



# Christian Identity Ministries

A member of the  
Congregations of Israel

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"Blessed be the LORD God of *Israel*; For He hath visited and redeemed *His* people, And hath raised up an 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 sware 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!*

#322

## Covenant Messenger

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### A CHRISTIAN INAUGURAL ADDRESS

by pastor Mark Downey

*"Where there is no vision, the people perish."* Proverbs 29:18

When was the last time you heard another Christian share a vision with you, that wasn't floating in the ether of raptured prose or pious platitudes. But rather something of a vision that was down to earth, unpretentious, understandable and provides the kind of hope that foments victory? Well, this is a sequel to my sermon 'Jesus Christ for President,' because I realized what good is that premise without a follow-up as to how things would be, should people rally together in their desire for the government of Jesus the Christ Himself. Unfortunately, our people have been more conditioned and programmed to an apocalyptic end of the world, than an end of the Mystery religions and prophetic Babylon. I think the point of Jesus' return is that the bride (Israel at large) has finally made herself ready; and if we could envision an inaugural address, fictional as it may be, where God's people Israel are on the verge of renewing their vows of marriage, we may not perish after all. I have only given this sermon once before at the time of George W. Bush being crowned for a second term, and I give it now during the deification of Obama's second term (2013).

You will have to use your imagination to appreciate this vision. It is not Mark Downey giving the speech, but someone else much more qualified to represent the office. I would envision a composite of Patrick Henry, Charles Lindbergh and perhaps George Lincoln Rockwell; an arche-type man of God with racial consciousness being fully equipped with the Christian Identity message; having been duly elected as the presiding officer of the united States, in subservience to the King of kings, Jesus the Christ, and His eternal jurisdiction; giving this potent historic speech to "We, the people" of God.

I know that this isn't the whole enchilada, but in a vision, the intent is to give you a glimpse of God's plan, so that you may have more than a glimmer of hope; I believe that a snowball can turn into an avalanche. I recently saw the movie "The Hunger Games" in which one reviewer said, "A glimpse of our future if the cancerous growth of government is not checked." The film is set 74 years after a popular uprising that failed to overthrow a corrupt centralized federal government. As punishment for the attempted uprising, the all-powerful government required each of the 12 districts to volunteer a young boy and girl to participate in an annual blood sport of killing ... down to the last kid. The event served as the opiate of the masses to distract

society from the fact that they were all slaves living under a despotic tyranny. The Rockefeller-type president played by Donald Sutherland, probably gave the most poignant line in the whole movie that gives us a glimpse of one possible future. Speaking to an aid he said: "Hope, it is one stronger than fear. A little is effective, a lot of hope is dangerous. A spark is fine, as long as it is contained." The aid said, "So....." to which the president said, "So, contain it!"

Christianity is all about hope. It's about hope predicated on miracles and the supernatural power of God. It's about a snowball's chance in hell to become an unstoppable avalanche of faith that cannot be contained. They tried to contain it in the 1st century, but the true believers had the vision of eternal life. Where there is no vision, we are hopeless. "*If in this life we have hope in Christ (anointing), we are of all men most miserable*" 1 Cor. 15:19

This is something we would not only like to hear, it is something we must hear. Visualize if you will then, these words spoken (hopefully sometime in the near future) and put yourself there. It begins with a church service in the morning, a procession to the Capitol Building, an oath of office followed by a 21-gun salute. The President is introduced and proceeds to address the nation:

My fellow White Christian Americans, to the vast majority of our kindred here today and to those who are

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with us in spirit, this is a most solemn and historic occasion. For nearly two centuries the transfer of power between two sides of the same coin has routinely taken place. What is different today is that the office of the president returns to the sentiments of George Washington and I too shall preside until the King of kings returns to rule and reign upon the earth. Washington said, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." Pray for me and your new administration as we embark upon honoring the Word of God.

Through much toil, hardships and political tribulation, we have overcome the oppressors of true Christianity and thus the American people now witness the miracle and revival of the government of Jesus the Christ. Scripture tells us that, "*When the wicked rule, the people mourn, but when the righteous rule, the people rejoice.*" The people can take solace that the door of the White House now belongs to our Lord and Saviour. Jesus said, "I am the door;" therefore, we have an open door policy and welcome our fellow Christians to enter the body politic and help govern our individual lives, family, community, county, state and nation.

I started this campaign for the presidency several years ago as a war . . . not a war against poverty, drugs, terror or other sovereign countries, but a war against treason from within, which was the cause of the other aforementioned wars. None dared to call it such, who depended upon feeding from the Federal trough or who feared its iron yoke. Nevertheless, the American people reached the crossroads of their 'manifest destiny' as to whether they would submit to the gods of totalitarianism or if they would be free with liberty and justice for all, emanating from our Father in Heaven. We chose the latter and believed with all our hearts that the truth shall make us free. We have prayed 'God bless America,' but not until recent years did we understand the import of repentance to alleviate the judgment from above.

Never before in the history of this young nation have patriotic whistle-blowers, intercessory prayer teams and Christian warrior-activists come together to expose such wickedness in high places and, in essence, treason against the American people. The transition process from the two party system to Christian governance has not been as peaceful as Republicans and Democrats playing musical chairs as in the past. There have been assassinations and the politics of personal destruction against the saints of the Most High who sacrificed their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to make this day of dependence upon the Almighty Creator possible. We were always reminded of Thomas Jefferson extolling to future generations, "**The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time, with the blood of patriots and tyrants.**"

But our present day heroes did not die in vain as the murderers are now in custody and their houses of cards are falling, revealing the inner workings of a shadowy oligarchy. We have also cracked the cabal of rogue agents who have thrived on the MKULTRA project. In the days and months ahead we will be revealing the true culprits behind the JFK assassination, the Oklahoma bombing and 9-11 by name. Dozens of other dastardly deeds and engineered disasters will be documented and prosecuted as well.

Christians in government at all levels and in the military, media, and commerce have stepped forward in massive civilian arrests, common law grand juries and class

action lawsuits, indicting members of satanic networks unparalleled in the history of mankind. We're also in contact with foreign sources who have agreed to cooperate with us in divulging their direct knowledge of international conspirators tied to American positions of leadership in both church and state, which were never separated, but in the unholy bonds of a facinorous (wicked, crime, atrocious) enterprise.

The gold-fringed flag, which represents an alien jurisdiction, will no longer be the standard of American jurisprudence. The law of the land will return to the Laws of God and English common law. We can do this without hesitation or pause, because a great deal of legislation that has been passed over the years is either unconstitutional, unbiblical, or outrightly fraudulent and foreign to our natural cultural identity.

Today is not a day of celebration, but for the immediate reconciliation with God and pressing hard for the work before us. After I take the oath and am sworn in, I will depart for the Oval Office and once there, will issue warrants for the arrest of some nearly 5000 known traitors. This will be my first priority to fulfil my campaign promise of the war against treason. I already have the assurance of many Christian military and police officers that these measures will not be impeded by those sympathetic to the former regime. In fact, we have identified those in law enforcement who have betrayed the Republic and they will be arrested and given due process of law also.

I'm ordering a presidential directive to close all borders and secure our territorial air and waters, so that no traitor may escape or that no one may aid and abet them by entering our land. This should come as no surprise to the rest of the world as events have led us to this historic day. I want to reiterate to the leaders of other nations that we are no longer entangling American interests in

the affairs of other nations and as such the United Nations, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Trilateral Commission, the Bohemian Grove, the Skull and Bones, Freemasonry, their subsidiaries and many more antithetical agencies to Christian Nationalism will no longer operate within the United States. There will also be a re-evaluation and re-organization of foreign embassies in this country and our consulates overseas. I am removing all diplomats and staff from communist, anti-Christian and corrupt countries. Let me make the sternest caution to our enemies who wish to take advantage of this paradigm shift in our form of government: our God will protect us and retaliate against any aggressive and hostile actions. Just this morning, Cuba attempted to fire antiquated missiles towards us and they malfunctioned, decimating parts of Havana.

America will now move forward with a national cleansing of all things that offend the God of Creation. Once this campaign against treachery began, the beginning of the end for criminal immorality and institutional decadence was firmly identified in our platform and clearly defined. Therefore, the reality should shock no one. The day of reckoning has arrived for those responsible. Media moguls, editorial management and those engaged in yellow journalism will be numbered among the accused and arrested. By the fruits of their insidious propaganda, we know them to have waged psychological warfare that has deceived millions of our people. The new head of the FCC will begin immediate scrutiny of what goes forth from the public air waves on radio, TV and the internet, especially

*Old Historic Videos:*

**1. My Trouble in Canada May Be Yours.**

**2. The Plague of Judeo-Christianity**

**by teacher Malcolm Ross**

**DVD#CI-175 @ sug don \$17**

**1. The New World Order**

**2. The Great Betrayal**

**plus Question & Answer period**

**by late Eustace Mullins**

**DVD#CI-176 @ sug don \$17**



truth in news reporting. As free speech is encouraged for a free people, freedom is not mocked with purposeful lies, misrepresentations, immorality or blasphemy; all of which will be met with strong consequences. The marketplace of ideas does not license an orgy of anything-goes free-for-all. We are once again a Christian nation and will be guided by Christian restraints.

