

## AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of October 11, 2020

Sunday Morning Service -----	23
Sunday Evening Service -----	25
Wed. Evening Service, 10/14/20 -----	8

## AND THE PEOPLE "TUNED IN"...

Week of October 11, 2020

- Number of people who connected with our services on Facebook -

<b>Sunday Morning Service:</b>		
62 Views	213 Engagements	120 People Reached
<b>Sunday Evening Service:</b>		
74 Views	180 Engagements	70 People Reached
<b>Wednesday Evening Service:</b>		
125 Views	52 Engagements	386 People Reached

## AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of October 11, 2020 -

<b>Undesignated</b> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 683.94
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 10/11/20:</b>	\$ 683.94

- Week of October 4, 2020 -

<b>Undesignated</b> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,030.00
Insurance Fund -----	\$ 60.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 10/04/20:</b>	\$ 1,060.00

- Week of September 27, 2020 -

<b>Undesignated</b> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 908.84
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/27/20:</b>	\$ 908.84

- Week of September 20, 2020 -

<b>Undesignated</b> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 944.89
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/20/20:</b>	\$ 944.89

- Week of September 13, 2020 -

<b>Undesignated</b> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,155.70
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/13/20:</b>	\$ 1,155.70

- Week of September 6, 2020 -

<b>Undesignated</b> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,389.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/06/20:</b>	\$ 1,389.00

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

**PLEASE BE FAITHFUL TO GIVE, ESPECIALLY NOW.**



### CHURCH INSURANCE FUND

Monthly Premium, Due 11/05/20-----	\$ 506.00
Amount Received To Date -----	\$ 60.00

**TOTAL STILL NEEDED BY 11/05/20 ----- \$ 446.00**

*Thank You For Your Faithful Help With This Need!*

## 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.*



### THANK YOU For Your Continued Faithfulness In Giving!

During the early part this pandemic, we were unable to meet in the church-house. But - that did not mean that the expenses of having a church-house were suspended. We still had bills to pay - electricity, gas, water, trash pickup, phone, internet, facility insurance, copier lease, office supplies, etc., and, praise the Lord, His people kept praying, watching online, & supporting their church with their giving.

Some people only give when they are in attendance at church - sort of like paying for "services rendered" - but the truth is that they are robbing THEMSELVES of God's blessings when they withhold their tithes and offerings and only give when they are here (see Malachi 3:10). Thankfully, our people have remained faithful, in so many ways, during this crisis, including financially.

#### WE HAVE 3 WAYS YOU CAN GIVE DURING THIS CRISIS:

1. **By mail** - 23 East Wells Blvd., Sapulpa, OK 74066
2. **Drop it off** - call the Church Office to arrange it. 224-1924
3. **Online** - Go to the link below and give electronically:

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=433047>

**WE ARE GLAD WE CAN NOW GATHER TOGETHER TO PRAISE GOD & STUDY HIS WORD TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH-HOUSE! YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS WILL HELP US KEEP UP WITH THE BILLS AND CONTINUE OUR OUTREACH EFFORTS!**

### Church Directory

Todd W. White -----	Pastor
Lois Mae Floyd -----	Pianist/ Organist
Mickie Shatwell -----	Evening Pianist
<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED!</b> -----	Greeter
Larry Byars -----	S.S. Teacher
Larry & Mary Byars, Susan Strain -----	Outreach
Bertha Segebarr -----	Custodian
Flowers -----	Shirley & Brenda White
Sound/Video -----	Seth White

# SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY REMINDER

Volume XXVI

October 18, 2020

Number 20



## DEPRESSION AND THE CHILD OF GOD

by Evangelist David W. Cloud

The following are some biblical truths that we must understand about depression and emotional melancholy. The quotes from Charles Spurgeon are from *Lectures to My Students* unless otherwise noted. We quote him because he described his depression so plainly and gave some excellent instruction about it.

**Depression Is Part of this Fallen Life and its Reason Will Not Always Be Known** (Psalm 119:28; Romans 8:22-23; 9:2; Philippians 2:26; I Peter 1:6).

