

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of January 21, 2024 -

Sunday School	-----	29
Sunday Morning Service	-----	39
Sunday Evening Service	-----	25
Wednesday Eve., 01/24/24 Service	-----	11

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of January 21, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 657.58
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/21/24:		\$ 657.58

- Week of January 14, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,175.02
Missionary Offering, Children's SS Class	-----	\$ 3.09
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/14/24:		\$ 1,178.11

- Week of January 7, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,735.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/07/24:		\$ 1,735.00

- Week of December 31, 2023 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 3,940.00
Church Sign Restoration Fund	-----	\$ 135.64
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 12/24/23:		\$ 4,075.64

- Week of December 24, 2023 -

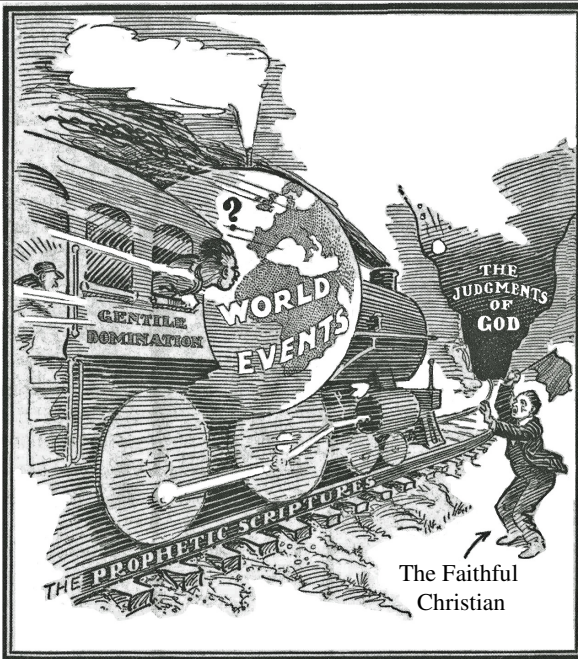
<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 2,369.24
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 12/24/23:		\$ 2,369.24

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed for church operating expenses EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,600.00



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.

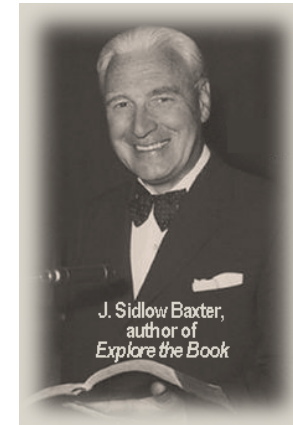


SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY
REMINDER

Volume XXIX

January 28, 2024

Number 4



J. Sidlow Baxter,
author of
Explore the Book

Our Bible: The Most Critical Issue

by J. Sidlow Baxter

Christianity is based on a book. It centres in a Person. It expresses itself in a message. It authenticates itself in an experience.

That basic book is the Bible. That central Person is Jesus.

That expressive message is the Gospel. That authenticating experience is the new birth.

Think here about that basic book. Christianity stands or falls with the Bible. It is no use saying, as the liberalists or modernists do, that so long as we have Jesus we do not need an infallibly inspired Bible.

Nay, all that we know authentically about the Lord Jesus we owe, and shall keep on owing, to the Bible. To say that so long as we have Jesus we do not need the Bible is about equal to saying that so long as we have the sunshine we don't need the sun.

I have said it many a time, and am surer of it than ever, that the life and death issue of Christianity is the inspiration and authority of the Bible.

If the Bible is uniquely and inerrantly inspired, then we have certainty; we may know real truth about God, about man, about origins, about morals, about the race's future, and about human destiny on the other side of the grave. But if the Bible is not the uniquely and inerrantly inspired Word of God, then (let us be blunt) we do not have certified truth about God, about man, about origins, about morals, about the race's future, or about human destiny in the hereafter: we are only groping.

If the Bible is provenly inspired by the divine Spirit, then Christian theology is truly a science, for by it we may truly "know". But if the Bible is anything less than provably inspired, then Christian theology instead of being "the queen of the sciences", is merely religious philosophy and human speculation.

