



A
Ministry
of:

**CORNERSTONE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

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HOORAY FOR A LITTLE COMMON SENSE!

June 2009

The following is excerpted from an article by Ben Stein on CBS Sunday Morning. It was entitled: 'I hope we can find God again before it's too late!' I am a Jew, and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish. And it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautiful lit up, bejeweled trees, Christmas trees. I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are: Christmas trees. It doesn't bother me when people say, 'Merry Christmas' to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of the year. It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display at a key intersection near my beach house in Malibu. If people want a creche, it's just as fine with me as is the Menorah a few hundred yards away. I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in God are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from that America is an explicitly atheistic country. I can't find it in the Constitution and I don't like it being shoved down my throat. Or maybe I can put it another way: where did the idea come from that we should worship celebrities and we aren't allowed to worship God as we understand Him? I guess that's a sign I am getting old, too. But there are a lot of us who are wondering where these celebrities came from and where the America we knew went to. In light of the many jokes we send to one another for a laugh, this is a little different: This is not intended to be a joke; it's not funny, it's intended to get you thinking...

In light of recent events... terrorists attack, school shootings, etc. I think it started when Madeleine O'Hare (she was murdered, her body found a few years ago) complained she didn't want prayer in our schools, and we said OK. Then someone said you better not read the Bible in school. The Bible says thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not steal, and love your neighbor as yourself. And we said OK. Then Dr. Benjamin Spock said we shouldn't spank our children when they misbehave because their little personalities would be warped and we might damage their self esteem (Dr. Spock's son committed suicide). We said an expert should know what he's talking about. We said OK. Now we are asking ourselves why our children have no conscience, and why they don't know right from wrong, and why it doesn't bother them to kill strangers, their classmates, and themselves. Probably, if we think about it long and hard enough, we can figure it out. I think it has a great deal to do with "WE REAP WHAT WE SOW." Funny how simple it is for people to trash God and then wonder why the world's going to hell. Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, but question what the Bible says. Funny how you can send 'jokes' through email and they spread like wildfire but when you start sending messages regarding Jesus Christ or God, people think twice about sharing. Funny how lewd, crude, vulgar and obscene articles pass freely through cyberspace, but public discussion of God is suppressed in the school and workplace. Are you laughing yet? Funny how when you forward this message, you will not send it to many on your address list because you're not sure what they believe, of what they will think of you for sending it. (See page 3)

CORNERSTONE NEWS

FAMILY BIBLE CONFERENCE

JULY 12 - 17, 2009

Sunday: 9:30, 10:45 & 6:00

Mon.-Fri: 10:00, 11:00, 7:00

Refreshments under the tent - 10:45

THEME:

“ETERNAL TRUTHS FOR CHANGING TIMES!”

SEVERAL SPEAKERS * SPECIAL MUSIC

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday - Friday - 10 to noon

All Children through Grade 7

(Absolutely Free)

CHALLENGE A BLESSING

The following letter is from a long-time friend and fellow worker, Dr. Ernest Gambrell, director of Fundamental Baptist Worldwide Mission: Dear Brother Starr: I was sitting here reading over your paper and thought I should drop you a note to tell you that I enjoy receiving it. It is always a blessing and always informative. As a pastor, you know we receive many papers from various people and ministries. Most of them are not worth reading, but when I receive your paper, I generally find time to read it the same day. I have read this one twice. We need papers like this... - Keep up the good work.

Frankly, we think it is but a small thing. We print this that it might encourage you to send a subscription to some of your friends - only \$3.00 for a year.

YOUTH CORNER

A WORD OF WISDOM. One of the serious mistakes that most young people make is seeking advice from the wrong place...from their friends. A recent survey showed that 50% of teens never went to someone older for counsel, but only to their peers. This is dangerous for your friends have not had the time or experience to acquire true wisdom. And of course, if they are not saved, they do not have any wisdom that comes from God at all. *Young person, do not confuse agreement with understanding.* Most of us want advice from someone who will agree with us, while one who disagrees may actually have the right advice. **“Hear counsel and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in the latter end.” ~Proverbs 19:20.**

THE BOOZE BAR.