Even more importantly targeted for accountability will be the religious leaders who have willingly promoted apostasy and anti-Christian collusion in behalf of the global despotism. The lust for power can be clearly identified by a specific group of people. The 'jewish problem' will be foremost on the agenda of this president and immediate plans are being executed for their complete purge. I'm appointing a blue ribbon commission to educate Americans on the 'jewish problem' to erase any doubts about the nature of Jewry. I hope this sends a clear message to the rest of the world and those who have suffered from Zionist perfidy, that the United States will take the lead in prosecuting the enemy of peaceful peoples. We have been taking action to dismantle the unlawful Israeli state and secure the Dimona nuclear facility since the reckless bombing of Jerusalem last year with radioactive fallout making certain areas uninhabitable. Palestine will return to its indigenous inhabitants and the Arab region will naturally stabilize, because of this major change in U.S. foreign policy. Because of this threat to the entire world, there will be no safe haven for Jews anywhere.

The economic afflictions perpetrated against the American people and the rest of the world is going to be resolved by removing the manipulators and speculators of markets and production. New technologies of energy, where patents have been suppressed by the fossil fuel monopolies, will replace these forms of pollution and price-gouging greed with vicarious innovation and inventions. Tesla electricity will become free and plentiful. Utilities will serve our people benevolently and not control their well being and safety with evil intentions. The weaponization of energy, food and water will no longer be used against people, but rather dispersed wisely for their benevolent use.

The new Secretary of the Treasury will be free of any ties to the Rockefeller or Rothschild dynasties and will outline the eradication of the debt-usury system and explain to the American people why the Federal Reserve, the Internal Revenue Service, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, the World Bank and other banking institutions have acted contrary to the best interest and welfare of the American public. Jews and other unethical entities will be prohibited from economic institutions. The giant gambling casino known as Wall Street will be dismantled and the digital speculation of money-changers will be replaced with ethical standards of labor and productivity. Lottos and lotteries will be abolished for the phantasm of hope that it has been. The spirit of greed will be considered predatory gain and contrary to our promotion of spiritual welfare.

Likewise, all educational institutions will no longer operate as a vehicle for the tenth plank of the Communist Manifesto. We will enter a new age of educational privatization and computer assisted teaching methods raising spiritual, moral and intellectual standards. Our children will no longer be subjected to amoral philosophies and liberal propaganda at the university level. The educational system

will no longer be connected to a system of corrupt taxation, which in the past had imperiled our posterity's future by placing families in the dire straits of indebtedness.

The election of a Christian Nationalist is a call to act and defeat the crisis situation before us. Government is only half the solution or we should say it is only half the problem. God gave us a choice between blessings and curses as a covenant people. Our people are just beginning to realize that we are under a divine contract. We are obligated to turn to God for our national salvation. The last century incrementally turned to government for health, wealth, happiness and security; government became a god. We are advised by Benjamin Franklin that, "Any people that would give up liberty for a little temporary safety deserves neither liberty or safety."

In this inaugural address today, I am making a 'Declaration of Dependence' upon our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ. Furthermore, I declare a 'National Year of Repentance' (not just a token day of lip service) to change our lives according to the Laws of God and I submit a 'Year of Jubilee' as a repudiation of the national debt. The ills we suffer have come upon us slowly over time. They will not go away for everybody all at once. But they will go away, because we, as White Christian Americans, have the divine calling from God to do good and preserve this last bastion of Christianity on earth. Our concern must be for what concerns our God.

God has a special people unto Himself to the exclusion of others, even though we have been lied to for so long about equality. The truth is, the social experimentation with equality has been an abject failure and done nothing but bring sin and suffering into our society, not just for the betterment of the White race, but for the status of other ethnic groups as well. Moreover, I am appointing a special task force to deal with illegal aliens with emer-

gency quarantine areas. There will be zero tolerance for criminal subversion or rioting as has been the laxity of law in the past. Cooperation during this time of reorganization will be of benefit to all except for criminal elements who will be dealt with severely.

America is going to get back to honest work for an honest day's wage. Work is the energy that animates the value of currency and commodities. Corporations and the business world will have to be re-educated to conform to Christian ethics. In fact, we will be re-thinking the concept of corporate creations of the state, in regards to responsibilities and liabilities. The concept of free enterprise and competition should not be confused with capitalism and socialism.

Advancement in science will no longer be predicated on profit margins, but rather considered gifts from God for the advancement of His kingdom. Our food, air, and water supplies will be given the highest priorities for purity. We will share these new technologies with other Christian nations. As a consequence of high standards for products of consumption, we will be a healthier people, no longer dependent on a corrupt medical system. The AMA and Big Pharma will be the subject of a major criminal investigation. We will decriminalize the legitimate cures for cancer that have been suppressed and persecuted. Those responsible for withholding cheap and effective cures for a multitude of diseases through alternative medicines will be prosecuted. We will all glean from the bountiful blessings of God, if we work towards reviving our own physical,

#### CD's of the month:

- [H-299a Seedline Doctrine Examined, 1](#)
- [H-299b Seedline Doctrine Examined, 2](#)
- [H-300a Seedline Doctrine Examined, 3](#)
- [H-300b Seedline Doctrine Examined, 4](#)
- [H-301a Seedline Doctrine Examined, 5](#)
- [H-301b Seedline Doctrine Examined, 6](#)
- [H-302a Seedline Doctrine Examined, 7](#)
- [H-302b Seedline Doctrine Examined, 8](#)

all by Bob Hallstrom

8 discs @ sug don \$27



mental and spiritual well-being. Our government has no power except that granted by its Creator. The former government exceeded its power by presuming to be god and violating the peace and well-being of the people. We will take immediate steps to eradicate all GMO's and restore agricultural integrity to the level of organics. We want to bring back the family farm with local incentives, which will be part of our national economic re-orientation. We will refresh the national memory that the "*Land belongs to the Lord*" (Ezek. 48:14). The land will once again be hallowed ground dedicated to the glory of God.

The government of God is here to help people not to hinder them. It is no coincidence that our former troubles parallel and are proportionate to the corruption and malfeasance of office that was tolerated for so long. Finally, America said enough is enough and we are on a new path of discovery for our future. Let our faith and hope chart a new course for living life more abundantly and putting away the old trappings of special interest groups. Our only focus is to re-prioritize a special future and destiny for a truly unique race that alone has the dominion mandate.

Intelligent Design dictates our cultural role in the development of this earth, not the machinations of man. The days of secret societies, conspiracies and intrigue are over, as well as their nefarious plans for a New World Order, in contradistinction to the Kingdom of God. It is time for us to realize that we are too great a nation to limit ourselves to a meager existence, living from paycheck to paycheck, never to glimpse the dream of our potential, while subsidizing the perpetuity of Third World nightmares. We have proven that we are not doomed to an inevitable decline or Hollywood apocalypse as some would have you believe. Instead, our steadfast Christian determination has fulfilled the prerequisites of what it is to be an overcomer. We have overcome the dark fate that the antichrist taskmasters had so carefully planned for centuries.

We are now converting the occult technologies of power against those who had designs against us. Top secret computers are now in the hands of Christian Nationalists who have the expertise to penetrate its data and to compute the logistics of the many reforms we hope to initiate in the near future. This new administration is also grateful to the many ranking military officers who have come out of retirement to rectify security concerns jeopardized by traitors in uniform. But, above the cadre of ex-military officers and enlisted men and their loyalty to the American people, we could not have won this election without the support of active duty military personnel who dared to mutiny against their treasonous commander-in-chief and those who had no loyalty to America, whose sole objective was to destroy Christianity and the White race. And they almost succeeded. Both retired and active duty men and women have courageously and decisively marched onward as soldiers for Jesus the Christ. Because of their valiant actions, we now have the vision to see swords turned to plowshares and to welcome a New Jerusalem on our soil. However, the women who served will no longer be required to serve, and will be sent home. A new day where there will not be tears of sorrow but of joy.

America can now breathe a sigh of relief, knowing that phase one of the war against treason is in the process of

successfully rounding up those responsible for our national demise. With all of our God-given creative energy at our command, we can begin phase two of implementing and maintaining an impregnable wall of Truth to identify and counter those forms and manners which corrupt society and to guarantee our freedom in Jesus the Christ. Non-Christian religions are hereby prohibited as was the original intent of our founding fathers. Religious masquerading as Christian will no longer be free to inculcate doctrines contrary to the clear and expressed context of Scripture (this may pose some problems, as many profess to be Christian, base their beliefs on Scripture, but hold totally contrary ideas, CIM); especially those false churches that have shown themselves to be predatory and adverse to the well-being of the White race. We have every right and duty to put an end to false prophets who think they can espouse their poison with impunity. I pray that White Christian America will rapidly evolve in a spiritual unity transcending the old denominational forms and trappings. The 501c3 church is history.

