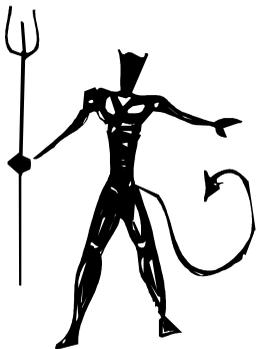


REMINDER

Volume XV

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Number 22



IF I WERE THE DEVIL

by Paul Harvey

I f I were the devil. . .

If I were the Prince of Darkness - I'd want to engulf the whole world in darkness; and I'd have a third of its real estate and four fifths of its population - but I wouldn't be happy until I had seized the ripest fruit on the tree - *THEE*.

So I'd set about however necessary to take over the United States.

I'd subvert the churches first. I'd begin with a campaign of whispers. With the wisdom of a serpent I would whisper to you as I whispered to Eve - *do as you please*. To the young I would whisper that the Bible is a myth; I would convince them that man created God instead of the other way around. I would confide that what's bad is good and what's good is... square. And the old I would teach to pray after me: "*Our Father, which art in Washington. . .*"

And then I'd get organized! I'd educate authors in how to make lurid literature exciting so that anything else would appear dull and uninteresting. I'd threaten TV with dirtier movies and vice versa. I'd peddle narcotics to whom I could, I'd sell alcohol to ladies and gentlemen of distinction, and I'd tranquilize the rest with pills.

If I were the devil, I'd soon have families at war with themselves, churches at war themselves, and nations at war with themselves - until each in its turn was consumed; and with promises of higher ratings, I'd have the mesmerizing media fanning the flames.

If I were the devil, I would encourage schools to refine young intellects but neglect to discipline emotions - just let those run wild until before you knew it, you'd have to have drug sniffing dogs and metal detectors at every schoolhouse door.

Within a decade, I'd have prisons overflowing; I'd have judges promoting pornography. Soon, I could evict God from the courthouse, then from the school house, and then from the houses of Congress. And in His own churches I would substitute psychology for religion and deity science. I would lure priests and pastors into misusing boys and girls and church money.

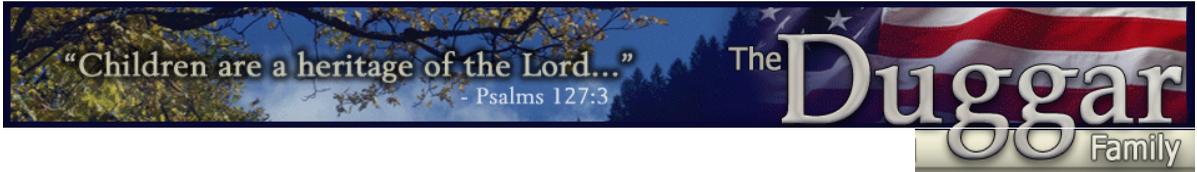
If I were the devil, I'd make the symbol of Easter an egg and the symbol of Christmas a bottle.

If I were the devil, I'd take from those who have and give to those who want it until I had killed the incentive of the ambitious. What'll you bet, I could get whole states to promote gambling as the way to get rich!

I would caution against extremes in hard work, in patriotism, in moral conduct. I would convince the young that marriage is old-fashioned, that swinging is more fun, that what you see on TV is the way to be. And thus, I could undress you in public, and I could lure you into bed with diseases for which there is no cure.

In other words, if I were the devil, *I'd just keep on doing what he's doing.*

BE PLANNING NOW TO BRING SOMEONE TO MEET -



**Sunday Morning
June 28, 2009**

- ❑ *Duggar-family Musicians Will Play and Sing For Our Service!*
- ❑ *Jim Bob Duggar Will Be Speaking In The Morning Service!*
- ❑ *Michelle Duggar To Give Devotional At Rebekah White's Baby Shower At 1:30 p.m.*

PLAN NOW TO BE HERE!

**FINANCIAL
FREEDOM
CLASS
CONTINUES
TODAY!**



Learn Biblical Principles For Finances That Will Free You From The Bondage Of Debt!

This class, though designed for our young adults and teens, is open to all from high school age and upward. Every Christian needs to learn how to handle their finances God's way!

Our class begins promptly at 9:45 each Sunday morning in the Conference Room.

Please be on time.

Our Civic Duty

The following is an excerpt from President George Washington's Farewell Address. Perhaps it would do all Americans good to know how blessed by God we were to have such men of character lead our country -

"The very idea of the power and the right of the people to establish government presupposes the duty of every individual to obey the established government. All obstructions to the execution of the law, all combinations and associations under whatever plausible character with the real design to direct, control, counteract, or awe the regular deliberation and action of the constituted authorities, are destructive of this fundamental principle and of fatal tendency.