If the Bible is only human lore, and not divine truth, then we have no real answer to those who say, "Let's pick the best out of all religions and blend it all into Pan-Deism - one world religion with one god made out of many".

The most devastating blight on modern Protestantism is not its plurality of denominations. The modern ecumenicity movement, which until recently found its loudest voice in the World Council of Churches, has wasted our time with its dreary dirge about denominational divisions while it says nothing about basic heresies which destroy faith in the Bible and create the deepest division of all.

It was because Luther and Zwingli and Calvin and Melancthon and their co-reformers broke through the encrusted mass of medieval superstition, and cleaved their way straight back to the historic sources of the Christian faith in the Holy Scriptures that there came to us the never-to-be-forgotten triumph of the Protestant Reformation. Ever since then, of logical necessity, we Protestants have always been the people of the Book.

It is in the Book that we find the veracity of our cause, the validity of our claims, the vitality of our message. It is in the Book that we find the warrant for our existence, the magna charta of our freedoms, and our divine "Declaration of Independence".

It is in the Book that we find the sum and substance of our argument, and the inspiration of all our activities. To me, it is an awful thing to hear professedly Protestant leaders and preachers talk of the Reformation as though it was a blunder.

If it was a blunder it was the most blessed blunder in Anno Domini history. May the good Lord send us another such blunder today! - for it broke the fetters of a tyrannical ecclesiastical totalitarianism and turned millions of slaves into free men. It brought God to men, and men to God, as only an unshackled Bible can.

(continued inside)

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

Church Directory

Todd W. White	-----	Pastor
Debra Carlton, Mickie Shatwell, Lois Mae Floyd	-----	Pianists
Derek Quinnelly	-----	Greeter
Kim Phillips; Shirley White/LeAnna White; Berdena Bergman/Debra Carlton; Daniel Avery/GiGi Avery; & Keith Shufelt	-----	Teachers
Larry & Mary Byars	-----	Outreach
LeAnna White	-----	Custodian
Keith Shufelt	-----	Men's Prayer Group
GinaMarie Shufelt	-----	Ladies Bible Study/Flowers
Seth White	-----	Sound/Video
Larry Byars, Derek Quinnelly	-----	Trustees

How important it is, in these days of apologetic vagueness, for Christian educators and school teachers in particular, to have a clear and firm conviction about the Bible! If we are shaky there we are shaky everywhere. Agreed, we cannot say in the classroom all we could wish; but in all kinds of incidental ways we can communicate how lucid and firm our Christian convictions are, especially so in mixing with other teachers.

Eyes watch and ears listen when we are least aware. Often when our witness seems to have least spectacular influence it is having unsuspected effect. Clear, straight-cut thinking about the inspiration and finality of the Bible is of prime importance to any virile witness for Christ.

How imperative indeed it is for all of us who love and represent our dear Lord Jesus and to stand firmly on the Bible, and speak bravely for the Bible, and test all doctrine by the Bible, and support all argument by appeal to the Bible, and find our guidance in the Bible, and ever speak in praise of the Bible!

***This is the greatest Book earth,
Unparalleled it stands;
Its Author God, its truth divine,
Inspired in every page and line,
Though writ with human hands.***

We underscore again the inextinguishable importance of the Bible to the Christian faith. Undermine the divine inspiration and authority of the Bible, disprove its historical integrity and doctrinal veracity, and the whole superstructure of Christian ethics totters. That is no overstatement. The more realistically one ponders it, the truer it proves to be.

I am no Bibliolater. I am a trinitarian monotheist.

That is, I worship one God alone; but that God is One in Three and Three in One. I am not a tritheist: I do not worship three Gods, for God is infinite, and there is no room, even in infinity, for more than one Infinite. Nor is my God (the God of the Bible) only a trinity; He is a triunity, One yet Three, and Three yet One. I worship that God, not the bible.

Yet I am a Biblicist in this sense, that as a matter of careful, intellectual conclusion (as well as by spiritual instinct) I accept the whole Bible as the supernaturally inspired Word of God. And in line with that I am persuaded of this, that those scholars and ministers who desupernaturalise the Bible and destroy faith in its divine authority are the biggest enemies of Bible Christianity.