- "I note that some whom I greatly love and esteem, who are, in my judgment, among the very choicest of God's people, nevertheless, travel most of the way to heaven by night" (Spurgeon)
- "I am the subject of depression so fearful that I hope none of you ever get to such extremes of wretchedness as I go to" (Spurgeon).
- "Hours after, I have been myself depressed, and I have felt an inability to shake it off" (Spurgeon).
- "I could weep by the hour like a child, and yet I knew not what I wept for" (Spurgeon)
- "... I need something which shall cheer my heart, why I cannot tell, wherefore I do not know, but I have a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me; my soul is cast down within me; I feel as if I had rather die than live; all that God hath done by me seems to be forgotten, and my spirit flags and my courage breaks down. I need your prayers" (Spurgeon).
- "We have our times of natural sadness; we have, too, our times of depression, when we cannot do otherwise than hang our heads. Seasons of lethargy will also befall us from changes in our natural frame, or from weariness, or the rebound of over excitement. The trees are not always green, the sap sleeps in them in the winter; and we have winters too. Life cannot always be at flood tide: the fulness of the blessing is not upon the most gracious at all times" (Spurgeon).
- "Causeless depression is not to be reasoned with, nor can David's harp charm it away by sweet discourings. As well fight with the mist as with this shapeless, undefinable, yet all-beclouding hopelessness. One affords himself no pity when in this case, because it seems so unreasonable, and even sinful to be troubled without manifest cause; and yet troubled the man is, even in the very depths of his spirit. If those who laugh at such melancholy did but feel the grief of it for one hour, their laughter would be sobered into compassion. Resolution might, perhaps, shake it off, but where are we to find the resolution when the whole man is unstrung? The physician and the divine may unite their skill in such cases, and both find their hands full, and more than full. The iron bolt which so mysteriously fastens the door of hope and holds our spirits in gloomy prison, needs a heavenly hand to push it back" (Spurgeon).
- "I know that wise brethren say, 'You should not give way to feelings of depression.' ... If those who blame quite so furiously could once know what depression is, they would think it cruel to scatter blame where comfort is needed. There are experiences of the children of God which are full of spiritual darkness; and I am almost persuaded that those of God's servants who have been most highly favoured have, nevertheless, suffered more times of darkness than others. The covenant is never known to Abraham so well as when a horror of great darkness comes over him, and then he sees the shining lamp moving between the pieces of the sacrifice. A greater than Abraham was early led of the Spirit into the wilderness, and yet again ere He closed His life He was sorrowful and very heavy in the garden. No sin is necessarily connected with sorrow of heart, for Jesus Christ our Lord once said, 'My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death.' There was no sin in Him, and consequently none in His deep depression. I would, therefore, try to cheer any brother who is sad, for his sadness is not necessarily blameworthy. If his downcast spirit arises from unbelief, let him flog himself, and cry to God to be delivered from it; but if the soul is sighing--'though he slay me, yet will I trust in him'--its

(continued inside)

being slain is not a fault. The way of sorrow is not the way of sin, but a hallowed road sanctified by the prayers of myriads of pilgrims now with God--pilgrims who, passing through the valley of Baca [lit: of weeping], made it a well, the rain also filled the pools: of such it is written: "They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God" (Spurgeon Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, 1881, vol. 27).

***Some People Are More Prone to Depression and Gloominess than Others.***

☐ "As to mental maladies, is any man altogether sane? Are we not all a little off the balance? Some minds appear to have a gloomy tinge essential to their very individuality; of them it may be said, 'Melancholy marked them for her own;' fine minds withal, and ruled by noblest principles, but yet most prone to forget the silver lining, and to remember only the cloud" (Spurgeon, "The Minister's Fainting Fits," Lectures to My Students).

***We must Trust the Sovereignty and Goodness of God*** (Romans 8:28).

☐ "It would be a very sharp and trying experience to me to think that I have an affliction which God never sent me, that the bitter cup was never filled by his hand, that my trials were never measured out by him, nor sent to me by his arrangement of their weight and quantity" (Spurgeon).