For those who may still have lingering doubts about our political resolves, let me remind you of the miracles of a vigilant electorate that conclusively found overwhelming evidence of vote fraud, election rigging and ballot tampering in at least 75% of the precincts nationwide and how this minority of traitors are being brought to justice. These doubts will turn to rejoicing when the cleansing process brings dramatic results once thought impossible. America is planting the seeds of righteousness for the entire world to see. We are nourishing a culture of overcomers, ridding the land of wanton sin and being a light that glorifies God to the rest of the world. Scripture speaks of the bride preparing herself for the 'Marriage

Supper of the Lamb,' which we know to be Jesus coming for His people Israel, who were brought to the shores of this Beulah land by the divine hand of God.

Our nation has been robbed of its identity, but we are a people lost and found. We will find ourselves from our own heritage, which was almost destroyed. Our faith will move this mountain nation. We are a race of blessed entrepreneurs and conquerors ready to create new jobs and opportunities. Our Christian values sustain the life of our national blood, which have been shed for our posterity. The goals of this administration will be a reflection of the yearning for God's Kingdom by His people, so help me God.

How can we love this land and not love our people, our own kind? We cannot. We love our kindred by reaching out when they fall, heal them when they are sick and help them become self-sufficient in a land of bountiful blessings. By the same rules of logic, we will not enable paths of self-destruction or apathy. Can we solve the complex problems before us? God willing, the answer is an emphatic affirmation that we don't want to go back to the near catastrophe that our nation was deeply engaged in. It would be insanity to revisit that condemned and crumbling empire of wickedness.

In the days ahead, I will have many more Bible-based proposals that will lead us closer to the Kingdom of Heaven. For example, we will remove the roadblocks for the prevention and cure of cancer, which has claimed millions of lives and dollars. Alternative medicine can and will be given credibility in contrast to the old 'cut-burn-poison'

***At Last the Truth is out!***  
**THE CIPHERERS OF SEPHAR**  
**by Adam de Witt**

*A pry into the true roots of the Sephardic and Ashkenazim Jews.*

*A who's who of Jewish 'clans' without a trace of Israelitehood to be found within the ranks of those who claim a chosen status whilst mocking the son of God. A small but meaty work for those willing to shed the mis-teachings of tradition in order to ready themselves for an age in which Christianity reaches its true calling. Adam had to pry into a swamp of misinformation, historical twisting and fact dodging drivel put up by the establishment-bought 'historians' and Jewish media winners of the age .*

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establishment. The genocide of our race through abortion will be as much an abomination in the eyes of God as was the ancient practice of sacrificing sons and daughters into the fires of Molech. Likewise, the new political force in America will not tolerate a culture of perversion and STD's, anymore than God tolerated Sodom and Gomorrah. God's Laws will be strictly enforced in this area of the American way of life.

On these principles of life and death, there will be no compromise. The Word of God will be the guiding influence that leads us unto the ways of life. The violation of God's Laws will bring forth judgment. Steps will be taken to restore the three branches of government that can only be a reflection of God our King; He is our Judge, He is our Lawgiver, He is our King. God's servant people administer the authority from God, not themselves. This distinction was abandoned by previous generations and they were cursed with wars and corruption. Progress may be slow, but we will move forward. We must act worthy of the mercies God has spent upon this nation. I believe we, the White Christian Americans of today, are ready to do what must be done to ensure liberty to the inhabitants thereof (of the land).

When the nuclear explosion on Jerusalem, launched by Jews themselves, occurred last April and destroyed that city forever, along with that were destroyed all the false prophecies about that part of the world. The so-called Rapture is a dead doctrine. As a result, tens of millions of Christians have come out of that mysterious Babylonian church and have sought the truth of where we are today. And as our people remove their spiritual blinders and revive ourselves here in our own land, we will be seen throughout the world as having greater fortitude and resolve to be a beacon of light for freedom. To those neighbours and kindred tribes who share our love of God's justice and freedom, we will strengthen our racial bonds and assure them of our brotherly commitments and international support.

Our early campaign worked hand in hand with our allies in Canada and there are now simultaneous election results paralleling our experience. White Christian America has gotten this far in the war against treason because each individual has fought without complaint, as if the issue of the whole struggle depended upon them alone. Although we fight against giant odds and diabolical adversaries, our willingness to believe in miracles and the divine hand of deliverance, there is a faith to believe, that together, with God's provisions, we can and will defeat the enemies from within and without.

Why shouldn't we believe that? After all, we are God's *chosen people* and this is the greatest Christian nation in the history of mankind. In 1981, on the inauguration of actor Ronald Reagan, American hostages held by the revolutionary government of Iran were released. On this historic date, on my day of inauguration, the American nation being held hostage by the satanic government of traitors has been

released. We are no longer occupied or under captivity.

As I speak, there are small numbers of those who betrayed this nation surrendering to the authorities. To them and all others complicit in the demise of our national suffering, I am proclaiming a 24-hour period of conditional amnesty. They will not be subject to the penalties of treason on the condition that they tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth as to the nature of their crimes and the naming of others who were party to the same and/or other related acts of treason.

But, for the grace of God there go I. Any one of us could have succumbed to the trappings of greed and the politics of personal ambition. Our righteousness has been compared to filthy rags for all have sinned. However, with the Spirit of God's forgiveness, man can forgive man's trespasses through restitution. That is, those who are willing to retribute. We will be diligent in the forthcoming trials and prosecution of those who have betrayed the national trust.

Each of the accused will enjoy full due process of law before a decision is rendered. We are one nation under God and will perform our duties. We pray that not one innocent person will be misjudged.

The ways and means of the former 'criminal justice system' and institutional incarceration had become a commercial growth industry. It is no longer an option. Restitution or the death penalty is the only choice that God provides. We will quickly make the transition to a law and order society with peace and good will towards all. All political prisoners and those unjustly imprisoned will have their cases expedited for release; the non-White elements will *not* be released on American soil - if they committed capital crimes, they will be executed. The prisons will eventually be empty and God's Law will be in full force as the law of the land. We see no reason why anyone would resort to rebellion after it has been shown that the transformation of America can only be explained through the agency

of divine intervention and that our nation and the world are entering a new age of understanding the meaning of life. We hope that the people of the earth will join us in establishing a new horizon in stewardship of our homes, our stores and our environment.

Only with the high calling and love of God's Creation can we acknowledge our work as responsible citizens. Many have been called by God to perform His will, but few have been chosen to do the task at hand. That's why the programs we are about to initiate may sound strange to those who are unfamiliar with the commandments of God. These commands, which we are about to undertake, are only grievous to those who persist in their old ways of sin and rebellion. Millions of non-Whites are going to be deported to their homelands in a peaceful and orderly manner. A comprehensive plan for eugenics and racial integrity will be established, eliminating many of the birth defects that were a result of chemical pollutions, incest and sperm donors. Deprogramming centers will be opened in every

### New CDs

*E-413 Taking Dominion, Mark Downey*

*E-415 By What Authority, Mark Downey*

*E-416 Belteshazzar, Don Elmore*

*E-417 Keys to the Kingdom, John Harness*

*G-861 Word Wars & Captive Thoughts, pt 13*

*G-862 Word Wars & Captive Thoughts, pt 14*

*G-863 Word Wars & Captive Thoughts, pt 15*

*G-884 Non-Optional Leadership, pt 8*

*G-885 Non-Optional Leadership, pt 9*

*all Ted Weiland*

*J-377 Total Warfare (Psalm 18 pt 9)*

*John Weaver*

*J-378 David's Dominion, (Psalm 18 pt 10) John*

*Weaver*

*K-619 Tracing the Ancient Reds (Mystery Babylon pt 30) James Bruggeman*

*K-620 Tracing the Modern Reds (Mystery Babylon pt 31) James Bruggeman*

*U-314 How to Involve the Whole Family in Family Worship, (Family Strategies, pt 4)*

*Doug & Beall Phillips*

*U-176 Michelle Duggar: Mother of the Year (Babies & Adoption series, pt 16) Doug Phillips*



county seat and inform citizens about how they have been brainwashed and targeted for mind control by the enemies of Christianity. All Jews will be removed from all forms of media; we will enter a new era and paradigm in TV and radio programming; the nature and intent of theater (i.e. movies) will dramatically change for a positive reconstruction of our society. These and many other exciting initiatives are going to pull a dysfunctional America out of the spiritual malaise, which has plagued our people for over a century.

Our motives are not born out of fear, but rather the reasonable expectation of joy in doing what is right in the eyes of God. With cleansing comes holiness and with holiness a pure heart in service to God. Once again we can be the Promised Land flowing with milk and honey. We have come out of the wilderness of despair. We have opened a door that no man can close, walking by faith through the valley of the shadow of death. I have been called upon by the American plebiscite to execute the functions of its primary minister of God to preside in humble servitude to the laws, statutes and judgments of the Word. Let us live by every word that proceeds from His mouth.

