

Preaching On Political Issues

W. W. Finlator

Pastor Emeritus, Pullen Memorial Baptist Church
Raleigh, North Carolina 1985

Preaching on political issues is an assignment for the valiant, the stout-hearted... Preaching on political issues is the solemn task of those who in their heart of hearts have said, "Woe is me if I preach not this gospel."

Banner Press Article :

Opinions

PAT ON THE BACK

Here's a pat on the back to Grace Lutheran Church School students who donated teddy bears to the Brenham Police Department to comfort kids.

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CATHY'S CORNER

Glad I basically live in a Christian nation

In these United States we have more freedoms than we would have if we lived in many other countries of the world. However, the threat of losing many of our precious freedoms in this country exists, even as I type these words.

Terrorist groups like ISIS continue to gain strength, increasing their demands that people convert to their extremist form of Islam, even in formerly Christian countries like France. Could that happen here in the United States? Not likely! Not this year or next year, or even during the next couple of decades. My final years are numbered, so I am not likely to see something like that happen. BUT...it can (and probably will) happen before this century comes to a close.

Why? Good question!

Let's start with corruption and lack of strong honest leadership within our own government. There have been a number of instances in which power goes to where the dollar is biggest. The rules of the game then favor those with the most money.

But that's just a drop in the bucket. There is an increasing dependency upon the government to take care of our every need, and when that happens, the ruling class has the power to



CATHY GANSKE

turn things around and to make us all slaves to the whims of those in power.

One more thing: This country was founded upon the principles and laws set forth in the Bible. Christianity was very strong in the earlier days of this young nation. But Christianity is losing ground. Not a lot of ground each decade, but more than

the previous decade. Perhaps we here in the United States will one day face what Christians in other countries are facing today.

Christianity is facing its biggest challenges yet in countries like Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Pakistan. Many Christians are being forced to convert to Islam or face death. Just to give you an idea how harsh the extremist Islamists are, let me give you an example. A group of Pakistani women were hired to pick fruit. All were Muslims except for one. The Muslim women owned a well, and they drank from one cup. The lone Christian woman, Asia Bibi, drank water from that well, using the same cup, and was sentenced to death for "blasphemy". The 47-year-old mother of five has been on death row in prison for more than four years, awaiting an appeal from Pakistan's Supreme Court. Two people who were as-

sociated with Bibi's defense have been assassinated.

In August of last year, Suni Muslims cut a small child in half in front of his father because the family practiced the Christian faith. That happened in the Iraqi town of Qaraqosh. (This happened in the country where the Garden of Eden was located.)

And, in China, churches are being demolished as authorized by Communist Party members. Even if the churches aren't demolished, the crosses on the tops of those churches are torn down.

(The above three items were taken from an article entitled, "Christian Perseverance," written by William Jasper for *The New American Magazine*.)

So, can Muslim extremists gain such power here in the United States? Possibly. There are already a lot of them living here in the States. Notice that I said "Muslim extremists." Most Muslims are good people who are against violence and irrational acts. It's just that the violent ones get the most media coverage, and they are the ones who are most determined to get people to believe as they do. Or else!

Some of the problems, such as the infiltrations of extremists, have arisen in those countries due to weak, ineffective governments, or corrupt governments. Perhaps those governments took advantage of the weaknesses of the people, or scared people into allowing those governments to override any citizens' objections to their tyrannical rulings.

In any case, there is a lesson for us here in the United States. Are we going to allow our government to enforce upon us rules and ideas that go against our beliefs? Are we going to become pawns of illicit power? Our leaders are supposed to govern according to our Constitution which was written during the birth of this nation. That is not always happening these days. So, what are we going to do about that?

Edmund Burke once said, "Evil prospers when good men do nothing."

A local pastor, Mike Smith, has written a very thought-provoking book entitled, "Tolerating Tyranny: Security Sought, Freedom Lost". A lady from Kenney gave me the book, and I find it extremely informative and even courageous. (The good pastor would have been beheaded in Iraq for writing this book.)