☐ "If you drink of the river of affliction near its outfall, it is brackish and offensive to the taste, but if you will trace it to its source, where it rises at the foot of the throne of God, you will find its waters to be sweet and health-giving" (Spurgeon).

☐ "As long as I trace my pain to accident, my bereavement to mistake, my loss to another's wrong, my discomfort to an enemy, and so on, I am of the earth, earthy, and shall break my teeth with gravel stones; but when I rise to my God and see his hand at work, I grow calm, I have not a word of repining" (Spurgeon).

***There Can Be Divine Purposes for Depression.***

To prepare us to help others (II Corinthians 1:4)

☐ "One Sabbath morning, I preached from the text, 'My God, My God, why has Thou forsaken Me?' and though I did not say so, yet I preached my own experience. I heard my own chains clank while I tried to preach to my fellow-prisoners in the dark; but I could not tell why I was brought into such an awful horror of darkness, for which I condemned myself. On the following Monday evening, a man came to see me who bore all the marks of despair upon his countenance. His hair seemed to stand up right, and his eyes were ready to start from their sockets. He said to me, after a little parleying, 'I never before, in my life, heard any man speak who seemed to know my heart. Mine is a terrible case; but on Sunday morning you painted me to the life, and preached as if you had been inside my soul.' By God's grace I saved that man from suicide, and led him into gospel light and

liberty; but I know I could not have done it if I had not myself been confined in the dungeon in which he lay. I tell you the story, brethren, because you sometimes may not understand your own experience, and the perfect people may condemn you for having it; but what know they of God's servants? You and I have to suffer much for the sake of the people of our charge ... You may be in Egyptian darkness, and you may wonder why such a horror chills your marrow; but you may be altogether in the pursuit of your calling, and be led of the Spirit to a position of sympathy with desponding minds" (Spurgeon, An All Round Ministry, pp. 221-222).

☐ "I often feel very grateful to God that I have undergone fearful depression of spirits. I know the borders of despair, and the horrible brink of that gulf of darkness into which my feet have almost gone; but hundreds of times I have been able to give a helpful grip to brethren and sisters who have come into that same condition, which grip I could never have given if I had not known their deep despondency. So I believe that the darkest and most dreadful experience of a child of God will help him to be a fisher of men if he will but follow Christ" (Spurgeon, The Soul Winner, chapter 14).

***To Humble us*** (II Corinthians 12:7-10)

☐ "Those who are honoured of their Lord in public have usually to endure a secret chastening, or to carry a peculiar cross, lest by any means they exalt themselves, and fall into the snare of the devil" (Spurgeon)

***For Spiritual Growth*** (Romans 5:3-5)

☐ "I am afraid that all the grace that I have got of my comfortable and easy times and happy hours, might almost lie on a penny. But the good that I have received from my sorrows, and pains, and griefs, is altogether incalculable ... Affliction is the best bit of furniture in my house. It is the best book in a minister's library" (Spurgeon).

***The Ministry Brings Special Cares and Sorrows*** (II Cor. 7:5; 11:28).

☐ "Passionate longings after men's conversion, if not fully satisfied (and when are they?), consume the soul with anxiety and disappointment. To see the hopeful turn aside, the godly grow cold, professors abusing their privileges, and sinners waxing more bold in sin—are not these sights enough to crush us to the earth? The kingdom comes not as we would, the reverend name is not hallowed as we desire, and for this we must weep. How can we be otherwise than sorrowful, while men believe not our report, and the divine arm is not revealed? All mental work tends to weary and to depress, for much study is a weariness of the flesh; but ours is more than mental work—it is heart work, the labour of our inmost soul. How often, on Lord's-day evenings, do we feel as if life were completely washed out of us! After pouring out our souls over our congregations, we feel like

empty earthen pitchers which a child might break" (Spurgeon).

***Depression Can Be Associated with Spiritual Warfare*** (Ephesians 6:10-12).

***Depression Can Precede Times of Victory.*** Many times the devil will fight hardest and send dark times prior to great spiritual breakthroughs and victory.

