

DON'T EVER UNDERESTIMATE OUR SPIRITUAL ENEMY : PART 1

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Not Ignorant Of Satan's Devices, Resist The Devil, My Shock While Updating Atheism Graphics, My Misguided 2013 Comments Regarding Nationwide Same-Sex "Marriage" In America, How Are The Mighty Fallen, Bloody Violent War-Filled History Of The USA, Humanity's Thoughts Rarely Concur With God's Thoughts, Time Of Blessings Is Past, Serious Divine Chastisement May Be On The Horizon, Are God-Fearing Bible-Believing Christians In America Holding Back God's Judgments?, Abraham Intercedes For Sodom And Gomorrah, The Lord's Mercy Patience And Desire For Healing And Repentance, God's Divine Chastisements And His Set Timetable For Repentance, Eternal Now And God's Concept Of Time, God Will Perform According To His Will In His Own Time, Judgment Delayed Does Not Equate to Judgment Postponed, Jeremiah Prophecies Against Israel For Forty Years, False Accusers, Proof Of A True Prophet Of God, Jesus Prophesied Of Jerusalem's Destruction Forty Years Later In 70 AD, Spiritual Blindness On The Part Of Israel's Leaders, Full Repentance Is Only Thing Which Will Stop Judgment Of America, Half-Hearted Repentance Following 9/11, U.S.A. Is In Worse Spiritual State Today, No Repentance Forthcoming, USA Is Poking God In The Eye

Yesterday afternoon I received somewhat of a spiritual jolt, as well as an important reminder regarding a lesson which none of us should ever forget. This lesson concerns Satan's subtlety and tactics, and can be easily summarized with the following set of verses, taken from four Epistles which are found in the New Testament of the Authorized King James Version of the Holy Bible:

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

2 Corinthians 2:11, KJV

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"

1 Peter 5:8, KJV

"Neither give place to the devil."

Ephesians 4:27, KJV

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

James 4:7, KJV

". . . He [the Devil] was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

John 8:44, KJV

As some of you may have possibly noticed, yesterday -- that is, 12-27-2016 -- I spent quite a bit of time updating and reposting my series of graphics concerning the subjects of atheists, scoffers and reprobates. I completed a little less than half of them by that late afternoon, and I still have another sixteen images to go which I hope to finish possibly today, and if not, then tomorrow. However, when I opened the twelfth graphic in order to update it in Adobe Photoshop -- my graphic app of choice for many years now -- my jaw just about dropped when I saw what I had typed in that particular graphic three and half years ago. With a title that states "Don't Worry About The Atheists", here is what the body of the graphic said before I updated it yesterday. I have placed part of the text in uppercase for the sake of emphasis:

----- Begin Quote -----

"Just like the people behind the gay and lesbian agenda, they [meaning the atheists] are a vocal minority, but they are still, and will always be, in the minority. **THEY WILL NEVER FILL THE NATION FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER, JUST AS SAME-SEX "MARRIAGE" WILL NEVER BE LEGALIZED IN EVERY CITY ACROSS THE LAND.** We may lose some battles, but God has already won the war, and that is all that matters."

----- End Quote -----

I guess you can already imagine who is eating their words right now. Me. For the record, I made the original version of that graphic in June of 2013, almost two years to the day

before that sad, infamous day in American history -- June 26, 2015 -- when the liberal side of the U.S. Supreme Court voted 5-4 in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, to fully open the door to legalized same-sex "marriage" all across the land, without exception. I am sure that many of you felt the same way as I did upon learning about that awful news. I am reminded of how King David lamented upon learning of the death of King Saul and his son, Jonathan, at the hands of the Philistines. Three times David said "How are the mighty fallen!", as we see here:

"The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen! Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph. Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew, neither let there be rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings: for there the shield of the mighty is vilely cast away, the shield of Saul, as though he had not been anointed with oil. From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan turned not back, and the sword of Saul returned not empty. Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions. Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in scarlet, with other delights, who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel. How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, thou wast slain in thine high places. I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women. How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!"

2 Samuel 1:19-27, KJV

At this late date, if we consider the many sins which the United States of America has already committed against the Lord, I must truly wonder if it is even appropriate to refer to the USA as being "mighty". In fact, to be quite honest, as a Bible-believing Christian who firmly believes in peace, I must question if she has ever deserved that title. I mean, seriously, let's face it. America has had a rather violent, bloody history since her founding. She fought the British, then many Native American tribes, then Americans even fought against each other, and since that time, she has fought wars and stirred up civil unrest and revolution in quite a few

other nations around the world as well. That may possibly be your idea of being "mighty", but it certainly isn't mine. But I will leave it at that for now, lest I stray too far from our main subject at hand.

At any rate, America -- meaning the United States -- may think that she is mighty in her own eyes due to her military might -- and thus quite a few Americans, including patriotic Christians, continue to say "God bless America!" -- but as we all know, men's proud, vain thoughts do not always concur with the way in which the Lord sees things. In fact, I think it is fair and accurate to say that they rarely concur. I am reminded of verses such as the following:

"But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7, KJV

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55:8-9, KJV

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was."