My friends, we live in a world that is changing with lightning speed. But let us not forget that the thunder from God's heaven changeth not. His mercy endureth forever and transcends time. Now, as a people, we stand together again and think of our heritage: a general on his knees praying in the cold snow of Valley Forge, the heroes of the Alamo fighting with a loud voice of courage, covered wagons pushing west and now our modern David with one united sling shot between the eyes of a final Babylon. For all our peculiarities, for we are a peculiar people, we are together as in olden times as we raise our hands and voices to the shining light of glory. May God continue to hold us close together as we fill the earth with the sound of hope. God bless America.

Courtesy The Covenant Messenger, Box 321, Union KY 41091

## DISCIPLINES THAT PRODUCE SELF-DISCIPLINE

by Lee Schrock

Is there something wrong with a child when they seem to deliberately laugh louder than the others in their school room?

Or with the student that cries when their grades are not as good as they would like them to be? Or with the student who seemingly cannot sit still during the devotional period? Are these actions caused by physical problems that must be accepted as part of that individual, or can they be brought under control by discipline?

Discipline is training that builds self-control, character, orderliness and efficiency. Training is not only telling but also **physically restraining** that emotion or action. Training must be repeated **again and again**. Habits do not release their victim easily.

It would be nice if children would automatically develop self-discipline as they mature. Some are more inclined to self-discipline than others are, but it seems that

all children need to be helped to develop it. Because of their personality, some children have no idea that they are out of place when they let their emotions control their actions. They need to be taught by training that it is wrong to impose upon others by their unrestrained excess.

Some children have a much harder time controlling themselves than others do. But children never existed whose behaviour could not be improved by disciplining them until they learn to discipline themselves.

### AT HOME

The foundation of self-discipline should be built before children start school.

Children must be taught to pray. When the family prays in their family worship and at meals, they need to learn to keep quiet, without needing to be told at every occasion. As they get a little older, they learn to think along with the one who is leading in prayer. At most such times, they will also like to pray their own prayer.

The parents need to teach them to forgive others for the wrongs they do them. What happens when they come home from school and report that Johnny was mean to them today at recess, going into great detail and talking about how they

would like to make Johnny pay for it? They should learn that they may tell their mother what happened, but they dare not harbour ill feelings against the one who wronged them. They also should be taught that it may only be an imagined wrong. Forgiving is a real discipline because it is so contrary to human nature. When they learn to forgive from the heart, children have learned a good lesson in self-discipline.

They also need to learn the discipline of apologizing when they have done something wrong to another, even if it was because of a misunderstanding. Usually, they will not feel like apologizing, even if they realize they were wrong. But if they are made to apologize at

home, it will help them to do it at all times when it needs to be done.

The child must be taught to endure the distasteful. If they are required to wash dishes cheerfully, it will help them twenty years later when one of their own children plugs the plumbing and they need to open the sewer pipe to unclog it. A job well done brings a lot of satisfaction, even when one does not like the job. No one can get away from all unpleasant tasks. The sooner a child learns that they may as well get to the job and get it done, the better this habit will serve them later on.

They should be taught at home to control their emotions. Some children tend to cry every time something crosses their path. Perhaps they learned to cry as a way of getting their own way. They need to learn that it is not wrong to cry at appropriate times, but crying must be controlled. At the other end of the spectrum are those children who laugh when they should be serious. They need to learn that, although the ability to laugh is God-given, excessive laughing is obnoxious. It also keeps them from looking at serious situations seriously. Getting excited at many little things may also be excessive. 'I was excited' is no excuse for misbehaviour: God expects us to control our emotions rather than letting them control us.

### AT SCHOOL



School is a good place to reinforce disciplines already taught at home. During class time, students need to sit still without kicking their feet, clicking their pen or making other disturbances. At times, students need to stand in line, waiting their turn at the water fountain. They need to learn patience with others who seem to take longer than they should.

Sharing is all-important in school. Students need to learn that they are not the only fish in the pool. They must share the books at times; they must share the teacher's time; they might need to share their lunch too, if someone failed to bring theirs. They must also share time to tell some exciting news while others are bursting to tell something that interests them.

Students must learn the discipline of submitting to authorities other than their parents. In school, the teacher is the authority. In fact, at no time in life will anyone be able to be free of some authority over themselves. Learning to submit while young makes it so much easier to submit to all authorities over them when they are an adult. It is very difficult for an adult to learn submission if they have not learned that discipline as a child.

The discipline of learning to endure the distasteful must be practiced in school. When the snow is just right for sledging at recess and the sun beckons from outside, studies must still be completed. In the spring when the birds are singing and the creeks appear so inviting, the student must still sit inside the stuffy room, working. What discipline that takes! But it helps so much later if they learn it now.

It is a blessing that, as we impose discipline on our children, we ourselves are challenged to revive some of those disciplines that have become dormant or stagnant in our own lives. It gives us a refreshing zest for life as we relearn self-discipline. May the Lord bless you as you impose discipline on your students and imbibe some of it yourself.

Courtesy Light of Life, 200 Florey Drive, Charnwood ACT 2615

## HOW THE BODY HEALS ITSELF

by Mary Jaqua

### THE BODY IS A FINELY DESIGNED MACHINE

The Psalmist David declared in Psalm 134:14, "I will give thanks unto thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: Wonderful are thy works; And that my soul knoweth right well."

When one considers the structure, constitution, functions, and abilities of the human frame, it is evident that this handiwork is beyond the mind, skill and technical ability of man.

Do you know some of those little-known facts about the human body?

- The body is comprised of over 100 trillion living cells that are highly complex and unique in function.
- Each cell generates its own electrical field, which at times is larger than the electrical field near high voltage power lines.
- Each cell has its own internal clock, switching on and

off in varying cycles from 2 to 26 hours, never wavering.

- Tears are salty because they are derived from the salt water in the circulatory system.
- The average speed of a sneeze is 68 miles per hour.
- The lung cilia that sweep the mucus up the trachea vibrate 1,000 times per minute.
- The mouth has nine thousand taste buds.
- The human brain has the capacity to hold the equivalent of 25 million books, enough to fill a bookshelf 500 miles long. This capacity exceeds that of the library of Congress that contains 17 million volumes.

### THE BODY: A LIVING ORGANISM

Unlike inanimate objects, we breathe, move, eat, drink, laugh and cry. We live because we are formed as offspring of the Ever-Living: the Creator Himself.

Health and healing are based upon respect for the Almighty and the living body that He has given us. Our bodies are unique physically, emotionally and spiritually.

### THE BODY: DESIGNED TO RUN ON LIVING FOOD

Scripture is replete with evidence that the Almighty not only gave us the instruction manual (His Word) for the care and keeping of our earthly temples (bodies), but also made provision for the body's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. His first instruction to man for the sake of his well being included a menu plan. He instructed His creation to eat (mainly) plant-based foods.

The original diet recorded in Genesis 1:29,

"And God said, 'Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is upon the face of the earth, and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for food'."

That God specifically addressed diet (telling us to eat natural, whole foods) should speak to us of the importance that diet plays in relation to health. The herb of the ground (greens) and fruit of the tree were created for us. So it is that natural, whole, living (raw) fruit, veg-

etables, seeds, nuts and whole grains proves to be the best food for ultimate wellness and longevity.

### THE BODY: A SELF-HEALING MACHINE

God designed the body to be self-healing. He gave it an internal instinct and know-how to correct itself should the need arise. Hence, it is no surprise that the loss of his spiritual eyesight eventually caused Adam to stray from God's original diet plan. Whole, living foods were replaced with cooked and 'forbidden' foods, as outlined in the books of Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy. Whereas God was forced to install a dietary code for the preservation of His people, it must be understood that this code was for a specific purpose and did not replace His ultimate diet plan as found in Genesis 1:29. This truth is evidenced by the fact that living foods contain a sustaining life-force that preserves the physical frame and initiates the self-healing mechanism of the body.

Whether it be sickness, pain, disease, dietary abuse or malnourishment, the body has the ability to heal itself if given living food. So it is that God is loving, kind and merciful to provide a natural, wholesome way that we can be



healed of our physical, emotional, and spiritual distress.

### THE ALTERNATE ROUTE

It is no surprise, then, that the road to health and wellness is a natural way, albeit an alternative route in the modern world. For most people are travelling a broad road that leads to sickness and often early death, seldom understanding the underlying cause of their ills.

Some have discovered how to reclaim their bodies from many of the ravages of sickness and disease through the wonder of a live food diet and invigorating exercise. Since many health problems are the result of poor diet, improving one's diet becomes imperative to good health, especially if life-threatening conditions exist.

Natural, whole foods assist the body's ability to heal itself. Implementing a juicing program and incorporating living foods into daily meals is important, as is eliminating harmful 'foods' such as processed/junk foods and animal-based foods, refined sugar, and refined (white) grains.

It is equally important to supplement our diets with healthy food supplements so that the body will have maximum power to rebuild itself. Without proper and sufficient nutrients, the restoration of the bodily temple cannot be accomplished.