They serve to organize faction; to give it an artificial and extraordinary force; to put in the place of the delegated will of the nation the will of a party, often a small but artful and enterprising minority of the community; and, according to the alternate triumphs of different parties, to make the public administration the mirror of the ill concerted and incongruous projects of faction, rather than the organ of consistent and wholesome plans digested by common councils and modified by mutual interests.

However combinations or associations of the above description may now and then answer popular ends, they are likely, in the course of time and things, to become potent engines by which cunning, ambitious and unprincipled men will be

enabled to subvert the power of the people and to usurp for themselves the reins of government, destroying afterwards the very engines which have lifted them to unjust dominion." ■

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

by Evangelist David W. Cloud

❑ **ANOTHER CHRISTIAN WINNER OF AMERICAN IDOL: THE WORLD AND CHRIST, TOO** - The new winner of the incredibly worldly American Idol television show is Kris Allen, a "devout Christian" who is worship leader at New Life Church in Conway, Arkansas, and has done missionary work in various places.

While pursuing the title of American Idol, Allen performed songs written by such filthy rockers as the homosexual Freddie Mercury ("We Are the Champions"), accused child molester and unisex monster Michael Jackson ("Man in the Mirror"), drug, prostitute, pornography addict Marvin Gaye ("What's Going On?"), and rapper Kanye West ("Heartless"), who has appeared in a blasphemous pose on the cover of filthy Rolling Stone magazine depicting Jesus wearing a crown of thorns. According to *Business Insider*, it was Allen's "teenage-girl fanbase" that kept him in the running ("Idol Finalist Kris Allen," May 13, 2009).

Allen told his pastor that "feeling the warm stage lights and seeing the eager audience looking up at him reminded him of only one thing: going to church." But that is only because contemporary churches like his ape the world, the same type of music, the same rock band format, the same rock show milieu, the same dress, the same addiction to the heavy back beat, the same "judge not" philosophy.

Other professing Christian winners and finalists of the American Idol competition are Kelly Clarkson, Clay Aiken, Ruben Studdard, R.J. Helton, Chris Daughtry, Carry Underwood, Jordin Sparks, and David Cook. Aiken and Helton have since admitted that they are homosexuals. The October 20, 2006, issue of *People* magazine quoted Helton as saying, "**Just because I am gay does not mean I can't love God. I'm very proud of who I am.**" (Helton's Christian music album *Real Life* sold 20,000 copies.) Aiken was featured on the cover of *People* on September 24, 2008, with the words, "Yes, I'm Gay."

American Idol is rightly named, in that it represents the modern pop culture in all of its narcissism, its fleshly sensuality, its immodesty, its unisexuality, its vanity, and its moral relativity. Its producers and judges make no pretense that it is some sort of platform for godliness. It is, in fact, a perfect fulfillment of the world described in I John 2:16 - the world that the believer is warned not to love: "**For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world**" (I John 2:16). It is impossible to love the world and Christ, too. The Word of God says, "**Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God**" (James 4:4).

The Christianity represented by the contestants on American

Idol is not biblical Christianity; it is the apostate Christianity predicted in Bible prophecy, the "live after your own lusts" Christianity. "**For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears**" (II Timothy 4:3).

❑ **WHEN THE DESERT SHALL BLOSSOM AS THE ROSE** -

"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isaiah 35:1-10).



GEMS FROM BILLY SUNDAY

● "*Hypocrites in the church? Yes, and in the lodge, and at home. Don't hunt through the church for a hypocrite. Go home and look in the glass. Hypocrites? Yes. See that you make the number one less!*"

● "*If you have no joy in your religion, there's a leak in your Christianity somewhere!.*"

● "*There are some so-called Christian homes today with books on the shelves of the library [today it would be videos & cable/satellite TV channels] that have no more business there than a rattler crawling about on the floor, or poison within the child's reach!*"

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Bertha Segebarrt
 Cradle Roll 2: Justin Geroux
 6:00 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Rebekah White
 Cradle Roll 2: Nathaniel White
 Wed. Eve. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Merri Geroux
 Cradle Roll 2: Shirley White

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of May 24, 2009

Sunday School ----- 24
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 41
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 31
 Wed. Eve. Service, 05/27/09 ----- 20

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of May 24, 2009

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,298.00
 New Hymnals Fund ----- \$ 10.00
Total Received for Week of 05/24/09: \$ 1,308.00

**Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
 to operate the church
 EACH WEEK,
 as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00 🖱**

FUND DRIVE REPORTS

NEW HYMNAL FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 1,402.00

NEW PIANO FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 570.00

PARSONAGE RENOVATION FUND

Total Received, To Date: \$ 330.00



Visit Us Online At - www.southheightsbaptist.com

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. **Admit that you are a sinner.**
2. **Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.**
3. **Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.**
4. **You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).**
5. **By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.**



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - **OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnely, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Nathaniel & Rebekah White ----- Outreach