James 1:22-24, KJV

At this point in time, like many other honest Christians who are not deceived by mass media and government hype, my view is that the time of blessings is way past, and that years of serious Divine Chastisement may soon be upon us. My sense is that, just as when the Patriarch Abraham pleaded with God regarding the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, the only thing that may be holding back God's indignation against the United States of America at this current time, is the fact that there are still a lot of God-fearing, Bible-believing people in the country who are desperately seeking the Lord in prayer, and thus the Almighty is taking this point into

consideration. In other words, they may be keeping the dam from breaking for the time being. But for how much longer?

To anyone who is reading this who may be a non-Christian, my previous statement will no doubt come across as seeming rather presumptuous. However, it is Biblical fact. God does in fact take into account the presence of the righteous, in determining the timing of His judgments. So again, if not for God-fearing, Bible-believing Christians in America, who knows what may have already befallen the country. Consider these verses from the Books of Genesis and 2 Chronicles:

"And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right? And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes: Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it. And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake. And he said unto him, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there. And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake. And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake. And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place."

Genesis 18:23-33, KJV

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive

their sin, and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14, KJV

So let there be no doubt that God truly desires healing and repentance on our part. The Scriptures make it very plain that He is more than willing to exercise a great deal of Mercy and Patience, and to go the extra mile with us, as we can easily determine by the following group of verses:

"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him . . . But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."

Psalms 103:8-13, 17-18, KJV

"If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?"

Psalms 130:3, KJV

"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

Ezekiel 33:11, KJV

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness . . . For the Lord will not cast off for ever: But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men."

Lamentations 3:22-23, 31-33, KJV

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold

the face of my Father which is in heaven. For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish."
Matthew 18:10-14, KJV

"And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village."
Luke 9:51-56, KJV

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."
Luke 19:10, KJV

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."
John 3:16-17, KJV

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began."
Acts 3:19-21, KJV

"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4, KJV

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

1 Timothy 2:3-4, KJV

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

2 Peter 3:9, KJV

However, as I have mentioned many times before, we also need to recognize that God does have a set timetable for when our repentance needs to occur, and He is the One who is calling the shots; not us. He is indeed patient and merciful; but if in our own foolish pride and rebellion we procrastinate in humbling ourselves before Him, it may end up being too little too late, and result in our own undoing and ruination. Please consider these additional verses which validate this important point:

"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:"

Acts 17:30, KJV

"Open rebuke is better than secret love."

Proverbs 27:5, KJV

"In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer."

Isaiah 54:8, KJV

"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries . . . It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living

God . . . For our God is a consuming fire."

Hebrews 10:26-27, 31, 12:29, KJV

"And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed."

Hebrews 12:5-13, KJV

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

1 Peter 4:17, KJV

Now, no doubt upon reading such statements as the above, some nonbelievers will scoff and say "Well, gee, some of you Christians have been predicting hellfire and damnation, and God's judgments against America for decades; even since the 1960s. So where is it? Aren't you getting tired of preaching that same old line? It's starting to look kind of foolish, and you are really losing credibility with your nonsense."

My friends, foolish are those who adopt exactly that kind of a mocking attitude. As I said a moment ago, God has His own timetable. He does not operate according to our expectations. Furthermore, we need to understand that time is a construct of the physical Universe. If a being such as God in some way exists outside of the physical Universe -- that is, in the realm of the Spirit -- then not only is He not subject to the

influence of time, but He is also able to see time from the very beginning to the very end, and all events which occur between those two points, simultaneously, in what we might refer to as an "Eternal Now". So, being as the Almighty lives outside of time, a mere few decades, or even a few centuries for that matter, may mean very little to Him. Thus, it is no surprise that we find verses such as the following in the Scriptures:

"I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him. That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past."
Ecclesiastes 3:14-15, KJV

"Behold, God is great, and we know him not, neither can the number of his years be searched out."
Job 36:26, KJV

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:"
Isaiah 46:9-10, KJV

"I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the ANCIENT OF DAYS did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire . . . I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the ANCIENT OF DAYS, and they brought him near before him . . . Until the ANCIENT OF DAYS came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom."
Daniel 7:9, 13, 22, KJV

"But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."
2 Peter 3:8, KJV

"And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the

earth lifted up his hand to heaven, And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, THAT THERE SHOULD BE TIME NO LONGER: But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets."

Revelation 10:5-7, KJV

If you think that nothing is ever going to happen; if you believe that judgment is never going to come to America; or to the rest of the world for that matter; just because we have yet to experience something extremely major -- and I would venture to say something much more major and ongoing than 9/11 -- then I would have to conclude that you are very sorely mistaken. You need to understand that divine judgment delayed, does not necessarily equate to judgment postponed. Not only that, but you are clearly not recognizing God's Grace, Mercy, Love and Compassion at this current time. You are failing to see His longsuffering and patience with us sinful humans.