Courtesy Light of Life, 200 Florey Drive, Charnwood  
ACT 2615

### THE BIBLICAL CASE FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY by Craig R. Dumont

Private property is receiving a lot of attention these days. I guess you could say there is a renaissance of thinking and appreciation for, as Tom Bethel puts it, "the blessings of private property." In fact, Bethel is one of many brilliant and competent men who have recently tackled this topic. His book, *The Noblest Triumph: Property and Prosperity Through the Ages* is well written and informative. It also is encouraging that one of the last chapters deals with the rediscovery of private property and looks ahead to the trend of acknowledging and strengthening property rights in our country and around the world.

Another author, Harvard professor Richard Pipes, has written a marvellous book called simply *Property and Freedom*.

Let me be the first to declare that I am very thankful that there are rising up all around us men who are taking up the intellectual defense of private property after years of conceding the battle to socialists, Marxists, Darwinists, and statist. However, there is one great need within these useful works that must be addressed, and that great need is to present the theological foundation, for without a theological basis on which to ground freedom and rights, there is nothing other than toleration. There is a huge difference between freedom and toleration.

### FREEDOM vs. TOLERANCE

Freedom is security based upon the unchanging laws of God which all men must obey. It eliminates the uncertainty of arbitrary changes in opinion, pragmatic opportunism, or state control. Tolerance only grudgingly allows for the continuation of a "privilege" that the state may grant today, yet withdraw tomorrow (driver's license?), based upon new thinking, different circumstances, or power politics.

Unfortunately, almost all the books I've read mistake

tolerance for freedom. For instance, Bethel states:

*"There are four great blessings that cannot easily be realized in a society that lacks the secure decentralized, private ownership of goods. These are: liberty, justice, peace and prosperity. The argument of this book is that private property is a necessary (but not a sufficient) condition for these highly desirable social outcomes."*

In other words, society in general, intellectuals in particular, and the state specifically should tolerate private property, not as an inherent right in regard to itself, but only to the extent that it contributes to liberty, justice, peace, and prosperity.

Now, everyone would agree that liberty, justice, peace, and prosperity are good things and highly desired. It could also be argued that as long as these terms found their meaning and expression in God's Word, the Bible, there would be no problem; for all these words or terms are clearly defined and elaborated upon in the Bible. In fact, one theologian points out that when God's property laws are followed, there will indeed be blessings. "There is also a continuity; the promise of posterity, of continuity of possession and security therein, and, with these things, peace and prosperity, is a consequence of freedom and continuity under the Lord."<sup>2</sup>

But there lies the crux of the problem I'll set forth: Today, we are a lawless people, or perhaps a better way to express it is that we are not a people under one law any longer, but rather we have come to a point in time where everyone creates his own law, or his own standards of right and wrong. Judges on a regular basis make up "law" on the spot, making every court appearance a crashshoot. We live in what is called "postmodern times" where each person determines what is good and what is evil. All definitions are blurred; there is no objective reality. Ask ten different people how they define those terms, and you'll get ten different answers.

In France, Robespierre and the French Revolutionaries rallied the

masses under those very words — a revolution that later came to be known more honestly as "The Reign of Terror." Karl Marx had his own definitions for these as did Stalin and Mao (Tse Tung). I guarantee you that presidents, while using the same words, mean something totally different than you and I do when we talk about these things.

So the problem is this: If private property rights are tolerated only as they contribute to liberty, justice, peace, and prosperity, tell me, who is going to be the official arbitrator of definitions and levels? Consider, for instance, peace. There's no peace between Microsoft and Sun. There are times private property creates not peace, but conflict as people attempt to maximise their (monopoly) assets in a free market. If private property is simply tolerated because it contributes to the peace process," it is open to attack when peace is defined on these terms, especially because there are times when "peace" and "freedom" conflict.

### PRIVATE PROPERTY AND JUSTICE

Justice is also a hazy place to hang your private property hat in today's world. Again, because today there is no objective law standard to measure ourselves against, justice to the large land-owning farmer or rancher is different from

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the justice demanded by the so-called “environmentalist.” Prosperity suffers the same fate, for what is prosperity and who has it? Does redistribution of wealth fall under “prosperity” and “justice” as in calls for “economic justice”? Ron Sider, who masquerades as a Christian teacher, is a regular contributor to *Moody Monthly*, and calls for a radical redistribution of wealth in the name of fairness and justice. I dare say that none here would want to have his definitions imposed upon them.

Professor Pipes, despite an otherwise excellent book, also comes up short in this area. His four arguments set forth are truly historical arguments, but he totally misses the most important one that changed the history of the world. He gives these four arguments for private property:

- The political argument in favour of property holds that (unless distributed in a grossly unfair manner) it promotes stability and constrains the power of government. Against property it is claimed that the inequality which necessarily accompanies it generates social unrest.

- From the moral point of view, it is said that property is legitimate because everyone is entitled to the fruits of his labour. To which critics respond that many owners exert no effort to acquire what they own and that the same logic requires everyone to have an equal opportunity to acquire property.

- The economic line of reasoning for property holds that it is the most efficient means of producing wealth, whereas opponents hold that economic activity driven by the pursuit of private gain leads to wasteful competition.

- The psychological defense of property maintains that it enhances the individual’s sense of identity and self-esteem. Others assert that it corrupts the personality by infecting it with greed.<sup>3</sup>

He then goes on to state:

*“These four approaches fairly exhaust the range of arguments against property articulated during the past three thousand years.”<sup>4</sup>*

Now that is an amazing statement, because it omits the most important, persuasive, and influential argument for private property that the West has set forth: **God’s private property laws**. It was the proper understanding and implementation of God’s property laws that allowed the Christian West to flourish and prosper.

### GOD’S PRIVATE PROPERTY LAWS

This universal truth that flows from God’s property laws is rooted and grounded in the objective fact that, “*The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof: the world and they that dwell therein*” (Psalm 24:1). The Biblical idea of property comes up right at the beginning of Genesis where man was created in the image of God and commanded to subdue the earth and to have dominion over it. “Not only is it man’s calling to exercise dominion, but it is also his nature to do so . . . Man was created to exercise dominion under God and as God’s appointed vice-regent over the earth.”<sup>5</sup> Rushdoony points out, “An aspect of this dominion is property.”<sup>6</sup> The Biblical teaching is that “the earth is indeed the Lord’s, as is all dominion, but God has chosen to give dominion over the earth to man, subject to His law-word, and property is a central aspect of that dominion. The absolute and transcendental title to property is the Lord’s; the present and historical title to property is man’s.”<sup>7</sup>

God’s declaration that man is entitled by His law, a law which transcends **all man-made laws**, arguments, and phi-

losophies, to own private property is highlighted by at least two of the Ten Commandments: the Eighth which says, “***You shall not steal,***” and the Tenth which strikes at the heart of the entire matter, “***You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife; and you shall not desire your neighbour’s house, his field, his male servant, his female servant, his ox, his donkey, or anything that is your neighbour’s.***”

A case could be made for private property rights being outlined and protected by God in every commandment, as reflected by James’ insistence that if a man is guilty of breaking one commandment he is guilty of breaking all commandments. But we can clearly see the principle of private property set forth and confirmed in the Fourth Commandment, where a person and his personal property were required to rest; in the Sixth Commandment which restrained a person from stealing the ultimate personal property, another’s life; in the Seventh Commandment which, by outlawing adultery, set personal boundaries which had to be respected; and the Ninth Commandment which prohibited one from robbing a person of his reputation, which is a very important and valuable form of personal property.

The fact is, God created the world and then delegated it, in the form of personal property, to man. The right to own and control private property, therefore, transcends any political, moral, economical, or psychological basis and rests in God’s revealed and

declared law.

Let me point out that God takes the issue of private property very, very seriously. For instance, God’s law of securing and maintaining landmarks that define a person’s property is stated and reinforced on at least five occasions. That law, stated in Deuteronomy 19:14, reads like this:

*“You shall not remove your neighbour’s landmark, which the men of old have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the Lord your God is giving you to possess.”*

It is cited also in Deuteronomy 27:17; Proverbs 22:28; 23:10; and Job 24:2.

When you look at the Tenth Commandment, you’ll see that this one powerful assertion of private property rights. This commandment deals with both the intents and actions of men to manipulate or control property that does not legitimately belong to them. Martin Noth, in his commentary on Exodus writes:

*“Coveting describes not merely the emotion of coveting but also includes the attempt to attach something to oneself illegally. The commandment therefore to deals with all possible undertakings which involve gaining power over the goods and possessions of a “neighbour,” whether through theft or through all kinds of dishonest machinations.”<sup>8</sup>*

Another scholar writes:

*“The corresponding Hebrew word [for covetousness] has two meanings, both to covet and to take. It includes outward malpractices, meaning seizing for oneself.”<sup>9</sup>*

What we’re seeing is the positive assertion of private property rights with boundaries established by God Himself, with a negative condemnation of every attempt to gain by fraud, coercion, or deceit that which belongs to our neighbour.