One of the quotes in the book, attributed to Laura Hollis, a law professor at Notre Dame, is as follows: "The President, Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid (with no small help from Justice John Roberts) take away our health care, and we allow it. They take away our insurance, and we allow it. They take away our doctors, and we allow it. They charge us thousands of dollars more a year, and we allow it. They make legal products illegal, and we allow it. They cripple our businesses, and we allow it. They announce by fiat that we must ignore our most deeply held beliefs —

and we allow it. Where is your spine, America?"

We here in America don't always like what our leaders in Washington are doing. But do we speak up and protest? Or do we just say, "Oh, well. I can't fight the top dogs," and let it go?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor, said, "Silence in the face of evil is itself evil. God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."

Here's another quote from the book: "Government considers silence to be consent, so when there is no outcry from people when a florist is punished for expressing her religious beliefs, it emboldens the government to increase its oppression."

One last quote: "Freedom without authority becomes anarchy, in which no one is free, but authority without freedom is tyranny, which ceases to be legitimate authority. No tyrant can remain in power without the consent and cooperation of his victims." (R.B.Theime Jr.)

There is so much more in this book that makes a person really think about the direction in which our United States government is heading. Good reading! (Copies can be purchased at www.toleratingauthority.com.)

As for right now, I am glad I am in a basically Christian nation, and not being hounded by extremist Muslims. And I will continue to hope that God's grace keeps America safe and strong.

THE DUTIES AND EMBARRASMENTS OF RULERS.

A

SERMON,

ADDRESSED TO

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

AT THE

ANNUAL ELECTION

IN NEW-HAVEN,

MAY 5, 1830.

BY CHARLES A. BOARDMAN,

Pastor of the Third Congregational Church in New-Haven.

NEW-HAVEN:

L. HUNTINGTON YOUNG, PRINTER.

1830.

This Election Sermon has just under six thousand words.

Vice contains in itself the elements of disease and death. Unresisted, it produces the same certain suffering and ruin upon a State, which it inflicts upon its individual votaries (advocates). And against its encroachments, in all the forms in which it is tangible to legislative enactment and judicial fidelity, the law must lift its voice and its penalty. For there is a contagion in vice, and such a wide spread predisposition in men to its contamination, that, without the resistance, and purifying influence of prohibitory enactment, it is resistless and overwhelming. I am not unaware of the power of a sound and healthful public opinion to resist evil. I know that a public

opinion, formed under the light and sanctifying influence of the gospel, and modeled by its morality and pervading the mass of the community, can, and will do a thousand fold more to repress and exterminate vice, than all that the civil magistrate can do, by the mere force of law.

Charles Finney, Nonconformity in Politics, 1812

By engaging with the world in politics, Christians grieve the Spirit of God. Ask any Christian politician if he ever carried the Spirit of God with him into a political campaign. Never. I would by no means be understood to say that Christians should refuse to vote and to exercise their lawful influence in public affairs. But they ought not to follow a party.

[The election that will take place eight days from now is not about whether Republicans or Democrats will win the election. This election is about the very survival of our beloved country. It is about taking back our God given rights and freedoms or suffer under horrific tyranny of megalomaniacs who are controlled by Satan. It is about having the courage to stand for what is right no matter what and refusing to comply with evil no matter what. It is about giving our lives, if necessary, to honor our Lord Jesus Christ and those who gave their lives so that we can be free. How could we do less? It is about trusting in the promises of God rather than the promises of politicians. It is about throwing the scoundrels out with your vote rather than using force. It is about no longer saying “God bless America” but asking God to “save America”. It is about stopping the collapse of our society and Christian compromise. It is about thinking divine viewpoint rather than the stinking thinking of human viewpoint.

The election is in God’s hands and if He gives us a chance to turn things around, we will praise Him, or if He decides to continue to pour out His wrath on a stiff-necked defiant people, we will praise Him for that as well, for holding them accountable through His justice and righteousness and for protecting and blessings the righteous.]