Equally important, you are also demonstrating your lack of knowledge regarding how God operated throughout the pages of Biblical history, when it comes to the subject of His Prophets, Apostles and servants warning wayward people, and the actual fulfillment of their prophecies. A clear case in point, which I mention in such articles as "Famous Forties in the Bible", "Office of a Prophet" and "Civil Disobedience and Christian Persecution", is the Prophet Jeremiah. He in fact started out as a very young Prophet, and warned the backslidden people of Israel for a full forty years before God's harshest judgments against the nation finally fell during the reign of King Zedekiah; and Jeremiah was there to witness those tragic events, as well as their aftermath. That is precisely why we have a Book called the Lamentations of Jeremiah. The Prophet weeps for what he beholds.

You see, it was at that precise time -- that is, at the very end of Jeremiah's faithful preaching, around 587 BC based on the historical record -- that the forces of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, destroyed both Jerusalem and its holy Temple within, after a long siege, and took many thousands of Jews captive to Babylon. This is a subject which I discuss more at

length in other articles. But for now, consider these verses:

"The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, of the priests that were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin: To whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Josiah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah the son of Josiah king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month."

Jeremiah 1:1-3, KJV

In fact, as I also explain in the aforementioned articles, just like false accusers today, Jeremiah was also accused of being a non-patriot, a liar and a false prophet. Yet in the end, God vindicated him as a true Prophet of God when the Lord's judgments fell on Israel. As we read in the Bible:

"And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come,) then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them."

Ezekiel 33:33, KJV

"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"

Numbers 23:19, KJV

Before moving on, for those of you who may still have doubts regarding God's unknowable timetable, allow me to offer you one more clear example which is found in the New Testament. It may interest you to know that just as Jeremiah prophesied for forty years prior to the destruction of Jerusalem, in similar fashion, forty years before the very same wicked city was destroyed a second time in 70 AD, Jesus also prophesied regarding the destruction of Jerusalem and the Second Temple by General Titus -- the son of Emperor Vespasian who carried on his father's military campaign in Israel -- and the armies of Rome, along with their local allies, which included the forces of King Herod, who later went to live safely in Rome. I discuss this topic more in depth in a number of my other articles, such as "Abomination of Desolation: Explained!".

But the point is this: Just as had occurred with the leaders of Israel in Jeremiah's day, the First Century political and religious rulers of Israel were also so spiritually blind,

that they were unable to discern the clear signs all around them regarding their impending judgment and destruction by an angry God. Equally important, they couldn't even discern who it was who stood amongst them; that is, the very Son of God. Based on his later comments during Jesus' trial, I think that the high priest Caiaphas and his inner circle did have a clear sense of the danger, but it didn't change the outcome of the events which occurred in 70 AD. It is for this very reason that Jesus said the following to the Pharisees and the Sadducees on one occasion, among many other things:

". . . When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?"

Matthew 16:2-3, KJV

But regarding the judgment of America, in my view, there is only one thing that can possibly stop it from occurring. That is a full, heartfelt, ongoing repentance on a national level, backed by real actions, and not just empty talk, as I believe occurred following 9/11. There appeared to be some degree of repentance by some people after those tragic events, but it was apparently half-hearted, and did not endure for very long. As a result, look at where the country now stands today in a spiritual sense. In my humble opinion, it is in an even worse spiritual condition. The nation has only become more wicked since fifteen years ago. No truly honest Christian can deny this fact. As I shared with you earlier, and as you have no doubt heard or read many times before:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14, KJV

So, sadly, at this current time, I honestly do not see true repentance happening at a significant level. Do you? America continues on her merry way to Hell, as this series clearly demonstrates. Wicked, liberal America continues to poke her finger in God's eye.

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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DON'T EVER UNDERESTIMATE OUR SPIRITUAL ENEMY : PART 2

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Good People With A Good Heart Fallacy, All Are Born In Sin, Despite Spiritual Rebirth We Must Still Fight Against Sins Of The Flesh, The Apostle Paul's Frustrations And Battles, American Stubbornly Paving Her Path To Her Own Destruction, Prayers And Actions Of Christians In America Haven't Stopped Any Of The Evils Occurring There Like Abortion Civil Unions Same-Sex "Marriage" Wars Hunger Poverty Oppression Of Poor Racism Political Corruption Etc., Christians Cannot Prevent Sin In America, We Can Only Improve Our Own Lives And Our Spiritual Standing With God, America Wants To Go To Hell And Will Be Turned Into Hell Unless She Repents, Example Of Drunk Friend, I Am Not A Prophet Of God, Public Embarrassment And Humiliation Of False Prophets, Plague On The Social Networks, I Don't Know When America Will Be Judged, God Won't Tolerate Sin And Rebellion Forever, America's Time For Repentance May Possibly Be Over, My 2013 Confidence That Same-Sex "Marriage" Would Never Be Legalized Nationwide, The Devil's Four-Pronged Attack, The Overhauling Of Straight America, Soften Up Public Opinion, Civil Unions As The Ice Breaker And Bridge, Liberal Circuit Court Judges Overturn Constitutional Amendments And States' Legal Bans, DOMA Section 3 Is Struck Down, Liberal Supreme Court Judges Abide Their Time, Final Blow: June 26, 2015, Attitudes During The 1960s, Let Us Live Our Lives In Peace Tactic, The Radical Militant Sector Of LGBT Community, Forced Acceptance Of LGBT Lifestyle, Our Children Are In The Cross Hairs, Infiltration Of The Public School System, Gender Identity Public Bathrooms School Showers, Legal Retribution Against LGBT Opposers, It Will Never End Because Satan Always Wants More, Will America Become An Atheistic Secular Nation?,