I believe, also, that although they may be sincere men, they are inimical to the wellbeing of our country.

Yes, I hold that our Bible detractors are the enemies of this nation's highest good. The battle for the Bible is not only the most critical issue for Protestant Christianity; it is so for Britain. Big battles are going on all over Christendom today: the battle of Christian ethics versus the "new morality"; of godliness and faith versus the raucous new secularism; of British and American democracy versus an insidious pink socialism and red (though camouflaged) Communism; of traditional decencies versus

animalistic social permissiveness.

Underneath all these struggles, the deepest-down contest is the battle for the Bible. We are already seeing in big, bold, ugly conspicuousness what happens when a nation repudiates the moral standards of the Bible.

Christian virtues are mocked at.

Moral safeguards are ripped down.

Social decencies are derided.

Vulgarities and obscenities are flaunted in public.

The sanctity of wedlock is attacked and despised. Womanhood and motherhood are degraded. Free sex and sodomy have already brought venereal disease to epidemic proportions.

City streets and public parks are no longer safe either for women or for men. Graft and fraud, vice and vulgarity, violence and vandalism leer at us every-where.

Too many of our politicians make no profession of Christian belief any more, and are obviously without spiritual vision, and are "blind leaders of the blind." Ironically enough (yet inevitably) the best-educated nation on earth, having turned away from God's Word, is fast becoming the most superstitious, with millions like silly little poodles running at the heels of astrologers, clairvoyants, and demon-possessed spiritists.

And in our law courts, magistrates and judges, having turned away from the Biblical principles of jurisprudence, and having listened to a crackpot school of psychology, often seem more concerned for the criminal than for the victim.

When the British empire was at its zenith someone asked Queen Victoria, "What is the secret of England's greatness?" Her majesty held up a Bible and said, "This Book is the secret of England's greatness."

That was no mere over-simplification. What a nation believes about God will determine, more than anything else, its conduct, its character, its destiny.

That is just as true in Britain today as it is true anywhere else on earth or in history. What a country believes about God (or disbelieves) determines more than anything else, its conduct, its character, its destiny.

What, then, shall we believe about God? Well, if the Bible is what it claims to be, christianity is the revelation of the one true God in the one true redemption of man.

Christianity is not different from other religions merely in degree: it is different in its very nature. Let it be emphasised: christianity is the one and only redeeming revelation of God - that is, in His written Word, the Bible, and supremely in His incarnate Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let it be re-emphasised: Bible-based christianity is not merely a religion; it is a message and an experience of redemption, bringing a regenerating new spiritual life to men; a life which, if a man possess it not, he is dead while he lives; but which, if a man possess it, he lives for ever, even though the mortal body is discarded.

The only true God is the God of the Bible; and our nation's

treatment of that God and that Book will determine its destiny and seal its fate more than anything else.

During recent times we have seen some pretty staggering examples of what happens when Christian nations turn their backs on the Bible.

We have seen it in Germany, in Britain, Russia. It was the German rationalistic Bible critics who turned young Germany away from the Bible to the philosophy of Nietzsche and paved the way for that monster megalomaniac, Hitler.

It is Britain's listening to those same pseudo Bible scholars and defecting from God's written Word which, more than all other contributory factors, has shrivelled her empire and undermined her prosperity and broken down her moral leadership. Look at Russia under the anti-God, anti-Bible Kremlin.

The biggest country on earth a vast slave-state! What a farcical irony: so-called Communist Russia has no real communism (common sharing) at all. Its subjugated millions all work for a dictator gang called the Kremlin. And if any man dare object he is ground beneath the merciless wheels of the vast, totalitarian juggernaut. Thank God that at last the enslaved millions are rattling their chains against atheist totalitarianism!

Britain will remain a great nation only as it returns to and stay with the Bible. Over In America (where I have now lived for over thirty years) Uncle Sam is sick today. Scarcely has he got over his "growing pains" than he begins to look like a hesitating invalid He has a creeping disease which will cripple him unless a specify (is found. But, thank Heaven, there is a specific.