Let me point out the obvious right here. If God Himself establishes private property rights and “if all desiring and taking by force or by law what is your neighbour’s is

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strictly against God's Law, [doesn't it also follow] that the organization of such covetousness into a system is the creation of an anti-God society?"

Let me put it even plainer. Outside of God's Laws governing property use, all attempts to control, manipulate, and dictate what a person can do with his property is antichrist to the core (land management, EPA, vegetation control, etc.). Therefore, all public planning commissions and zoning boards that meet to consider anything other than what God does or does not allow on property is a lawless example of stealing and covetousness in action. To reiterate, it is antichrist to the core.

This does not mean that we are free to ignore planning commissions and zoning boards because God's laws are meant to be an expression of faith as well as a rule for life, and today's Christians are not people willing to put their faith in God. They ignore God's Laws and put their faith in government to solve their problems and meet their needs. The civil government that we have is a direct expression of our society's faith. It's not a full-scale rebellion against these commissions that we need, but rather a revival of the true Christian Faith in the hearts and minds of those who call themselves Christians.

Far too many Christians reject God's Laws and declare themselves as god and, therefore, declare themselves able to ignore the Eighth and Tenth Commandment. They actively engage in stealing and coveting and love every minute of it. They seek to manipulate and control the neighbour's property, specifically through non-Biblical zoning laws. In effect, these Christians show that they hate God's plan for the future and seek to impose their own version of predestination on property owners, arbitrarily telling them what can and cannot be done with their property. You get Christians thinking righteously about these things and you would be amazed at how soon we would see the dismantling of satanic institutions, all without any civil disobedience or rebellion.

By the way, I don't mean that these zoning decisions have to be just quietly accepted. We have civil recourse through our court system that is designed to be appealed to. It's true that it's no longer the law-based system that seeks and upholds the justice that our Founders had envisioned, but by God's grace it is a restraining force against many true evils. Until the time comes that people no longer feel able to covet openly through zoning boards, we have a responsibility to pray for God's grace, mercy, and righteousness to prevail in our courts.

There are, in fact, limits to what a person can do with his private property, for ultimately it is owned by God and it is He who sets the parameters for use. But let me stress that property use is governed and regulated by God, and not by those who are neither owners nor stewards of the property.

Notes:

1. Tom Bethel, *The Noblest Triumph: Property and Prosperity Through the Ages*.

2. R.J. Rushdoony, *Systematic Theology*, "Theology of the Land."

3. Richard Pipes, *Property and Freedom*.

4. *Ibid*.

5. R.J., Rushdoony, *Institutes of Biblical Law*, Vol. 1, "The Eighth Commandment."

6. *ibid*.

7. *ibid*.

8. Martin Noth; *Exodus*, as cited in the *Institutes of Biblical Law*, Vol.1, "The Tenth Commandment."

9. Gerhard Von Rad; *Deuteronomy, A Commentary*.

Courtesy Chalcedon Report, Box 158, Vallecito CA 95251

## ECCLESIASTICAL TYRANTS?

*Rev. Brian M. Abshire*

Some thoughts on Authority, Power and Church Government

Recently, a hot topic on one of the Internet discussion groups to which I subscribe, concerned pastoral tyranny. Various allegations of malfeasance were hurled at pastors who "tyrannized" their congregations by requiring all sorts of "non-biblical" practices. Now the point was an important one, just what are the limits of pastoral authority? Sadly, the discussion never got very far; ultimately, the definition of pastoral "tyranny" was the pastor telling someone to do anything he didn't want to do.

My desk is littered with letters, faxes and email messages from both pastors and laymen who have been badly used by their churches. But who's abusing whom? For every charge made against a pastoral dictator, there are examples of pastors being persecuted because they said the right thing, to the wrong person at the wrong time.

In broad evangelicalism, churches change pastors (and pastors change churches) with alarming frequency; the average tenure is about 2.5 years. Happily, in Presbyterian circles, the average is considerably longer, but even so, when the going gets tough, most pastors pack up and leave. Part of this is undoubtedly due to poor conflict and confrontation procedures. But there is also a sociological dynamic going on of which most people are woefully unaware.

Most Christians do not seem to grasp the basic difference between authority and power. Power is the ability to influence others' behaviour. A person has power when we think he can either help us or hurt us. A cop exercises power when he turns on that red light behind you. He can make you pull over. Why? Because otherwise, he'll give you a ticket! That ticket costs money, and time, and may hurt your reputation. He has power because he can influence your behaviour.

Authority on the other hand is the right to exercise power. If I put a little bubble-gum machine on my dash, pull up behind you and tell you to pull over, you don't have to. I am not a police officer. I do not have the right to exercise power over you this way.

Men can have power without authority (e.g. the mugger who shoves a pistol in your face and demands your wallet). Men can have authority without power (if you haven't fought for your second amendment rights, you're probably defenseless when the mugger jacks you up). But true Biblical leadership is a combination of both; lawful authority, properly used (you pull out your own weapon and shoot the mugger!).

All authority comes from God (Romans 13:1). He is the One who created, redeemed and sustains the universe. Everything belongs to Him. God delegates lawful authority to various institutions, specifically Church (ecclesia), State and Family as well as the power appropriate to each: the

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Family bears the rod, the State the sword, and the Church, the Keys to the Kingdom. The Law of God details very specifically both the duties and responsibilities of each lawful institution. Anarchy is the breakdown of authority in these institutions. Tyranny is the application of power outside of a sphere's legitimate authority.

In regards to the church, pastors obviously have God-given authority delegated to them for specific purposes. They have genuine authority (or the right) to preach the Word and administer the sacraments. In the Westminster Confession and early Book of Church Order, not just anyone could stand up and preach. Preaching, teaching and administering the sacraments are, at least in historic Presbyterianism, restricted to the minister.

However, while the pastor has the authority to preach the Word, does that necessarily give him power? Maybe and maybe not. Most Christians think pastors exercise far more power than they really do. They see him leading the service, preaching the word, distributing the sacraments, etc. and it sure looks as if he's in charge. And most pastors would certainly like to think that their preaching influences people's behaviour. But does it really? First of all, what determines the content of the pastor's sermons? Most Christians say they want a strong pastor, preaching strong messages, but that is not necessarily the case. People have certain expectations from a pastor. If he does not meet their expectation (whether those expectations are right or wrong), he's in trouble. If the people don't like his preaching, they either leave his church, or they make him leave. If he says the wrong thing (i.e., something people do not want to hear) he just might end up selling insurance!

Therefore pastors tend to stay away from anything controversial, they speak only in glittering generalities, and for heaven's sake, don't ever make a message actually applicable to someone. You see, if the sermons actually challenge people to change their behaviour, then people will be uncomfortable. And if the pastor makes enough of them uncomfortable, well, they'll find someone else to tell them just what they want to hear (cf. 2 Timothy 4:3-4). I was told in one homiletics class in seminary, "People don't come to church to feel bad." Our job was to make people feel good about themselves. Hence, many, many sermons are essentially, tasteless, puerile collections of anecdotes and pious sentiments. Like predigested pap they go down easily and are just what a baby needs. And that just may go a long way to explaining the infantile behaviour of so many Christians.

Therefore the pastor often has to walk a tightrope, especially if the congregation is in need of reformation. If he starts preaching about specific sins Holy Spirit just might start convicting people. Granted, in a mature church filled with Godly people, those saints will receive the Word with gladness and rejoice in God's Law. But sadly, there does not seem to be a lot of those churches around today. Instead, when Holy Spirit starts putting the pressure on, most congregations just get rid of the pastor!

There's an old joke about a pastor who was preaching on the Ten Commandments. After each message, one old timer would say, "Preach it brother." When the sermon series got to "Thou shalt not steal," the pastor emphasized that dishonesty in business dealings was a violation of the eighth commandment. The old timer, known for his shady business deals grumbled, "You've stopped preaching and started meddling."

No pastor of any integrity would ever refuse to preach a message just because he knew it would hit too close to home. Yet there is a subtle dynamic at work here. Pastors want to be liked and respected just like everyone else. If people are uncomfortable with what he preaches, there is a natural tendency to shy away from those subjects, especially if the pastor has no strong convictions on the issue. Sometimes there is a little "operant" conditioning going on, people positively reinforce preaching that makes them feel good, and negatively reinforce preaching that makes them feel bad. Trust me, any reasonable pastor can read body language while he's preaching. He knows when people like what he's saying. And he knows when they don't. And the natural tendency for any pastor is to tell people what they like hearing.

Furthermore, the way we train our pastors almost guarantees that they can only preach in non-threatening generalities. After all, to make the Bible applicable, you have to understand not only sound doctrine and good homiletics, you have to have lived life. Most pastors have only a very superficial understanding of the real world. They've spent most of their lives in academic institutions that specialize in producing men great on theory, but lousy in application. How can they not preach in generalities?