Free Will And Personal Choice, Fill Their Cup Of Iniquity And Then Divine Judgment, God Removed From Government Education And Public Life In General, Political Correctness, Troubling Trends In Art Music Entertainment And Mass Media, Paganism And Outright Devil Worship, Dark Ungodly Wave Washing Over America, Liberal Younger Generation's Role In The Same-Sex "Marriage" Victory, Concerns Of Christian Parents, Doing What We Do Is No Longer Enough, Losing Our Children To Ungodliness, Sow The Seed, Free Will And Personal Choice Will Still Prevail

We hear over and over again how we are basically good people at heart. This thought is repeatedly pounded into our brains. As I explain in the article entitled "Did the Devil Make You Do It?", this mentality is totally contrary to what the Holy Scriptures teach us regarding the human heart. It is not the good thing that so many people suppose it to be. We are all born with a corrupt, sinful nature, as the following verses clearly reveal:

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me."

Psalms 51:5, KJV

"For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not."

Ecclesiastes 7:20, KJV

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one . . . For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

Romans 3:10, 23, KJV

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"

Romans 5:12, KJV

"Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)"

Ephesians 2:5, KJV

"Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come . . . I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in

your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."

John 8:21, 24, KJV

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

1 John 1:8-10, KJV

Yes, by spiritual rebirth through faith in Jesus Christ, we do become new creatures, and we strive to put on the mind of Christ, and to act and to live as Jesus would have us to do. Yet, as I also explain in a number of other articles, such as "Striving for Perfection: Are You a Sinless Saint?", we must still battle against the sins of our flesh every single day of our lives, just as the Apostle Paul, and everyone since then, has had to do. It is a continuous ongoing struggle of the flesh against the Spirit. Thus, in his own frustration with himself, Paul wrote as follows:

"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin."

Romans 7:18-25, KJV

So even though there are a great many of us who strive to live godly lives which please the Lord as much as we can, America as a whole still seems to continue stubbornly paving her own chosen path to destruction. Seriously, I want you to stop and think about this for a moment. Let me ask you a few questions. Since the time that you were born, have there not always been God-fearing Christians somewhere in America? I

bet your answer is "yes". Have there not also always been Christians who have preached the Gospel in America? Again, I am sure that your answer is "yes". Have there not always been Christians who have prayed for America and her leaders? "Yes" is no doubt again your answer. Haven't there always also been voting Christians who have strived to elect leaders who seem to adhere to some level of Christian teachings? Again, your answer is probably "yes".

Yet despite all of this, it didn't stop ungodly abortion from becoming the law of the land forty-three years ago, which since that time in 1973 has resulted in many millions of unborn innocents being murdered in cold blood for the sake of personal convenience alone in the vast majority of cases. It didn't stop so-called "civil unions". It didn't stop the legalization of same-sex "marriage" in Obergefell v. Hodges in 2015. It didn't stop the many bloody wars in which the United States has engaged over the decades, which have resulted in the collective deaths of literally hundreds of thousands of people, the vast majority of whom were all non-combatants. Those very same wars have left many people maimed for life, hungry, destitute, and without a means to earn a living. They have also destroyed national economies -- bringing countries to a halt -- and destroyed their basic infrastructure as well, resulting in basic necessities such as power, water, transportation and communication being cut off for extended periods. Such is the hell of war.

In fact, all of the aforementioned actions by Christians have not even prevented hunger and poverty in America herself, or even the oppression of the poor, or the divisive racism which still plagues the country, or political corruption, or Big Business corruption, or any of the other many evils which you already know about.

Do you see my point? No matter what we do, we Christians are unable to stop sin in America. And I have barely touched the surface with the previous paragraphs, as you well know. There is no way for us to destroy that old sinful nature which has America by the throat. People are going to do, and national governments are going to do, what they want to do, in spite of what we God-fearing, Bible-believing Christians say, or think, or do. That is the honest, basic truth which we all need to accept, and it applies to every single other nation in the world as well. The only real thing that we can do --

which is difficult enough to do in itself -- is to strive to improve our own lives, and our own standing with God, by accepting Christ, and then endeavoring to live a godly life. Period.

As for America as a whole, she apparently wants to go to Hell, because she just keeps poking God in the eye, time and time again. She is outright provoking the Almighty by way of her rebellion. She seems to be hellbent on her destruction no matter how much she is warned to repent. I am reminded of verses such as the following:

"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

Psalms 9:17, KJV

"Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it."

Isaiah 5:14, KJV

America is just like a drunk friend, or someone who is high on drugs. You try to take their car keys away from them, and yet they angrily insist that they want to drive themselves home. The next sad news you receive is that their head went through the windshield and they're dead. You couldn't prevent it from happening, even though out of concern for that person you really tried. You gave it your best shot, and now there's nothing more that you can do. So what will be the end of it all? Equally important, when will be the end of it all?