A bar to heaven, a door to hell,
Whoever named it, named it well.
A bar to manliness and wealth,
A door to want and broken health.
A bar to honor, pride and fame,
A door to want and grief and shame.
A bar to hope and a bar to prayer,
A door to darkness and despair.
A bar to honored and useful life,
A door to brawling and senseless strife.
A bar to all that's true and brave,
A door to every drunkard's grave.
A bar to joy that home imparts,
A door to tears and an aching heart.
A bar to heaven, a door to hell,
Whoever named it, named it well.

WHAT IS IT YOU WANT TO MAKE? “I don't believe my son will have time to take a four-year course,” said a father to James A. Garfield, then president of Hiram (Ohio) College. “Could you provide a shorter course?” he asked. Garfield replied, “Why, yes, I think we can, but it all depends upon what you want to make of him. When God wants to make an oak, He takes hundreds of years. When He wants to make a squash, He takes only three months.” Do not be in a hurry to get a cheap education (or a cheap anything else). Strive for the best, especially when in spiritual things. God is trying to make something worthwhile and useful out of you, and it will take a lifetime of work and perseverance.

*Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing.
I Thessalonians 5:16-17*

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

(Cont'd from p.1.). Funny how we can be more worried about what other people think of us than what God thinks of us. Pass it on if you think it has merit. If not then just discard it... no one will know you did. But, if you discard this thought process, don't sit back and complain about what bad shape we are in. - My Best Regards, Honestly and Respectfully, Ben Stein.

Ed. I find this refreshing in these days when God has been just about completely banished from public life in this land. The very fact that it comes from a media source is surprising. It is nice to see someone with a little common sense on this subject. Common sense these days is about as common as hens teeth! Though not a Christian, this man has some respect for God and even God's Word, the Bible and some insight as to what is wrong with our land and the world.

ACORN TO HELP FIND CENSUS TAKERS. The Association of Community Organizations for Reform (ACORN) is now a "national partner" with the U.S. Census Bureau, soon to help the White House find 1.4 million workers to canvass for the country's 2010 census. If the acronym rings a bell, it's because the organization has a history of voter fraud charges in the last election cycle, according to a report by FOXNews.com. The U.S. Census Bureau has also gone on the defensive. There are many who remain concerned about the organization's role. "ACORN has been accused of voter fraud, embezzlement, and more... and yet this is a group that the federal government wants helping with the census?" asks Bobby Eberle of GOPUSA. "It's a concern, especially when you look at all the different charges of voter fraud. And it's not just the lawmakers' concern. It should be the concern of every citizen in the country," Rep. Lynn A. Westmoreland, R-Ga., vice ranking member of the subcommittee for the U.S. Census, told FOXNews.com. "We want an enumeration. We don't want to have any false numbers." ACORN came under assault in 2007 when Washington State filed felony charges against several paid ACORN employees and supervisors for more than 1,700 fraudulent voter registrations. In March 2008, an ACORN worker in Pennsylvania was sentenced

for making 29 fraudulent voter registration forms. NewsMax 3/18/09. Ed. Italics mine. This is like letting the fox help keep the chicken coop.

AIDS EPIDEMIC HITS WASHINGTON D. C. Washington - A new report by D.C. health officials says at least 3 percent of residents in the nation's capital are living with HIV or AIDS and every mode of transmission is on the rise. The findings in the 2008 epidemiology report by the D.C. HIV/AIDS Administration point to a severe epidemic that's impacting every race and sex across the population and neighborhoods. Scheduled to be released Monday, the report says that the number of HIV and AIDS cases jumped 22 percent from the nearly 12,500 reported in 2006. Almost 1 in 10 residents between ages 40 and 49 are living with HIV, and black men had the highest infection rate at almost 7 percent. The report says the virus is most often transmitted by men having sex with men, followed by heterosexual transmission and injection drug use. -OneNews Now. 3/16/09. Ed. Isn't that a wonderful testimony of the capital of our country. Did you notice how often AIDS is transmitted homosexually! While you are not supposed to say it, AIDS is a homosexual disease. Sure people get it other ways, but its origin is homosexual.