Therefore, though pastors may look powerful, in reality, most influence people very little. He cannot influence people's behaviour unless he can (in God's grace and by His spirit) convince people to love and obey God's Law. But if he's not sure what the law requires, or how it applies,

then he just doesn't have anything worthwhile to say. And if he does not effectively teach, then he cannot lead. The average pastor is much like the average husband; he has the authority to lead, but doesn't know what he's expected to do or how to go about doing it. And just as the average husband is led around the nose by his wife, too many pastors are willing to be led around by the whims of their congregations.

There's a reason for this. A pastor is in a very tenuous position. If *you* don't like a church, you can always leave (granted, **people shouldn't leave a church for just any old reason**, but I'm trying to make a point here). But if you leave your church (for whatever reason) you are not out of a job, and you are not putting your family or career at risk. However for a pastor, the Church is not only his church, but also his circle of friends and his livelihood. Yet many congregations think nothing of destroying a man's whole life, career and family for the most ridiculous reasons. Nobody ever has to state it this badly, but every pastor knows that if he ticks off the wrong people, he could find himself on the street, maybe with a pregnant wife and hungry children, no income and no saleable skills.

Thus, many pastors soon learn to be very careful in what they say and how they say it. Generalities are safe. Controversial opinions are best kept to one's self. Therefore unless he's that rare sort who is motivated purely by duty, honour and courage, most pastors will not generally preach very provocatively. He will tell people only what they already know. He'll stay away from things that might get him in trouble. And of course, these kinds of messages will not change anyone. And consequently, the congregation will not grow in wisdom, knowledge and discernment. Therefore, he has precious little impact on their lives. Meanwhile, the Church can get on with the serious busi-

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by Alex Jones

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ness of building a nice sanctuary, developing cutzie little programs and holding hands for Jesus. You see, the pastor may have the authority, but someone else has the power. He knows it, and they know it.

In most established churches, a few people behind the scenes usually exercise the real power. They may or may not hold formal office. But everyone knows who they are. These people, by virtue of their tenure, or giving, or position in secular society (or just willingness to step in and do things), run the church. I well remember the first church I ever served. I was talking to the man in charge of the physical plant about where to move some office furniture when he said, "Oh, I have to call George and ask him about that." George at that time held no official position in the Church (the constitution clearly defined term limits and he couldn't lawfully serve in any leadership capacity that year). Yet, no decision, no matter how trivial, could be made without George's approval.

Interestingly, the real power is often not even held by the "Old Bulls" (the sociological term for the real power people in a church) but by their wives. In conservative churches, women are usually prohibited from positions of authority. But with the state of manhood being what it is, men are often dominated by their wives. The wives run the church the same way they run their households. They don't mind a male figurehead as long as they can pull the strings in the background. And pull them they do!

So here's the situation, a pastor has the authority from God, but likely exercises little actual power. Real power in the Church is often held by those without authority. Furthermore, both the pastor and the men in titular positions, are often dominated by their wives. Now is it any wonder that the average evangelical church is split, divided into factions, wars incessantly within itself? There can be no legitimate use of power without legitimate authority. Those who have the authority don't have the power. Those with the power don't have the authority. The church then operates like a banana republic, with the same predictable results.

What happens if a pastor starts using his authority and preaches powerfully? He makes people uncomfortable. He challenges the status quo. He wants things done differently than we've ever done them. Maybe God blesses the ministry and new people start coming to the church (which upsets the traditional balance of power). And the people with power, do not want to give it up. So civil war erupts. The power people may decide to get rid of the pastor. They slander him behind his back, they complain about him, they make snide remarks about his gifts, they magnify his every mistake. They have "prayer" sessions where every aspect of his ministry, life and character are gone over in excruciating detail. (If the church is weird enough, they do a background investigation through the police department; you think I'm kidding?). They seldom bring actual charges in church courts, since unsubstantiated allegations might backfire. But they do put enough pressure on the pastor so that eventually, he decides God is calling him somewhere else. And one of the most tenacious of the unsubstantiated charges is that their pastor is a "tyrant." He is abusive. He insists on preaching and teaching God's Word.

Now all the above is not to ignore the little tin gods that run some churches. There are pastors who see their

churches as petty fiefdoms. I have known several men who would fit the title of "tyrant." They went beyond the scope of a pastor's ministry and tried to run people's lives and families. Not satisfied with teaching God's Law, they then tried to make sure that nobody in the church could do anything without their permission. Yet each of these men were eventually caught by their own neurotic need for power. Nutty people drive normal people away. This these men usually were either driven from the churches, or so reduced the congregation that only a dedicated elite of fanatics were left.

In this age, nobody is committed much to anything. If a pastor insists on playing God, "We're the only true church....." etc., then it is unlikely that the church will ever grow much beyond a very few, weak-minded people. While the souls of those poor few are in danger, the damage such a pastor can do is limited. Granted, occasionally there arises a man with the gifts, personality, charisma etc., that allows him to mislead a great number of people. But such men are rare. This is the Age of Democracy where truth is determined by counting noses! Whatever the majority want, must be right. Therefore whoever controls the congregation, controls the church. And thus, the real tyrants are the power people behind the scenes. They are the ones dangerous to health, purity and peace of the Church, just because they are often not recognized for what they are.

How do we handle tyranny of either sort? Reformation of the Church starts in reforming the home. One of the most fundamental requirements for an elder is that he must be able to manage his own household well (1 Tim. 3:4). If we have weak men in the home, we will have weak men in the church. And if we have weak men as elders, pastors, etc., then the

church will flounder. Weak men leave a power vacuum, a vacuum that will soon be filled by someone. Therefore, the first hedge against tyranny is that Christian marriages and families must be constructed along God's Law. When men assume their authority in the home, and lovingly, self-sacrificially, exercise that authority over their wives and children, then the church will have a pool of godly men it can draw on for leadership. If women don't respect their husbands, they won't respect their pastor. Thus family worship is not just a nice thing that Christians should do, but an absolutely critical discipline for every family. Men who take their families daily into the Word of God, teaching them, leading them, are completing basic training for dominion. Churches that do not emphasize family worship are setting themselves up for disaster.

Secondly, there needs to be accountability. O.K., I admit it; I am a convinced Presbyterian (and presbyteries can become their own little tyrannies, but that's a different issue for a different article). But regardless of what one's thoughts on church polity, church courts are a fundamental requirement for any healthy church. First Corinthians 6:1ff commands us to have ways of arbitrating disputes. Of course, just having such courts does not mean that they are properly used (church courts are only as good as the men in them). But if you don't even have a court system, you're lost before you've begun.

There must be courts above the local congregation. I don't care what you call them, but you've got to have them. A neutral court takes power out of the hands of the power

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brokers. Justice is no longer dependent upon the whims of one local congregation, or the “Old Bulls” who pull the strings in the background. If someone is a convinced Baptist, then enter into a covenant with other Baptist churches for the sake of arbitrating disputes. You don’t have to give up any of your own rights or privileges, just agree that when a problem comes up that cannot be resolved at the local level, you’ll go to other Christians to settle (1Cor. 6:5). Set up impartial tribunals just to adjudicate disputes. Make it a requirement of church membership to voluntarily submit to the adjudication of such courts. But if we ever want to break the power of the “Old Bulls,” we have to learn how to submit to one another.

Then, we have to use Biblical principles of conflict and confrontation. Pastors need to study the Law in regards to resolving problems Biblically. Presbyterians call their session, presbytery and general assembly “courts” for a good reason. Adjudication is a primary function of authority. A father must adjudicate disputes between his children. A church must adjudicate disputes between members. Too often, as Dr. Rushdoony points out, the elders think it their job to judge the pastor. But they are a congregation’s first court of appeals. When problems come up that people cannot handle between themselves, then the session, elder board or whatever, must be willing to get in there and resolve those problems. It is the gutless, weak minded refusal of elders (including pastors) to take a stand that allows petty complaints to grow into disastrous church splits.

But if the pastor does not understand these things himself, if he has not instructed his congregation, admonished them, trained them, warned them, etc. then the people will not know what to do. Pastors need to stop preaching sentimental slush and teach God’s people God’s Law. He needs to lovingly confront, rebuke, and correct those who are in disobedience. And the first place to begin is teaching the men how to be MEN, at home, first. Get them ruling their families with wisdom, grace, compassion, justice and love, and they will be fit to rule God’s church as well.

Granted, if a pastor takes such a stand, most churches will not want him. But is that so bad? I made a decision after years of dealing with the kind of nonsense we’ve been discussing that has saved my family, and my ministry incalculable grief. I’d rather pastor a small church of fifty, where I can preach the Word, where the saints welcome the Word, where the elders apply the Word, than a church of five thousand and play the mindless power games noted above. And God is sovereign. He will bless obedience. A man willing to take a stand, and fight for truth will find others of a like mind. I want to be obedient to God. By God’s grace, I now have such a congregation. The others are just not worth the pain.

More of course needs to be done. But applying the Law is the only way to bring order out of chaos. God give us pastors willing to stand up and be counted. God give us godly men who can run their homes. And God give us grace until we get this mess sorted out.