It is the Bible: the God of the Bible; the Gospel of the Bible; the eternal truths of the Bible; and that glorious, living Saviour who walks to us from the pages of the Bible. If only, in these days of bankrupt secular philosophy and sterile negatives and broken-down morals, we could bring America's and Britain's millions back again to the Bible then, so I believe, the time is ripe for the mightiest spiritual awakening since Pentecost.

Let it be sounded out again: the life-and-death issue is the Bible More than ever in these days we evangelical ministers and leader: and Christian educationalists need to be men who really believe the Bible, and know the Bible, and preach the Bible, and love the Bible and live the Bible, and, if need be, are ready to die for the Bible. Our Protestant churches are needing a new generation of Bible prophets, not just pulpiteers.

We are needing men who have made themselves experts in putting over the case for the Bible and it mighty truths. Far too many ministers are so busy with secondary matters that they have not time to become the Bible masters an teachers which they ought to be.

When the minister's study becomes an office, the prophet has degenerated into a manager and the pulpit becomes an impertinence. The crying need just now is for prophets, not just preachers; for ministers, not just managers; for men with a passion to put our dear old Bible back where it ought to be in the Christian faith, in the Protestant pulpit in the nation's schools, and in the life of the people. Let all of us help toward that end. ■

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

❑ ***STREET PREACHER WHO WAS SHOT: UPDATE*** - On Nov. 15, 2023, Hans Schmidt was shot in the head while street preaching near his church in Glendale, Arizona. In spite of a \$10,000 reward, no suspects have yet been apprehended, but Schmidt, a former Marine medic, is making good progress medically. He was moved out of intensive care in December. On January 6, his father, Eric, tweeted, "Visiting my soon, Hans. He's awake and alert and has been receiving physical therapy and rehabilitation. He can't speak just yet because of the tracheotomy but hopefully that will get removed soon."

❑ ***THE CHURCH AS A WALLED SHEEPFOLD AND A WATERED GARDEN*** - It was common in the 17th and 18th centuries for Baptist churches to refer to the New Testament assembly as a walled sheepfold and a watered garden. The First London Confession of 1644 said the members are "***under His heavenly conduct and government, to lead their lives in His walled sheepfold, and watered garden, to have communion here with the saints...***" In 1815, Benjamin Keach (who pastored the church later made famous by Charles Spurgeon) wrote, "***Some part of a wilderness [of this world] hath been turned into a garden or fruitful vineyard: so God hath out of the people of this world, taken his churches and walled them about, that none of the wild beasts can hurt them***" (Gospel Mysteries Unveiled).

This is the language of a regenerate church membership and a pilgrim Christianity, which is the church we see beginning in Acts 2:41-42. The term a "walled sheepfold" speaks of a fold in which Christ's sheep are kept, fed, and protected. Christ's true sheep are defined in John 10:27-28, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." The term "watered garden" is from Song 4:12, "A garden enclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed." The redeemed are Christ's delight, Christ's jewels. He has purchased them at great price. They are the joy that was set before Him as He set His face like flint to Gethsemane and Calvary (Heb. 12:2).

❑ ***WHEATON COLLEGE PROHIBITS PREFERRED PRONOUNS*** - The following is excerpted from "Wheaton College," Religion News, Jan. 10, 2024:

"Wheaton College, a flagship evangelical school in Wheaton, Illinois, recently updated its student and employee handbooks to restrict employees' ability to designate personal pronouns and to elaborate on the school's position on trans/nonbinary students and faculty. "The College does not permit the statement of preferred personal pronouns by employees when conducting College business, when on a platform where they are publicly identified as College employees, and/or when using the College brand in print or digital media, except when employees are required to submit such pronouns when registering for a conference or for membership in a professional organization," new language in the student handbook says. Updates to the handbook, which were approved in October and shared with employees in December and

with students in January, clarify that the college does not endorse the statement of preferred pronouns by employees or students of Wheaton. Both the previous and current versions of the student handbook make clear that the college believes God created sex to occur in the context of a marriage between a man and a woman and prohibit ‘same-sex sexual behavior,’ including marriages, civil unions or dating relationships. The handbook also has and continues to clarify that Wheaton hopes to be a loving community that respects and cares for all members, including those who ‘experience incongruity between birth sex and gender identity.’”