As my long-time online friends and readers will know, since I began this online writing ministry some twenty-two years ago, I have never claimed to be a Prophet of God. Neither have I ever asked the Lord to make me a Prophet. I don't want to be a Prophet. That is some serious responsibility. Furthermore, as I have mentioned before, over the years, decades in fact, I have seen a sufficient number of men of God fall right on their faces, and suffer public embarrassment and humiliation, and be totally discredited, due to their false prophecies. I discuss a number of them in some of the articles which I will list for you at the end of this current series.

Not only that, but as some of you will already know, one of my pet peeves has long been the multitude of false, wannabe

"prophets" and "prophetesses" who literally plague and overrun such social networks such as Facebook, YouTube, etc. I pray to God that I am never grouped with such people. That is why I am very careful regarding what I write and state online. As the old saying goes, a wise man learns from his own mistakes, but a wiser man learns from the mistakes of others.

So regarding the precise timing of the judgment of America, I just don't know. All I can tell you is this: Look at the Biblical record. If there is one thing which we clearly learn from it, it is that we have a righteous God who will only tolerate sin and outright rebellion for so long. As we learned earlier, He will exercise great Patience and Mercy, but eventually, unless there is true repentance, God will also lower His great Rod of Correction against the United States, as well as against all other nations, at some point.

This has apparently been God's rule and manner of behavior since at least the beginning of Biblical history. He can no more ignore our sins against Him, than He could ignore the sins of ancient Israel and other nations in the Bible. He has to eventually root them out through harsh chastisement, if that is what is required. That is sometimes what it takes to thoroughly eradicate sin and rebellion. If you want to know exactly how severe such Divine Chastisements can be, I again encourage you to read some of the accounts of the Old Testament Prophets. Read the Lamentations of Jeremiah, for example.

As I said, when that will occur with the United States of America, I honestly do not know, and I will not pretend to know. All I will say is this, if the forty-year examples we find in the Holy Scriptures are any indication, then perhaps America's time has almost run out. However, this is by no means any kind of divine prophecy on my part, so please do not interpret it as such, and do not go online and promote it as such. I am simply pointing you to Biblical examples, and Biblical time frames which pertained to ancient Israel. They may or may not apply to God's timetable for America.

Returning to our main topic regarding the same-sex "marriage" issue, I am sure that your hearts sank, just as much as mine did that fateful day of June 26, 2015 when the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling regarding Obergefell v. Hodges was announced

in the mass media. Oh what a shameful day it was! If I recall correctly, I think I may have even been struck with momentary disbelief that they had actually ruled that way; even though I already knew that the signs were pointing in that direction to that inevitability, and that it was a given. Perhaps I was taken back by their blatant audacity.

As you can see by the graphic quote which I shared with you in part one, even at that time in 2013, I still could not believe that same-sex "marriage" would ever be legalized nationwide. I was confident that due to the presence of God-fearing, Bible-believing conservative Christians and politicians in different areas of the country, there would be some strong pockets of resistance, which would prevent such an ungodly law from ever being enacted in full. I was certain that some states would simply not accept it, and I think I even mentioned this on my BBB Blog. Oh what a big difference two years made!

Sadly for us, Satan played his cards wisely, and extremely well. Looking back now, I would say that his was basically a four-pronged attack. First of all, he continued to soften up everyday Americans -- particularly younger Americans -- and made them comfortable with the idea of gay and lesbian sex, and same-sex relationships. This actually started way back in 1987, or thereabouts, with an article -- in reality, a battle plan -- that was published in a pro- gay and lesbian magazine called "Guide". This lengthy article was blatantly entitled "The Overhauling of Straight America". The title alone is a giveaway to what the article is about. I will include a link to it on the BBB website at the end of this current series.

Thus, slowly, over the years, the percentage of American adults who turned a favorable eye -- or at least a tolerable eye -- towards same-sex "marriage" rose to between 50% and 60% -- depending on which polls you choose to believe; that is, if you believe any of them at all -- by 2015 or 2016. It was a slow, subtle, intentional mental conditioning of public opinion, and it worked.

The Devil then moved closer to his main attack by launching his second attack. And exactly what was that? Oh, he was just so smart. He no doubt realized that he would never be able to get a majority of Americans to swallow his bitter, poisonous pill all at once, so he upped the dosage a little

at a time. In other words, that foul demon used the idea of "civil unions" as the ice breaker, and the bridge, between gay and lesbian relationships and what eventually became full-blown same-sex "marriage". He was very crafty indeed. The argument was "Oh, you see, civil unions aren't exactly like heterosexual marriage, so you can still feel like your heterosexual marriage is more special than a civil union." Sadly, some people -- including liberal Christians -- fell for that lie, and civil union laws became more common.