☐ "This depression comes over me whenever the Lord is preparing a larger blessing for my ministry; the cloud is black before it breaks, and overshadows before it yields its deluge of mercy. Depression has now become to me as a prophet in rough clothing, a John the Baptist, heralding the nearer coming of my Lord's richer benison" (Spurgeon).

***Depression Can Also Follow Times of Victory,*** as with Elijah who was so downcast after his great victory at Mt. Carmel that he wanted to die (I Kings 19:2-4).

***WE MUST LOOK TO OUR SPIRITUAL HEALTH*** (II Peter 1).

☐ If you are not growing, you are going backwards, and backsliding can cause depression

☐ Don't neglect the daily quiet time with God in serious Bible study and prayer, walking in communion with Christ, yielding to the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18), putting off the old man and putting on the new (Eph. 4:22-24).

***Sin Can Cause Depression.*** Though not all depression is caused by sin (e.g., Christ in Psalm 69:20), much of it is. We all have a fallen nature, and a deceitful, wicked heart, and we all live under the curse of death because of sin, so there is no such thing as perfect health as God originally intended it. Paul spoke of "the body of this death" (Rom. 7:24), and life in that body is the reality even for born again Christians.

☐ Sin grieves the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30) and brings divine chastening (Hebrews 12:6). Sin can even lead to premature death if not repented of (I John 5:16-17).

☐ A great many cases today that are diagnosed as clinical depression are doubtless the products of sin and false doctrine, though such things are rarely acknowledged.

☐ In modern psychology, sin is typically dismissed as a result of depression, rather than the cause of depression. One drinks, abuses drugs, and commits adultery because he is depressed. Depression is treated as a disease, never an effect of one's sinful lifestyle. The depressed is a hapless victim of circumstances.

***Examples of Sin-Caused Depression***

☐ Tina Campbell of the black gospel duo Mary Mary contemplated murder and suicide in 2013 after her husband committed adultery. She said, "I'm sad; I'm broken, I'm insecure. ... I considered taking my life. I considered taking me, my children. I was just like, 'I don't want to leave a legacy of suicide to them, so maybe I should just take all of them.' ... I was like, 'Maybe I should take out these people

who did me wrong and then take us out, and leave my husband here to figure it out, so that he can realize, 'look what you did'" ("Mary Mary's Tina Campbell," TheGrio.com, Mar. 3, 2016). The violence was not limited to her thoughts. She used a hammer and scissors to destroy her husband's car. In public testimony, Tina never acknowledges her worldly "after your own lusts," II Timothy 3:3-4 lifestyle and her false charismatic theology as a possible factor in her depression. She was a victim.

☐ CCM artist Sheila Walsh, then co-host of Pat Robertson's 700 Club, was hospitalized in 1992 and underwent psychiatric therapy, including drug treatment, because she was "wrestling with a disease of the mind." She says that it is wrong to assume that "your behavior or a perverse lack of faith brought it on" ("Sheila Walsh Escapes the Darkness of Depression," The 700 Club, n.d). She says that we should always say to those suffering from depression, "It's not your fault" ("Sheila Walsh Thanks God Every Day for Her Mental Health Treatment," Assist News Service, Oct. 21, 2015). She was diagnosed with severe clinical depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, as if she had been in fierce military combat, and more than 20 years later, Walsh continues on medication. Again, in her public testimonies there was no acknowledgement of the possibility that her non-judgmental ecumenical philosophy and worldly lifestyle, including her disobedient marriage to an immoral, divorced man, had anything to do with her mental condition.

We don't know what really caused these women's mental problems and depression, but I do know that it is wrong to leave out the possibility that sin and false teaching had anything to do with it.

***Depression Is Often the Result of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.*** This was true in my case (David Cloud).

***Depression Can Also Be Caused by the Sin of Other People Who Effect me*** (Proverbs 10:1).

***WE MUST LOOK TO OUR PHYSICAL HEALTH.***

☐ Bad health can cause depression. "Has it not often happened that dyspepsia has been mistaken for backsliding, and bad digestion has been set down as a hard heart?" (Spurgeon).