[Conclusion: The most loving thing that can possibly be done for mankind is to speak the truth of God’s Word without compromise.]

□ **WHAT KEEPS THE LIGHTS ON?** The following is excerpted from PowerLineBlog.com, Jan. 17, 2024:

“Most of the country is in the grip of a cold snap, and demand for electricity is high. So where is our power coming from? Fossil fuels and nuclear energy. [Consider the] chart from the invaluable Grid Brief on energy usage from Jan. 10-16. America runs on natural gas, coal and nuclear power. Everything else is an afterthought. Note that over the last few days, when demand for electricity has spiked, wind turbines have contributed almost nothing. That is typical. When it gets very cold, the wind tends to die down. In fact, if it gets cold enough wind turbines draw electricity from the grid, and thus become a net negative factor. And solar power is consistently pathetic. The idea that America can be run on wind and solar power is absurd, but the grifters promoting that fantasy are sucking many billions of dollars out of our economy, with a goal of eventually shifting trillions of dollars into their pockets.”

□ **A WORD OF CAUTION ABOUT “THE NEWS”** - We want to be informed about what is happening, but we want to see everything through God’s eyes. We have no intention to fret or worry, to be addicted to politics or to get wrapped up in a political solution, to fill our minds with the latest conspiracy theory, or to get involved with any type of uprising. We intend to obey God’s exhortations, such as these:

“Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed” (Psalm 37:1-3).

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:33).

“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:1-2).

Let the unredeemed do the fretting, as their only hope is this present world. What we are doing in the face of end-time apostasy and rampant wickedness is simple. We are doing what God has told us to do, which is to immerse ourselves in Scripture, meditating in God’s Word day and night (Ps. 1:1-3), focusing like

a laser on Christ’s Great Commission (Mt. 28:18-20), preaching the life-changing gospel as far and wide as possible, building good churches and good Christian homes by the grace of God, raising children and youth for the glory of Jesus Christ, training preachers, starting new churches, earnestly contending for the faith, and lots and lots of praying, including prayer for **“all that are in authority; that we might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.”** God has not instructed me to fight those in authority; He has instructed me to pray for them.

□ **A WIFE TOO MANY** - The following is excerpted from Michael Haykin, Kiffen, Knollys, and Keach: Rediscovering Our English Baptist Heritage:

“During [William] Kiffen’s final years he continued to be active in his pastorate at Devonshire Square and in the life of the English Calvinistic Baptists as a whole.

... However, these were also years of domestic tragedy. Three of Kiffen’s children, as well as his first wife Hanna, had already died by this time. William, his eldest, at the age of twenty in 1669; a second son in Venice, whom Kiffen asserted was poisoned by a Roman Catholic priest; a daughter, Priscilla, in 1679; Hanna in 1682.

Respecting Hanna’s life and death, Kiffen wrote later: ‘It pleased the Lord to take to Himself, my dear and faithful wife, with whom I had lived nearly forty-four years; whose tenderness to me, and faithfulness to God, were such as cannot, by me, be expressed, as she constantly sympathized with me in all my afflictions. I can truly say, I never heard her utter the least discontent under all the various providences that attended either me or her; she eyed the hand of God in all our sorrows, so as constantly to encourage me in the ways of God: her death was the greatest sorrow to me that ever I met with in the world.’

Kiffen’s second wife, Sarah, however, was cut of a different cloth. On 2 March 1698 she was charged with a number of misdeeds by Devonshire Square Church. Upon examination, she was found guilty of, among other things, defrauding her husband of two hundred pounds and making false accusations about him. When she refused to appear before the congregation, Sarah was suspended from communion on 24 April 1698.”



A WORLD WAR, NOT A CIVIL WAR

The gatekeepers opened the gate and divided Western nations

The Hill reported, “Republican governors are backing Texas Gov. Greg Abbott (R) in his standoff against the federal government over border authority.