We all need to remember that Satan is very much similar to a prosecuting attorney. He knows the law -- including God's Law -- quite well. Furthermore, that fiend knows how to utilize every trick in the book, because he has been at it for a very long time. We all know what happened next. Once civil unions became an acceptable "norm" -- at least with the liberals -- then the LGBT community clamored for even more. Suddenly, it turned out that civil unions were no longer enough, because that status still left certain gays and lesbians feeling like second-class citizens. Give them an inch, and they will take a mile; and that is exactly what they did by 2015, sad to say.

With the third attack, Satan and his crowd became even more emboldened. And how did that attack manifest itself? One by one, the Devil had his liberal circuit court judges overturn legal bans and constitutional amendments at the state level across the nation, thus setting very important precedents for what would ultimately result in the nationwide legalization of same-sex "marriage". I worried as each state fell, and I began to see the writing on the wall. In many cases, those maverick judges outright contradicted the will of their own constituents. I mean, they were just walking right over what the people had decided via state referendums. The people's vote in effect became meaningless. The audacity! Judges are not supposed to be legislators. They are only supposed to be interpreters of the law, but that isn't what they were doing by any means.

Of course, this third attack was in large part successful due to the fact that 1996's DOMA -- The Defense of Marriage Act -- was severely weakened in 2013 when Section 3 of DOMA -- which established heterosexual marriages as the only type of marriage recognized under federal law -- was struck down. All the while, the liberal side of the U.S. Supreme Court wisely abided its time, just waiting for the opportune moment, just

waiting for the balance -- in other words, public opinion and legal precedent -- to safely swing to their favor, which it did eventually. Then the fourth, final, lethal attack came. We all know the result:

June 26, 2015. Oh what a sad, sad day!

I have mentioned before that when I was growing up as a young boy five decades ago, no one could possibly have ever imagined that someday in the United States of America, men and women would be legally allowed to marry someone of the same sex. My gosh, if you were alive back then, then you will recall that even mixed marriages -- meaning Blacks and Whites -- was still a very controversial issue. As I recall, there was only one such couple on our street in the 1960s, and it raised eyebrows, and stirred up gossip. So you can understand how the idea of same-sex "marriage" was totally unthinkable back then. No one would have ever believed you if you had predicted that same-sex "marriage" would become a national right in 2015. No one.

Yet fifty years later, and here we are.

Sadly, as many of you will know, contrary to their claims, that is not the end of it; and that is one reason why this series is called "Don't Ever Underestimate Our Spiritual Enemy". We did underestimate him, and look where it got us. What you need to understand is that nationwide legalized same-sex "marriage" is not enough for these people, just as civil unions was never really enough for them either. You may recall how I've mentioned in previous articles regarding this same topic, that the gay and lesbian community's claim that they just wanted to be left alone to live their lives in peace was an absolute lie. It was a subtle tactic to throw us off-guard, and it worked.

While some of them obviously do just want to live in peace with their same-sex partner, there is also a very militant, very radical, very vociferous sector of that community which has no such intentions. The obvious proof of this statement is June 26, 2015. These are the ones who march in gay pride parades. These are the ones who pushed and pushed until the law was on their side. But you see, they are not happy with just having won their legal battle in 2015. They also want forced acceptance of their ungodly, unnatural lifestyle. In

other words, even though same-sex "marriage" is now the law of the land, that is still not enough for them. They want their sexual preferences, choices and relationships to be an accepted norm, just like heterosexual marriage. They want all discrimination against them obliterated.

Thus they continue their campaign, albeit at a lower public level than the same-sex "marriage" battle itself. They know that they can't change the minds of dedicated, God-fearing, Bible-believing Christians such as you and I. But there is another soft target in their cross hairs: our very children. As I have mentioned before, that is precisely why they have invaded the public school system with their ungodly books regarding children having two "mommies" or two "daddies". It is implicit same-sex indoctrination at a young age, and the schools are doing nothing to prevent it, as far as I know; that is, unless parents raise an outcry. Even then, from what I hear, Christian parents' protests are not always successful.

But even that is not the end of this disgusting issue, and this onslaught against our Bible-based Christian values. The Devil is not happy with just part of the pie. He wants the whole darn thing. Thus, what do we see happening now? Gender identity issues, GQ/non-binary nonsense -- please look it up if you don't know what that is -- legal challenges regarding who gets to use which public bathroom, who gets to use which school showers, etc., and on and on it goes. A whole can of worms has been opened up, and it will never end. And if you as a Bible-believing Christian or business person challenge this new status quo, watch out! You just might find yourself being sued, or at the very least, ostracized and boycotted. It has already happened, and some folks have lost their jobs over this issue, or were pressured into resigning due to their Christian convictions.

Now, honestly tell me. Does that sound like same-sex couples who just want to live their lives in peace to you? I didn't think so. The Devil wants a total, liberal, hedonistic Hell on Earth, and he won't stop until he achieves exactly that. Remember this the next time that you hear some liberals say "Oh, we only want this much. That's all." If you are smart, you won't believe them for a second. Don't underestimate your spiritual enemy, my friends, or his human emissaries.

I began this article by discussing my graphics concerning the atheists, scoffers and reprobates. So what about all of these vocal atheists who have become so emboldened in recent years, that they are now freely plastering their blasphemies on the sides of buildings and buses, on billboards, and in other public areas in different countries around the world? Similar to how the same-sex "marriage" war has played out, some of you may be wondering if we should expect that someday in the not-too-distant future, the U.S.A. will become a totally atheistic, secular nation.