Spurgeon suffered terribly from gout, sometimes bedridden for weeks at a time, racked in pain. He said, "I have been brought very low. My flesh has been tortured with pain and my spirit has been prostrate with depression. ... With some difficulty I write these lines in my bed, mingling them with the groans of pain and the songs of hope."

☐ Lack of sleep can cause depression. When I am tired, I am much more subject to depression. I have learned not to make decisions late at night. I know that things will look much darker then.

☐ Lack of rest can cause depression. Some people need more rest and "down time" than others. We need to understand

ourselves and be wise with our lives, but we must be careful not to pamper ourselves.

- ❑ “It is wisdom to take occasional furlough. In the long run, we shall do more by sometimes doing less. On, on, on for ever, without recreation may suit spirits emancipated from this ‘heavy clay’, but while we are in this tabernacle, we must every now and then cry halt, and serve the Lord by holy inaction and consecrated leisure. Let no tender conscience doubt the lawfulness of going out of harness for a while” (Spurgeon).
- ❑ Lack of physical exercise can cause depression. It is important to get regular physical exercise to keep the body healthy.

David Brainerd, famous missionary to the American Indians, tended toward great emotional extremes, sometimes feeling spiritual passion and love for God, but often being afflicted with dark depression. At least 22 times in his diary he expressed a wish for death. At the beginning of his Journal he wrote, “I was, I think, from my youth ... inclined rather to melancholy than the other extreme.” Doubtless Brainerd’s tuberculosis, which took his life at age 29, contributed to his depression.

I recall a preacher friend who had kidney failure, and it brought him into a deep spiritual depression. He told me that whereas the Bible had been his delight, it now mocked him. When he had a successful kidney transplant, this condition was healed.

We think of Eric Liddell, the famous Scottish Olympic runner who became a missionary to China and died in a Japanese prison camp. He was known to be an exceedingly cheerful person, but in his final sickness he was thrown into depression.

“In the evening especially, shortly before lights out in his room, the melancholy threatened to drown him. This wasn’t unusual among the men in his dorm as the war dragged on. What became noticeable, however, was that Liddell couldn’t shake himself out of it the next morning. His depression wouldn’t go away. ... The doctors mentioned the possibility of a ‘nervous breakdown’” (Duncan Hamilton, *For the Glory*).

It turned out that Liddell had a brain tumor. He soon had two strokes and died at age 43.

**WE MUST CRY OUT TO GOD FOR HELP** (Psalm 138:3; I Peter 5:9).

- ❑ “When I was racked some months ago with pain, to an extreme degree, so that I could no longer bear it without crying out, I asked all to go from the room, and leave me alone; and then

I had nothing I could say to God but this, ‘Thou art my Father, and I am thy child; and thou, as a Father art tender and full of mercy. I could not bear to see my child suffer as thou makest me suffer, and if I saw him tormented as I am now, I would do what I could to help him, and put my arms under him to sustain him. Wilt thou hide thy face from me, my Father? Wilt thou still lay on a heavy hand, and not give me a smile from thy countenance?’ ... So I pleaded, and I ventured to say, when I was quiet, and they came back who watched me: ‘I shall never have such pain again from this moment, for God has heard my prayer.’ I bless God that ease came and the racking pain never returned” (Spurgeon).

- ❑ We must have the upward look (Colossians 3:1-4).
- ❑ We must have the long look (II Cor. 4:17; Romans 8:18).
- ❑ We must understand that heaviness can be spiritually beneficial (James 4:9).
- ❑ We must keep our eyes upon God and our faith in His promises (Job 13:15).