SERVICEMEN, HONEST CITIZENS TERRORISTS? Members of both sides of the aisle in Congress are expressing outrage and seeking an investigation into a new Department of Homeland Security report on "extremism" that targets U.S. military veterans, opponents of abortion and supporters of other conservative causes. U.S. Pete Hoestra, R - Mich. was horrified at what he described as a "shoddy, unsubstantiated" document that was delivered to law enforcement across the nation. Targeted are the following:
Those who oppose restrictions on firearms
Oppose lax immigration - Oppose Obama's policies
Oppose free trade agreements
Oppose same sex marriages - Gov't funding for abortions
Has paranoia of foreign regimes - fear communist regimes
Oppose one-world gov't
Bemoan decline of U.S. stature in the world
Upset by loss of jobs to China and India

Ed. It sounds like any honest and rightly concerned American could be a suspected terrorist! -WND 4/17/09

BOOK OF REVELATION

Pastor Starr' book on Revelation will help you understand this great prophecy. Get some for your friends. \$2 plus \$1 post. 5 for \$9 pp.

ZIGZAGGING

I first read this story some years ago; its lesson is just as valid today. An old farmer unconsciously taught a great truth when he explained about his dog. The old man just returned from a journey into town in his horse and buggy. His faithful old dog had traveled with him running long side the carriage. The dog looked exhausted and was panting, all out of breath. Someone said the journey must have been too long for him. The farmer said, “‘Taint the road that tired him, but the zigzagging. The team has only gone about ten miles, but he has run more than fifty. There wasn’t a gate open on the way but he had to go in and examine the whole premises. There wasn’t a cat appeared on the path but he had to chase it. There wasn’t a dog barking but he had to wear himself out barking back and showing a fight. So, while we were keeping on the road, he was running over the whole countryside. No, it ‘taint the straight traveling that tires him; it’s the zigzagging.” What a lesson there is here for every Christian. I have known believers complain how busy they are in the Lord’s work, but if you analyze their lives, you will find that it’s not the Lord’s work that wears them out but all the other zigzagging. Sadly, many believers, while faithful at church attendance, are all worn out chasing other things all week. It would be good if we all took stock to see how much zigzagging we’re doing. I Corinthians 9:26,27 says, **“I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”** We are always speaking about priorities. We need to put first things first! Jesus said, **“But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness...”** ~Matthew 6:33.

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SPURGEON AND BROADMINDEDNESS

“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins” (James 5:19-20). There are some truths which must be believed, they are essential to salvation... This man had been professedly orthodox, but he turned aside from the truth on an essential point. Now, in those days the saints did not say: ‘We must be largely charitable, and leave this brother to his own opinion; he sees truth from a different standpoint... and we must not say that he is in error.’ That is at present the fashionable way of trifling with divine truth, and making things pleasant all round. Thus the gospel is debased and another gospel propagated. I should like to ask modern broad churchmen whether there is any doctrine of any sort for which it would be worth a man’s while to burn or to lie in prison... If their latitudinarianism be correct, the martyrs were fools of the first magnitude. To them black and white are terms which may be applied to the same colour, as you view it from different standpoints. It was not in this way that the apostles regarded error. They did not prescribe large-hearted charity towards falsehood’... They were not such easy-going people as our cultured friends of the school of ‘modern thought,’ who have learned at last that the deity of Christ may be denied, the work of the Holy Spirit ignored, the inspiration of scripture rejected, the atonement disbelieved, and regeneration dispensed with, and yet the man who does all this may be as good a Christian as the most devout believer! O God, deliver us from this deceitful infidelity, which while it does damage to the erring man... and does yet more mischief to our own hearts by teaching us that truth is unimportant, and falsehood a trifle, and so destroys our allegiance to the God of truth, and makes us traitors instead of loyal subjects to the King of kings (C.H. Spurgeon, *Words of Counsel for Christian Workers*).