That's a good question. I certainly hope not; but in the end, hope certainly didn't help us with the same-sex "marriage" issue. Neither did our prayers. Did God fail us? No, I don't believe so. We failed ourselves, and we as a species failed God. As I have stated many times before, the simple truth of the matter is that God has given to humanity the majesty of free will and personal choice; and over the millennia, it appears that He has been very hesitant to break that kind of arrangement, except in very rare cases. For example, I am reminded of how God directly intervened in Apostle Paul's life and turned him completely around from being a Christian killer. But as I said, that was one exception to the rule.

As I explain in articles such as "Free Will and Personal Choice" "Beholding the Evil and the Good" and "Do You Want Love and Light, or Rod and Wrath?", in short, if people wish to choose evil, God will let them do so if that is what they truly desire. Of course, as we have already seen, He will let them fill their cup of iniquity, and then He will let them have it with both barrels for defying His Laws. We have read it time and again down through Biblical history. You may wish to read my series entitled "The Fruits of Disobedience". So returning to my previous question. What about America? Will she someday totally turn against God, even more than she has already done at this current time?

I honestly don't know. However, the signs we are now seeing are certainly not good. Just look at the trends over the past fifty years or so. God has pretty much been kicked out of the schools and colleges. He has likewise been kicked out of the work place because it is politically incorrect to hold such discussions there. God has also been given the exit at many government offices, as well as removed from other federal buildings and properties. God has likewise been kicked out of

the public square in large part. After all, we don't want to be offending so many nonbelievers with our Christian beliefs, do we? Yes, my friends, sarcasm intended. The fact is that I am totally sick of so-called "political correctness".

Look at the trends in art, music, entertainment, the mass media, etc. It seems that just being a liberal is no longer enough. One has to be an über-liberal to make the grade now. The proliferation of paganism and outright devil worship in the public sphere is outright mind-boggling. I don't think I really need to tell you that there's a very dark, persistent, ungodly wave washing over a lot of people in America, and I imagine it is happening elsewhere as well. Furthermore, just as occurred with same-sex "marriage", this rather sinister, diabolical wave is particularly washing over young people. Let's be honest here. The younger, more liberal generation was in large part the primary impetus behind the same-sex "marriage" "victory". Thus, if the U.S.A. becomes even more ungodly, I am convinced that it will be because of them as well, sad to say.

If you are a parent in this modern age -- particularly if you are a Christian parent -- then you will know exactly what I am talking about. Sadly, many of our children do not embrace our same conservative Christian values, even if we inculcated them with the Word of God when they were young. Many of you will know that King Solomon is believed to have written the following verse about three thousand years ago:

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6, KJV

I have considered this verse many times, and personally, I have concluded through various means that it no longer holds nearly as true as it did when it was first written. People can say what they like, but some of our children definitely do not retain the Christian education, values or practices that we imparted to them as their parents when they were young. Yes, I know. This can indeed be heartbreaking, and a real disappointment. It is a sad tragedy, but also a fact of life.

When this happens, should we as parents automatically feel as if we have failed them, or as if we have failed God?

Personally, I don't think so. I have mentioned before that there is only so much that we can do as Christian parents. We can sow the seed, and then hope for the best; but it does not always work out as we hope and anticipate. Sometimes our Christian-raised, but now-grown, children turn into complete liberals, and there is very little that we can do about it. Why? Again, the answer is the same as before: free will and personal choice, plus the fact that they become legal adults who can make their own choices, whether we agree with them or not. So in answer to how spiritually dark America may eventually become, I honestly don't know. It is in the hands of our children, and their children. But again, I am already very concerned by what I have seen with current trends, and I imagine that many of you are as well.

Please go to part three for the conclusion of this series.

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DON'T EVER UNDERESTIMATE OUR SPIRITUAL ENEMY : PART 3

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Dirty Divisive 2016 Presidential Campaign, The Mass Media Mud Slingers, Massive Demonstrations Are Planned For Inauguration Day, Disruptive Sore Loser Liberals, Difficult Election For Many American Christians With Difficult Choices To Be Made, Trump's Controversial Verbal Slips, Trump Won An Impossible Election, Scriptures Regarding God Raising Up Leaders, Mood Of Hope And Positivity Amongst Some Christians Following The Election, Some Words of Caution And My Honest Assessment Of President-elect Trump, Materialism And The Snare Of Riches, Trump Is A Man Of The World, Unwise To Judge Whether Someone Is Saved Or Not, Know Them By Their Fruits, Serious Questions We Need To Ask Ourselves Regarding Donald Trump, Questions Concerning How Trump Will Affect The Poor Sick And Elderly,

Will Trump Fall Short Of Christian Expectations Of Him?, The Temptation To Compromise And Cave In To Political Pressure, No Such Thing As A Perfect President, Men Of Force Are Men Of Faults, Mr. Trump's Decision To Delegate Responsibilities, We Should Not Place Our Faith In Any Elected Leader But In God Alone, Benefit Of The Doubt Versus My Tendency Towards Natural Skepticism, Closing Remarks, Suggested Reading Resources List

Before bringing this series to its conclusion, there is one more important subject which I wish to discuss in particular with my American Christian friends. Most of you will already be more than aware of the extremely dirty, and very divisive, presidential campaign/election which just concluded. Sadly, it appears that the ugliness is still not quite over yet, and some sectors -- such as the liberal mass media -- are still busy slinging mud at the victor, in the hopes of spoiling his inauguration, and whatever follows after that. Furthermore, it is my understanding that some very massive demonstrations are being planned for actual inauguration day on January the 20th, 2017.