“On Tuesday, the Texas National Guard appeared to ignore a Supreme Court decision and continued building razor wire barriers on the U.S.-Mexico border, preventing the federal Border Patrol from doing their jobs.

“In a statement Wednesday, Abbott justified the actions by

claiming his authority to combat an invasion of the state supersedes federal law.

“GOP Govs. Kevin Stitt of Oklahoma, Kristi Noem of South Dakota, Ron DeSantis of Florida, Glenn Youngkin of Virginia and Brian Kemp of Georgia have all said they support Abbott’s actions.”

The Republican Governors Association later released a letter signed by 25 of the nation’s Republican governors backing Abbott. The letter said:

“President Biden and his Administration have left Americans and our country completely vulnerable to unprecedented illegal immigration pouring across the Southern border. Instead of upholding the rule of law and securing the border, the Biden Administration has attacked and sued Texas for stepping up to protect American citizens from historic levels of illegal immigrants, deadly drugs like fentanyl, and terrorists entering our country.

We stand in solidarity with our fellow Governor, Greg Abbott, and the State of Texas in utilizing every tool and strategy, including razor wire fences, to secure the border. We do it in part because the Biden Administration is refusing to enforce immigration laws already on the books and is illegally allowing mass parole across America of migrants who entered our country illegally.

The authors of the U.S. Constitution made clear that in times like this, states have a right of self-defense, under Article 4, Section 4 and Article 1, Section 10, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution. Because the Biden Administration has abdicated its constitutional compact duties to the states, Texas has every legal justification to protect the sovereignty of our states and our nation.”

Meanwhile, President Trump reminded the world, “When I was President, we had the most secure Border in History. Joe Biden has surrendered our Border, and is aiding and abetting a massive Invasion of millions of Illegal Migrants into the United States. Instead of fighting to protect our Country from this onslaught, Biden is, unbelievably, fighting to tie the hands of Governor Abbott and the State of Texas, so that the Invasion continues unchecked. In the face of this National Security, Public Safety, and Public Health Catastrophe, Texas has rightly invoked the Invasion Clause of the Constitution, and must be given full support to repel the Invasion.

“We encourage all willing States to deploy their guards to Texas to prevent the entry of Illegals, and to remove them back across the Border. All Americans should support the commonsense measures by Texas authorities to protect the Safety, Security, and Sovereignty of Texas, and of the American people. When I am President, on Day One, instead of fighting Texas, I will work hand in hand with Governor Abbott and other Border States to Stop the Invasion, Seal the Border, and Rapidly Begin the Largest Domestic Deportation Operation in History. Those Biden has let in should not get comfortable because they will be going home.”

What Texas is doing is legal.

John Lucas wrote, “The Press Misleads. The Supreme Court has not Eliminated Texas’ Right to Defend Its Property.”

He said, “The Court’s order vacated an injunction previously entered by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals that had prohibited the Government from damaging or destroying Texas’ wire. The Supreme Court’s order has been the subject of widespread and sometimes fiery commentary. However, the press and commentators are misanalyzing the order. Governor Abbott and Texas are still free to prevent the feds from cutting their wire. The Supreme Court’s order does not forbid that. The press is misleading you.”

Many in the press — and many readers — believe we are headed to a civil war. The parallels to the first Civil War are obvious. We have a weak president. Biden makes James Buchanan look like a genius and Kamala like a C student. Once again, Democrats are trying to keep the Republican presidential nominee off the ballot.

To gaze upon the parallels is to gaze upon your navel. Look up and out.

What Texas is fighting is something larger than America because the attack on America’s borders is just a battle in the war between Western civilization and Third Worlders seeking retribution for the West bringing them indoor plumbing and the like.

The chief beneficiaries of colonization now resent it.

The battle prep for this war has been going on for more than five decades. The 1972 massacre of 11 members of the Israeli Olympics team tested our perimeter. The next year came the oil embargo, which was designed to shut down the West’s economy, and the Yom Kippur War, which failed to obliterate Israel.