Courtesy Highlands Reformed Presbyterian, Box 279, Colby WA 99005.

## BIBLE LAW INDEX

### 1. Obligations and Responsibilities Toward God

**B. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven images. (2nd Commandment)**

OT: Exodus 20:4-6, 23; & 22:20; & 34:17; Leviticus 17:7; & 19:4; & 26:1; Deuteronomy 4:15-19, 23-25; & 5:8-

10; & 16:22; & 17:2,3,5; & 27:15.

NT: 1 Cor. 10:14; 1 John 5:21

1) *Israel commanded NOT to bow down to, nor serve the gods of the heathen.*

OT: Exodus 23:24, 32, 33; & 6:14; & 7:16; & 8:19-20; & 11:16-17; & 12:30-31; & 13:1-3; 5-17; & 17:2-5; 1 Chron. :25.

NT: 1 Thessalonians 1:9

a) *Israel NOT to sacrifice to devils or heathen gods.*

OT: Leviticus 17:7; Deuteronomy 32:17.

b) *Israel to DESTROY ALL heathen shrines (sacred sites).*

OT: Exodus 34:12-13; Numbers 33:52; Deuteronomy 7:5, 25, 26; & 12:2-3.

c *Sacrifice of children to false gods forbidden for Israelites.*

OT: Leviticus 18:21; & 20:2-5; 2 Kings 16:3; Jeremiah 7:31; & 19:5.

Courtesy Warren & Joyce Fennel, Blue Law Index

## VANISHING ARTS

by Ken Pierpont

I’m not one for conspiracy theories. I hate blaming everything from the breakdown of the American home to global warming on the liberal media and television. But I must say I really do believe the television and other factors are contributing to the vanishing of what I like to call the quaint and mostly rural arts.

Skipping, whittling, whistling, yodelling, playing the harmonica, story-telling, baking home-made bread, quilting, juggling, and singing harmony are what I consider vanishing arts. These are the kinds of things you do together at home out on the porch on a summer’s eve.

They are the kind of things you do together in the most sacred of all the rooms of the house, the kitchen — with the exception of skipping which my wife and my mother agree had better be done outdoors.

The vanishing arts usually re-quire conversation or interaction or the kind of quiet that binds your soul together with others. The vanishing arts have to be treasured and protected and passed down through the generations like a grandfather clock from the Old Country. I believe when one of the vanishing arts is bequeathed from one generation to the next something good happens. Along with the skill or knowledge other things of value are transferred. Appreciation, affirmation, and affection we all crave are communicated in a sacred, often wordless way. Our hands touch, our eyes meet, our souls are nurtured in the exchange.

Prayer is a vanishing art in many homes. Consider this: what do you think is better for the soul of a young boy—a half hour watching a funny television program where the lead character is a practising homosexual or a season of prayer on his knees with his mom and dad and brothers and sisters?

There are forces and factors at work that are contributing to the loss of these beautiful and soul-enriching arts. The pace of modern life works against them. It is so much faster to snatch a box of frozen treats shaped like action heroes from the store than it is to get out a home-made ice cream maker. It is so much more convenient to stop at the gas station and grab a loaf of brown-coloured bread two for a dollar, than it is to grind wheat and make bread dough and wait for it to rise and bake it at home.

Even with all the conveniences of modern life we find it necessary to do so much away from home and away from



each other. So much of what our children (and grandchildren) learn, we depend on someone else to teach them away from home. This necessarily separates our families. We all have our own agenda for the day and often our agendas don't include each other. If we don't have time to spend more than a few minutes a day in intimate conversation with our children it is unlikely that we are going to be able to find time for Grandma to teach us her favourite quilt pattern. If we have something scheduled every night of the week we will fancy ourselves too busy to listen to Grandpa to sing the seventh verse of "The Old Rock Candy Mountain."

I read an interesting book about a fella' who protested the pace of modern life by hiking all the way to the State Capitol to turn in his driver's license. It was his symbolic, quiet protest to a pressure I fully understand. I found it humorously ironic though that he wrote about his walk ... and the book was printed and distributed using the most modern means. I'm sure his royalty check was generated with the help of a computer and the printing press itself was an advance in technology so profound that it fueled the reformation and changed the world forever. So don't think of me as a Ludite or Neo-Amish.

I am writing this little nostalgic piece on a state of the art computer and I just enjoyed taking care of my morning necessities a few steps from where I slept in perfect warmth and comfort. I enjoyed the luxury of a hot shower and in a few minutes I will go down to the kitchen and have a hot bowl of oatmeal, and steaming hot fresh gourmet coffee, so I do have an appreciation for modern things.

I'm glad I didn't have to use an outdoor privy, write on a legal pad, and bathe in a wash tub, heating my water on a wood stove, but still I like to look across the room in the evening and see my boys concentrating on a new chess opening instead of playing a video game.

I don't like the idea of my daughters spending the evening filling their minds with the latest politically-correct propaganda masquerading as a situation comedy. I don't consider breaking down a young person's God-given inhibitions about sacred-to-marriage entertaining, or particularly funny. I would much rather look across the room on a winter evening and see them stitching on a beautiful quilt that will still be in the family after I am just a memory to them. I would rather hear them singing (Psalms) in the kitchen together while they are making "snickerdoodles" or oatmeal cookies.

I don't mind the kids using the computer, but I'm glad they wouldn't think of using it to chat on-line with someone whose hidden agenda is to defraud and defile. It pleases me to see my daughter using the PC to compose a newsletter about home, faith and family and share a new granola recipe or instructions about a craft project that she did with her sisters.

Understand, I'm not ready to throw my computer in the dumpster. I don't want to stumble around the house in the dark at night or have to do my early morning writing by the light of a kerosene lamp. I don't want Lois to have to scrub my clothes clean on a washboard. I'm sort of attached to my permanent-press shirts and I would miss our videocassette/DVD of *Anne of Green Gables*. I would be lost without e-mail. I don't want to go back in time, but I do plan to use the modern technology I enjoy to help my children grow to appreciate the quaint and mostly rural arts.

I want them to grow up with warm memories of home, skipping, whistling, quilting, reading, and who knows, maybe even yodelling. I want to have memories of quiet evenings together cultivating graceful arts and useful skills. I want them to know the simple pleasure of a game of chess, or draughts, with Dad on a winter night.\*

*Ken Pierpont has been married to Lois, his college sweetheart, since 1979. They have eight children—four sons and four daughters. They live in Hinsdale, IL. On the weekends they minister in churches within driving distance. Ken's goal in life is to communicate truth about Jesus the Christ and demonstrate that truth in his own life and family every day. It is their family's desire to help people build strong and happy families. They are available to speak and sing at churches, retreats, banquets, conferences, camps, homeschool groups or other events on the subject of parenting, homeschooling, courtship, and more.*

Courtesy, Home School Digest, Box 374 Covert MI 49043

## OUR READERS SAY:

Dear CIM: "With many thanks for your great newsletter. Beats visiting most churches." (Victoria)

Dear CIM: "I bless you for having opened my eyes! It seems I've known you much longer than 4 years, but my first Covenant Messenger (I have kept them all) was from December 2008. My understanding, knowledge, faith and belief have all increased geometrically since then.

I try, wherever possible, to spread your message. Often people simply can't grasp it, some reject it, some are angered by it. Only for a chosen few will the scales fall from their eyes! However, yesterday after church I found a receptive hearer, who asked intelligent questions—I must follow him up. Just last Friday I found a very receptive group of high-school students. God is moving to awaken His people!

I have enclosed the name of someone who thinks just as we do.... a fellow ..... restorer. Another .... enthusiast lent me his copy of "Who is Esau Edom?" which had your address in it, and enabled me to first make contact. God even uses old cars to bring His people to Him!

I am always fascinated by the way you find ever new, mind-expanding things for the *Covenant Messenger*. You don't just re-hash the same basic knowledge, but rather find ever-new concepts to push the boundaries of our knowledge and understanding. God bless you for it; may He continue to support you in your wonderful work.

With kindest regards..... (South Australia)

Again another month has flown by, and we are still behind, not having yet caught up on last month's delay.

As we will be gone for about two weeks to Tasmania again at the end of March, God willing, don't be surprised to see that the April issue will also be some weeks late. Hopefully some of the mail will still be dealt with in our absence.

It's been a few years since we were last there, and we need to catch up with family and friends again.

We are still slowly progressing with converting cassette tapes to CDs - but there are very many to do. We are still disposing of old tapes @ 10 for \$10 posted within Australia (only), a good way of getting very cheap and very good messages to listen to. There are still between 1500 to 2000 to get rid of.

Don't forget to check out updates on our website. Perhaps one day we will combine a year's worth of Covenant Messengers onto a CD-rom for your archive; but in the meantime there are already many years worth there for free download.

Many thanks for the letters, orders, donations, clippings, etc., and we do look forward to hearing from you. Pray for our safe return from Tasmania, so that we may continue with this work.

May the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob bless you and keep you, and make His face shine on you and be gracious to, give you peace and keep you safe,