By following the present course of politics [the leftist socialist agenda], you are contributing your aid to undermine all government and order in the land. Who does not know that this great nation now rocks and reels because the laws are broken and trampled under-foot, and the executive power refuses or dares not act? Either the magistrate does not wish to put down disorder or he temporizes (compromises) and lets the devil rule. And so, it is in all parts of the country and all parties. And can a Christian be consistent with his profession [of faith] and vote for such men to office?

You lay a stumbling block in the way of sinners. What do sinners think when they see professing Christians acting with them in their political measures which they themselves know to be dishonest and corrupt?

...Christians ought to cease from conformity to the world in politics from the influence which such a course would have on the world. Suppose Christians were to act perfectly conscientiously and consistently in this matter and to say, "We will not vote for any man to office unless he fears God and will rule the people in righteousness." Ungodly men would not set (choose) men as candidates who themselves ~~set the laws at defiance~~ defy the laws. No. Every candidate would be obliged to show that he was prepared to act from higher motives and that he would lay himself out to make the country prosperous and to promote virtue and to put down vice and oppression and disorder and to do all he can to make the people happy and holy! It would shame the dishonest politicians to show that the love of God and man is the motive that Christians have in view. And a blessed influence would go over the land like a wave. Heritage of Great Evangelical Teaching : Featuring the Best of Martin Luther, John Wesley, Dwight L. Moody, C.H. Spurgeon and Others. (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997).

Deuteronomy 1:13 Choose wise and discerning and experienced men from your tribes, and I will appoint them as your heads.'

Exodus 18:21 Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest

gain; and you shall place these over them, as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens.

Deuteronomy 16:18-20 *You shall appoint for yourself judges and officers in all your towns which the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. 19) "You shall not distort justice; you shall not be partial, and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. 20) "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue,*

2 Chronicles 19:6-7 *And he said to the judges, "Consider what you are doing, for you do not judge for man but for the LORD who is with you when you render judgment. 7) "Now then let the fear of the LORD be upon you; be very careful what you do, for the LORD our God will have no part in unrighteousness, or partiality, or the taking of a bribe."*

Proverbs 17:23 *A wicked man receives a bribe from the bosom To pervert the ways of justice.*

Read: Isaiah 1:20-28

Dr. Hoge, after acknowledging our sins as a nation and as individuals, and devoutly recognizing the afflicting hand of God in our present troubles and impending dangers, said that as the primary occasion of assembling for solemn worship was the political condition of the country, blind and reckless fanaticism, which, from small beginnings, had increased in power and intensity, until it now held sway over a large portion of the Union. This fanaticism had just accomplished what the Father of his Country had denounced — making war upon Southern institutions, which looked to their "ultimate extinction" This exhibition of unfriendly feeling had produced the separation of one State from the Union, and in all probability in a few weeks several other States would be gone. Civil

war was impending over us with all its horrors; for, said Dr. Hoge, incredible as it may seem, there are large numbers in the other section of the Union who advocate the insane doctrines of coercion. In solemn and thrilling language, he depicted the unutterable miseries of war, bringing in its train not only death and desolation, but engendering brutality and abasement of our finer instincts, and a callous indifference to human suffering. "But my hearers," said he, "horrible as war is, there is one alternative which is worse — a surrender of inalienable rights and privileges. All honor to the patriot who goes to the field to defend his fireside, his rights, and liberties". Richmond Dispatch, The Daily Dispatch: 1861, Richmond Daily Dispatch (Richmond, Virginia: Perseus Digital Library, 1861).

We the people do not have to tolerate tyranny.

“There is a point where forbearance and toleration are no longer a virtue, when authority is no longer legitimate, and when submission is no longer required. Government can become so corrupted by evil that continued allegiance and submission to it becomes evil as well.”

