the "National Association of Women (NOW) making any efforts to correct this matter in third-world countries.

While the major media has been exposing the situation in Africa, there has been little talk about what is happening here in the United States. And conditions in the US parallel and match similar conditions in England and other European nations, including Russia, and similar conditions in Pacific rim nations. The media does not want to cause a panic! When people hear of Africa, they do not become overly worried as it is thousands of miles away. But, immigration from the nations of Africa continues today, and there is little to detect HIV in the early stages. In addition to HIV, we are importing strange versions of tuberculosis and other exotic diseases from a host of third-world nations (via the boat-people???)

On a Fox news program on June 3, 2001, it was revealed that there are 100,000 HIV positive individuals within a 50 mile radius of Washington D.C. So far as the "capitol city" itself concerned, it was stated that, one out of every twenty of the citizens of Washington D.C. is HIV positive.

I can tell these people how not to become HIV positive. You don't need an expensive medical study. The answer that these people need to hear is: Change your life-style (deathstyle)! That applies to the homosexuals as well as those using dirty IV needles in support of their drug habit. Aside from those who have received "tainted blood" from transfusions (which should be avoided), homosexual and lesbian contact, and the use of dirty needles to inject drugs is a sure way to become infected.

Just what is so difficult to understand with regard to Leviticus 20:13? We have made a national issue relative to the use of tobacco and how it affects people in an adverse way, and we are being told to eliminate the use of tobacco. For those who continue to use tobacco, the end results are on them. When you eliminate abominable behaviour, you will reduce the incidence of AIDS. And for those who wish to continue with their life-style, they do so at their own risk, and public moneys ought NOT be used to find a medical preventative or cure so that they may continue with their reprehensible behavior.

There is some concern on the transmission of the AIDS virus. The authorities claim that it can only be picked up by an exchange of bodily fluids, but how much bodily fluid is on the tip of a needle? At Harvard University School of Medicine, they have kept the AIDS virus alive on a tabletop for eleven days. With the growth of "salad bars" in restaurants, is there a danger to the general population? Could you ingest the virus if it was present on foods? Or from touching a counter on which the virus was present? The government (Centers for Disease Control) says no - but do you really believe everything the government claims?

Washington, DC. currently ranks "first" in the number of HIV and AIDS cases in this nation, although I am certain that there are many other urban areas in close contention in this rather macabre contest. We have no proof or definitive knowledge, but it could be that Almighty Yahweh is utilizing the AIDS virus to chastise and punish those who openly flout His Divine Laws. In 2 Tim. 3:1-5, we are warned of the perilous conditions which will come in the last days. Take heed of situations around you, and pray to the Father for safety and care. Fear not, for our Saviour has promised to be with us always. May the blessings and protections of Yahweh be with you forever. Amen.