**“I am the subject of depression so fearful that I hope none of you ever get to such extremes of wretchedness as I go to. But I always get back again by this—I know that I trust Christ. I have no reliance but in Him, and if He falls, I shall fall with Him. But if He does not, I shall not. Because He lives, I shall live also, and I spring to my legs again and fight with my depressions of spirit and get the victory through it. And so may you do, and so you must, for there is no other way of escaping from it” (Spurgeon).**



The Neglected Remedy

## **MARXISM, THE NEW LEFTISM, CRITICAL THEORY, ETC., IS SIMPLY A WAR AGAINST GOD AND HIS HOLY LAWS**

Karl Marx wrote, “*Communism abolishes eternal truth, it abolishes all religion, and all morality*” (The Communist Manifesto). Herbert Marcuse, father of the New Left, called for a “*cultural revolution in the sense that the protest is directed toward the whole cultural establishment, including the morality of the existing society*” (“*Reflections on the French Revolution*,” cited from Michael Walsh, *The Devil’s Pleasure Palace: The Cult of Critical Theory and the Subversion of the West*, 2015).

Antonio Gramsci, founder of the Italian Communist Party and one of the founders of cultural Marxism, said, “One must speak for a struggle for a new culture, that is, for a new moral life that cannot but be intimately connected to a new intuition of life, until it becomes a new way of feeling and seeing reality,” and, “Socialism is precisely the religion that must overwhelm Christianity” (Gramsci’s Political Thought: Hegemony, Consciousness, and the Revolutionary Process, 1981).

Saul Alinsky, communist-leaning community organizer who influenced Barack Obama, honored Lucifer in *Rules for Radicals*. In the front of the book he said, “*Lest we forget at least an over-the-shoulder acknowledgement to the very first radical ... the first radical known to man who rebelled against the establishment and did it so effectively that he at least won his own kingdom.*” Alinsky’s book has been called “the bible of the far left.”

Kate Millett, influential feminist, said, “A sexual revolution would require perhaps first of all an end of traditional sexual inhibitions and taboos, particularly those that most threaten patriarchal monogamous marriage: homosexuality, ‘illegitimacy,’ adolescent pre- and extra-marital sexuality” (Sexual Politics, 1979). Following is a chant led by Kate Millett in a consciousness-raising group in New York City in 1969: “*And how do we make Cultural Revolution? By destroying the American family. How do we destroy the family? By destroying the American Patriarch. And how do we destroy the American Patriarch? By taking away his power. How do we do that? By destroying monogamy. How can we destroy monogamy? By promoting promiscuity, eroticism, prostitution and homosexuality*” (cited by Kate Millett’s sister Mallory Millett who attended the meeting, “*Marxist Feminism’s Ruined Lives*,” Frontpage magazine, Sep. 1, 2014).



## **THE FRANKFURT SCHOOL, CULTURAL MARXISM, CRITICAL THEORY**

In the 1930s, a group of professors at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Frankfurt in Germany (“the

Frankfurt School” for short) developed their own unique strains of Western Marxism.

While they preferred to call their theory “the critical theory of society” their work has become more commonly known as “*Cultural Marxism*.” They were keenly aware of the fact that the German workers did not revolt as Marx had predicted. But the fact that Marxism had failed its first and biggest test wasn’t enough to make them abandon Marx. They remained Marxist at the core and sought to salvage Marx’s vision for the dissolution of the evil “capitalist” systems that dominated Europe and the United States and plagued the world.

Max Horkheimer defined their critical theory of society as -

- (1) “a theory dominated at every turn by a concern for reasonable conditions of life,”
- (2) a theory which condemns existing social institutions and practices as “inhuman,” and
- (3) a theory which contemplates the need for “alteration of society as a whole.”

In harmony with Marx, *the Frankfurt School theorists taught that everything in Western society is so evil that every facet of it needs to be ruthlessly criticized, weakened, and destroyed*. The rise of the Nazi movement in Germany forced these professors to flee their German homeland. The National Socialists were competing with Marxist Socialists and the Frankfurt theorists were definitely recognizable as Marxists. They were also all Jewish. So, in 1935 they fled Germany and made *Columbia University of New York* their base of operations.

Although sympathetic to Marx’s war on inequality among socio-economic classes, these “cultural Marxists” instead focused on other cultural areas where people groups encounter inequality. They saw power inequalities in the clash of cultures ... races ... religions ... family ... gender ... and sexual orientation. ...