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, **deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed**, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it... But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. —*

In political philosophy, the phrase **consent of the governed** refers to the idea that a government's legitimacy and moral right to use state

power is justified and lawful only when consented to by the people or society over which that political power is exercised. Article 21 of the United Nations' 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government". https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consent_of_the_governed

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND BIBLICAL PARALLELS

Perhaps the overriding biblical principle that seems to permeate the Constitution is the sinfulness of humankind: "*The heart of man is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked (Jer. 17:9).*" Thus, the need for checks and balances among the three branches of government. In fact, there are several provisions in the Constitution have parallels in biblical principle, even though chapters and verses are not cited. For example, compare the following: ·

Art. I, II, III (3 Branches of Government) with *Isaiah 33:22*: "*For the LORD is our judge (Judicial - Art. III), the LORD is our lawgiver (Legislative - Art. I), the LORD is our king (Executive -Art. II); it is he who will save us.*"

Art. I, Sec. 7, Par. 2 (No Business on Sunday) with Exod. 20:8-11.

Art. I, Sec. 8, Par. 4 (Uniform Immigration Law) with Lev. 18:26, 19:33-34.

Art. I, Sec. 8, Par. 9 (Tribunals, i.e., Courts under the Supreme Court) with Deut. 16:18, 17:8-10.

Art. II, Sec. 1, Par. 4 (President must be a Natural Born Citizen) with Deut. 17:15.

Art. III, Sec. 1, Par. 1 (Judges and Courts) with Deut. 16:18-20.

Art. III, Sec. 3, Par. 1 (Witnesses and Capital Punishment) with Deut. 17:6.

Art. III, Sec. 3, Par. 2 (Provision against Attainder, i.e., punishing a group without due process for individual) with Ezek. 18:20.

Art. W, Sec. 4, Par. 1 (Representative Government) with Exod. 18:21-22; Acts 6:3-5.

Finally, the document is signed "**...in the year of our Lord,**" an overt reference to Jesus Christ. So much for a "godless" Constitution! The framers of the Constitution created a document that at the very least has several provisions that have parallels with biblical principles and those who signed it acknowledged Jesus Christ as "**our Lord.**"

Consequently, the Framers of the U.S. Constitution had no intention of establishing an atheistic or secular state. President George Washington later stated to a group of Baptists: "If I could have entertained the slightest apprehension that the Constitution framed by the Convention, where I had the honor to preside, might possibly endanger the religious rights of any ecclesiastical Society, certainly I would never have placed my signature to it."³⁶ George Washington, on May 10, 1789, in addressing the General Committee of the United Baptist Churches of Virginia. Jared Sparks, ed., *The Writings of George Washington* 12 vols. (Boston: American Stationer's Company, 1837; NY: F. Andrew's, 1834-1847), 12:154.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, Psalm 33:12

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.
Proverbs 14:34

The words of the wise heard in quietness are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools. Ecclesiastes 9:17

Throughout the history of our country, everyone in government, law enforcement, and the military swears an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.

An estimated 116,708 American military personnel died during WW1

An estimated 286,959 American military personnel died in WW2

An estimated 33,652 American military personnel died in the Korean War

An estimated 58,220 American military personnel died in Vietnam

The city of Nineveh

A huge city Jonah 3:3

Jonah declared to them, "Jonah 3:4 "Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown."

Jonah 3:5 the people of Nineveh (and the king) believed in God;

Jonah 3:9-10 "Who knows, God may turn and relent, and withdraw His burning anger so that we shall not perish?" 10) When God saw their deeds, that they turned from their wicked way, then God relented concerning the calamity which He had declared He would bring upon them. And He did not do it.

Luke 11:32 The men of Nineveh {Assyrians} shall stand up with this generation at the judgment and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here (the completed Word of God)

In the last two years, we have seen the most egregious attacks on our freedoms and God given rights in our lifetime. It appears that the current administration and about half of the people in our country who support it have gone crazy. Our constitution is ignored by those who swore an oath to uphold it. They hate our country, they hate God, they hate the Bible, they hate us because we are Christians, and they hate everyone who does not go along with their corruption, their sickening immorality, and their constant lying.

They are in the process of destroying our country, our way of life. They are trying to destroy the divine institutions of Freedom, Marriage, Family, and Nationalism and they are not even trying to hide it. They have promoted the vilest perversions that many are embracing.

LGBTQ Transgenderism Drag Queens vaccines lock downs masks

The open Southern border