The tests continued over the years and each time those who would destroy the West learned it wasn’t time.

Then came 9/11 and the West finally failed. While the president of the United States inspired and rallied Americans, his first priority was to block Islamophobia.

I get that we should not blame all Muslims for the acts of 19 of them, but when do conservatives receive the same consideration for Timothy McVeigh? Never, but terrorist leader Bill Ayres elected a president and the Boston Marathon bomber was given Britney Spears treatment by Rolling Stone Magazine.

Sure, Bush sent troops to Afghanistan ostensibly to capture Osama bin Laden. (We found him in Pakistan 10 years later.) But Afghanistan is the graveyard of great armies because even if you win, you lose because who in the heck wants to deal with Afghanis? Not only did Biden surrender the country, but he paid tribute to the Taliban in the form of \$8 billion in war materiel left behind.

Obama’s sneak attack on Libya de-stabilized the country and led to a civil war that led to Libyan refugees fleeing to Italy and creating huge problems there. Syrians have swept over Europe, as its socialists leaders attack Islamophobia and not Islamic invaders.

The de-stabilization of the West goes beyond the invasions. Western leaders turn their back on the Lord as the devil collects

the souls of nation upon nation. Countries no longer praise the men who freed them but instead shame today's white people for what are declared past sins.

In Canada, Justin Castreau made up a story about Catholic boarding schools killing Indian students and burying them in shallow graves — without evidence. Conveniently, they won't dig up the alleged graves because that might disrespect them.

In America, LGBT groomers use child porn in schools to recruit kids. Public schools have become a poor man's Epstein Island. I won't go into the transmania today because it sickens me so.

Given the attempts at suicide by our society, how can historians not conclude that the terrorists won 9/11?

Consider the Western world's reaction to the October 7th invasion by Palestinian soldiers, who broke a cease-fire and entered Israel. They proceeded to rape, torture, murder and mutilate 1,400 Israelis and foreign visitors. They also took 240 hostages. Every one of these acts is a war crime.

Instead of universal condemnation of this horror, the world condemned Israel for retaliating. The world demanded a cease-fire, effectively saying Palestinians may attack Israel without consequence. The Biden administration then gave the Palestinians billions in aid knowing full well the money would be used to re-arm.

Claudine Gay lost her job as president of Harvard not because she defended calls for killing Jews but because of her rampant plagiarism. It did not help her that a prominent Jewish billionaire donor shut his wallet to Harvard in response to its anti-Semitism. (Apparently Bill Ackerman is completely unaware of the history of Harvard.)

College presidents exist to raise money, which is why having a black woman president was so important. It made donors feel like they are helping poor black people. Never mind that her parents were well-to-do and she went to Exeter.

The return of mainstream acceptance of anti-Semitism is one of many signs of the decline of the Western world. We battle a world war on two fronts: domestic and foreign. The gatekeepers are allowing Chinese spies, Hispanic gangs, Muslim terrorists, fentanyl dealers and a window dressing of poor families (whose pot bellies belie the argument that they are hungry) to enter America.

The Supreme Court is fine with this. Texans and other Americans are not. The argument that they are defying a Supreme Court order fails on two counts.

The first is that the court did not say Texas cannot defend its border; it said the Biden administration can cut razor wire.

The second is New York state and Harvard both are trying to work around the court's orders to obey the Second Amendment in New York's case, and the 14th Amendment in Harvard's case.

We are in a fight for survival. Texans finally remembered the Alamo and started defending their border. God bless them. God bless America. It never is too late.

- by Don Surber



THE SUN AS A WITNESS TO THE GLORY OF GOD

The heavens witness of God's "glory" (Ps. 19:1). The glory of God that is seen in the heavens is His infinite wisdom and almighty power and artistry.