**The chief weapon in their ideological arsenal was criticism.** The Frankfurt School made it academically fashionable to subject every old truth claim to “new criticism” or “critical theory.” Quite in harmony with Marx, every established authority and every established belief must be questioned, challenged, critiqued, doubted, ridiculed, marginalized, weakened, subverted, destroyed, and replaced. Beginning with criticism, Marx’s spectre can proceed to liberate all the peoples of the world from the oppression of Classical civilization and Judeo-Christian culture.

**Herbert Marcuse** was one of the most influential and best known theorists of the Frankfurt School. He taught his brand of cultural Marxism into the 1970s at Columbia University, Harvard, Brandeis, and the University of California, San Diego. He is now widely regarded as the father of the New Left movement, the most influential “radical philosopher” of the 1960s, and a major inspiration for the Hippie Movement, the student movement, and the civil rights movement.

*Christopher Haun, The Eight Spectres of Karl Marx in the 21st Century*



## Ten Reasons Christians Should Not Celebrate Halloween

Many in our secular society believe Halloween is nothing more than a harmless festival that allows kids to collect candy. But is it? Its origins lie deeply rooted in the occult, and Christians should stay away. Here are ten reasons why.

1. October 31st has long been known as "The Festival of the Dead." The Celtic tribes and their priests the Druids celebrated this day as a marker for the change from life to death.

2. Halloween today is performed usually by adherents of witchcraft who use the night for their rituals. Witches celebrate Halloween as the "Feast of Samhain," the first feast of the witchcraft year. Being a festival of the dead, Halloween is a time when witches attempt to communicate with the dead through various forms of divination.

3. Christians should not be involved with occultic practice or divination. Note God's command against divination in *Deuteronomy 18*.

4. Occultists believe Halloween is a time of transition between life and death. Some occult practitioners practiced divination and believed you could learn the secrets of life and wisdom by lying on a grave and listening to the messages from the long-departed.

5. Occultists also taught that spirits and ghosts left the grave during this night and would seek out warmth in their previous homes. Villagers, fearful of the possibility of being visited by the ghosts of past occupants, would dress up in costumes to scare the spirits on their way. They would also leave food and other treats at their door to appease the spirits so they would not destroy their homes or crops but instead move on down the road. That is the real reason why kids dress up in costumes today and go door-to-door seeking treats.

6. Occultists also would try to scare away the spirits by carving a scary face into a pumpkin. This horrible visage would hopefully move the spirit on to another home or village and spare that home from destruction. Sometimes the villagers would light a candle and place it within the pumpkin and use it as a lantern (hence the name, Jack-o-Lantern). This is the origin of carving pumpkins at Halloween.

7. In some witchcraft covens, the closing ritual includes eating an apple or engaging in fertility rites. In the Bible (*Genesis 3*), eating a piece of fruit brought sin and death into the world. In witchcraft, eating an apple is symbolic of bringing life. The practice of bobbing for apples brings together two pagan traditions: divination and the fertility ritual.

8. Schools are removing any religious significance from Christmas (now often called Winter Break) and Easter (Spring Break). Isn't it ironic that most public schools still celebrate Halloween even though it has occultic (religious) origins?

9. Participating in Halloween gives sanction to a holiday that promotes witches, divination, haunted houses, and other occultic practices.

10. Christians should avoid Halloween. They should not endorse or promote Halloween!

- Kerby Anderson, author, broadcaster,  
CEO of Probe Ministries,  
a Christian think tank in Richardson, Texas.



## THE REPROACH OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).

Three hundred and eighty years ago a brave group of people left their homes in Europe and crossed the Atlantic Ocean to find the Virginia colony in the new world. They landed instead at what is now Plymouth, Massachusetts and over the years they have become known as "the Pilgrims."

What made these people different from all the others coming to the new land was that they came not for gold or power, but they came for God. What they suffered in hunger, sickness, cold and fear would have caused others to abandon their search for worldly treasures. Their faith was more precious to them than life itself. They brought with them a book that just a few years earlier had been translated by the greatest group of scholars ever assembled for any single task. That book was the Bible. It became their Sword. And what the cold of winter and starvation had robbed from them, they recovered through prayer and faith in God. After suffering all of that, they got on their faces before the God of heaven and thanked Him for His Providential care.

Through the years, history has recorded how our country was built upon the heritage of faith that is a legacy they left us. Our country's most treasured documents were all based upon the principles and precepts of the Word of God. George Washington insisted that before a territory be permitted to join the union as a state that their constitution require that children be taught Bible morality and principles in addition to secular knowledge. The first amendment of the U. S. Constitution does not teach that religion should not be in government, but rather, government should not establish or control religion. "The Pilgrims" came to these

shores to escape a government controlled religion. *God was important in those days.*

When the world's greatest, humanly written, governmental document was penned, there were no minority groups present to demand their rights, no women's factions present to make suggestions, no sodomites present to offer alternate life styles, and no children present to throw fits of rebellion. There were only men who had fought for liberty and freedom by jeopardizing their fortunes, their lives, their sacred honor. They had a heart full of God. *God was important in those days.*

Our country was built upon prayer. Through the Valley Forges of the American Revolution, the Fort McHenry's of the War of 1812 and the Gettysburg's of the War Between the States, American soldiers and their families prayed. Through the Spanish-American War, and two World Wars, Americans prayed. As a small boy I remember praying for our men in Korea during school. And then later as a teenager and young adult for the American in Viet Nam. But you see, *God was important in those days.*

We thanked God and gave Him glory. America used to know Who guided her and provided her. Every farmer in this country planted in hope and harvested in joy. "Thanksgiving" started as an expression of genuine gratitude to the Lord God. And people would gather to give thanks together for the great blessings God had bestowed. It wasn't the food or the day off from work or the football game that meant so much to them, but *God was important in those days.*



And families were together. Divorce was almost unheard of. Children were brought to church by Dad and Mom, not sent on a bus. Many a young man and young lady found their life's mate at the local church, not the local bar or nightclub. Going to God's house was family time together, not sitting in front of the TV or trips to the lake every weekend. The name of Jesus Christ was exalted, not thrown in the gutter. Parents taught the kids, not vice versa. And they taught them the values of the Bible: to be honest with all men and with God. Oh, the family budget was tight, but God came first. You see, *God was important in those days.*

A man's word was his bond, because men used to believe they would stand before God for every word they said. To rob your neighbor was to rob God. To lie was to mock God. To break a vow of commitment brought judgment from God. Man a man would have built the house of the Lord before he built his own. Those were days of commitment. *God was important in those days.*

This America that once our ancestors bought with their sacrifices, sufferings and prayers; this America that once was a refuge for those who craved to worship God according to the Bible and not the government; this America that once God used time and again to rescue the world from tyrants; this America that

once embedded "In God We Trust" upon its coins and "One Nation Under God" upon the hearts of its children; this America that once had her preachers of the Word as her greatest heroes; this America that once sang "God Bless America" and "God Shed His Grace On Thee;" this America has gone into apostasy and immorality and has become a stench in the nostrils of Almighty God.

No longer are Americans willing to sacrifice, suffer or pray for that which is right; no longer do Americans flock to the house of God on the Lord's day to cling to the Word as it is preached and worship with grateful hearts. Today's America has become the "patsy" for the United Nations instead of "One Nation Under God." No longer in America are laws made to protect the citizens. Instead, they are made to take away rights from law obeyers and give rights to law breakers and moral perverts. No longer can America say, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord," because He is no longer our God. Preachers no longer stand firm upon the Blood bought Book and God's people no longer believe it.

America's greatest enemy today is not the cold winters of Plymouth Colony or the tyrannical rule of King George of England. Our enemy in not a usurping dictator or the threat of economical collapse. The ruin of America will not come by a bomb, but by her own reproach. America's greatest reproach is her own spiritual and moral decline. And America's greatest enemy is the Lord God Almighty. Our only hope of survival is an unconditional surrender to Him and make God once again important in America.

- Dr. Larry Groves, Pastor  
Faith Baptist Church - Indianapolis, Indiana