Consider the sun, which is the focus of Psalm 19 (*"In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun," Ps. 19:4*). Modern science is gaining a massive amount of new information about the sun through space probes. In December 2021, NASA's spaceship Parker actually flew through the Sun's upper atmosphere, the corona, sampling particles and taking complex measurements. Though the research is largely interpreted through the lens of evolution, because of man's rebellion to God, the scientific facts themselves refute evolution and point to intelligent design at an infinite level. The sun is a massive nuclear reactor that converts hydrogen into helium and provides heat, energy, and gravity for our solar system. It is nearly a perfect sphere that would hold about a million earths. Its surface temperature is about 5,500 degrees Celsius (10,000 degrees F), and the interior temperature is about 15 million degrees Celsius (27 million degrees F).

"It has a diameter of 864,000 miles, but it is all gas. Two billion billion billion tons of gas. Over every square inch of the core there presses down a crushing weight of a million million pounds of matter. The only thing that keeps the sun's core from collapsing is energy, inconceivable floods of energy that raise the sun's internal temperature to twenty-five million degrees Fahrenheit. Consuming 657 million tons of hydrogen each second, the sun can still go on burning for another fifty billion years" (John Phillips).

For life on earth, the sun is the right size, the right orbit, the right stability, and the right distance from the earth; it has the right amount of energy and gravity and magnetism; it is the right temperature; it emits the right type of radiation and visible light. "It produces 386 billion, billion megawatts of energy each second or 6.4 billion Horse Power (HP). However, of all that energy moving out into space, the earth captures only a small percentage of it (0.0000000462 of 1 percent). But this very tiny percentage, no more and no less, is 'somehow' exactly the right amount the earth needs to maintain the average temperatures that support all forms of life" ("The Young Sun," creationstudies.org).

"[The sun] is actually an ideal size to support life on earth. There would be little point in having a red supergiant star like Betelgeuse, because it is so huge that it would engulf all the inner planets! Nor would we want a star like the blue-white supergiant Rigel, 25,000 times as bright as the sun, and emitting too much high-frequency radiation. Conversely, a star much smaller than our sun would be too faint to support life" ("The Sun: Our Special Star," creation.com).

There is perfect harmony between the sun and the earth for the maintenance of life. "A related example of the unbelievable sun-earth harmony is the process of photosynthesis in green plants.

ATTENTION ALL MEN! PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 2024 MEN'S ADVANCE



Friday, April 26,
at 7:00 p.m.
and Saturday,
April 27,
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Men's Advance has been hosted by Bible Baptist Church of Stillwater for over ten years and is attended by men from all across the Midwest. The goal of the Men's Advance is to impact the

lives of men spiritually to make a difference in their homes, churches, relationships and community.

The meeting runs on a two-day format, beginning this year at 7:00 P.M. on Friday, April 26, 2022 and concluding at approximately 3:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 27. Again this year, we will meet at the Payne County Expo Center, just east of Stillwater. Meals are provided on-site to allow the men more time to fellowship with one another, and include a full smoked meat dinner Friday night, a complete breakfast Saturday morning, and a great lunch Saturday afternoon. In addition to the Advance, a golf tournament is open to all attendees and precede the Advance earlier on Friday.

The service times and break-out sessions are the focus of the event. Here, the men are challenged to examine their lives in the light of God's Word. Both humorous and contemplative skits are interspersed to reinforce the truths presented. Special music provided by the Bible Baptist Church Men's Group and others adds to the wonderful congregational hymns, including the traditional "It Is Well With My Soul" finale.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 5th!

Life on our planet depends on vegetation and the O₂/CO₂ cycle (animals breathe oxygen/plants 'breathe' carbon dioxide) for its existence. 'Surprisingly,' the sun contains the specific radiation wavelength needed to activate photosynthesis! The sun also provides the necessary amount of energy to evaporate water and keep the hydrological cycle operating, along with many other life cycles, so that resources that living organisms need are continually renewed. It has been said that the earth has the perfect surface to support life, but without the sun's delicate interaction, it would be void and desolate. One can only logically conclude that the

sun-earth relationship is the work of an amazingly wise and loving Creator" ("The Young Sun," creationstudies.org).

Sir Isaac Newton, one of the preeminent scientists of all times, observed, "This most beautiful system of sun, planets, and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful being."

Newton studied the Bible with as much zeal as he studied science, and he saw no conflict between the two. ■

- Evangelist David W. Cloud