It seems very obvious to me that the liberals are just not going to leave Mr. Trump alone, and partisan politics will continue in the USA, as usual. Now, if you expect anything otherwise, you will probably be majorly disappointed. The liberals are clearly sore losers, and apparently, they don't want us to forget it. They are intent on continuing to be disruptors right up to, and through, the inauguration. They don't want Donald Trump to savor one minute of his victory in peace, it seems. Seriously, their post-election tactics have reached the point of absolute absurdity, in my view.

I realize that for many of you -- at least those of you who took the time to vote -- it was a very difficult time, and a very difficult choice to make. Not because you would have ever dared to vote for Hillary Rodham Clinton, but because voting for Mr. Trump was just about as difficult for you. I understand that for many of you, it was the proverbial choice between what you perceived as the lesser of two evils. For others of you it required a serious strain on your pragmatism to overlook President-elect Trump's obvious flaws -- which the liberal press made sure you knew about in every possible regard -- and just do what you felt was best for the sake of

the GOP -- that is, Grand Old Party, or the Republicans, for benefit of my foreign readers -- as a whole.

I am of course referring to Mr. Trump's controversial remarks regarding certain minorities, women and sex, some of his own same-party competitors, etc. The man clearly stuck his foot in his mouth more times than I can count, and he didn't make it easy to vote for him, if you did. In fact, it appeared as if he was sinking his own ship, even without any help from Hillary Clinton and the Democrats. Yet, in spite of his own loose tongue, he still won an impossible election against a much more experienced and well-financed opponent, as well as against the vast majority of his own party who pretty much abandoned him.

That is one of the big reasons why I can only conclude that Trump was apparently God's choice as well, for whatever His divine reasons. Donald Trump overcame every obstacle and all odds, almost seemingly miraculously, as if there was a hand propelling him to his destiny. Time will indeed tell if this is truly the case; that is, if he's really God's man for the hour. Also, as I have shared with you many times before, I can only stand upon the following verses, and assume that they must apply to Mr. Trump as well:

"Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck. For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another."

Psalms 75:5-7, KJV

"Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:"

Daniel 2:20-21, KJV

"This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."

Daniel 4:17, KJV

"The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will."

Proverbs 21:1, KJV

"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice. Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD. And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel."

1 Samuel 15:23-26, KJV

Having said all of the above, I need to take a few paragraphs to balance out my previous statements. I fully realize that now that the election has concluded, some of you are feeling quite positive regarding Mr. Trump, and are filled with hope for the new year 2017. You obviously want to believe that the President-elect is going to be a catalyst for positive change in America, particularly for those American Christians who have been facing a negative onslaught for quite a number of years now. After all, we Christians certainly didn't get "the change you can believe in" with outgoing president Barack H. Obama. I understand your hope and desire for better things under the incoming president. But at the same time, I believe that some words of caution are in order here as well, so please bear with me.

Some of you may recall that a number of months ago, I believe even before Donald Trump was declared the official Republican presidential candidate, I made a blog post on my Bill's Bible Basics Blog in which I offered my honest assessment regarding the man, based on my limited knowledge of him at that time. Due to problems I had with my blog in July of this year, that post was actually lost; so allow me to state the following for your benefit and personal consideration. You may or may not agree with my assessment.

For me personally, Donald Trump is going to have to prove that he is truly the man that he claims to be. In my case, it will be an uphill battle for him from the start, because

I already harbor some serious doubts regarding the man. It is no secret that Trump is an extremely worldly and very materialistic man. His god is money. Make no mistake about it. His approach to life has always been, make the best deal possible. In a word, everything he seems to publicly stand for as a worldly businessman is contrary to the Scriptures. If you are being honest with yourself, then I am sure that you are already aware of this. However, let me share a set of verses with you to serve as a reminder:

"When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee: And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite. Be not desirous of his dainties: for they are deceitful meat. Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven. Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats: For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee. The morsel which thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, and lose thy sweet words."

Proverbs 23:1-8, KJV

"There is a sore evil which I have seen under the sun, namely, riches kept for the owners thereof to their hurt. But those riches perish by evil travail: and he begetteth a son, and there is nothing in his hand. As he came forth of his mother's womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labour, which he may carry away in his hand."

Ecclesiastes 5:13-15, KJV

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also . . . No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Matthew 6:19-21, 24, KJV

". . . Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly

enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."

Matthew 19:23-24, KJV

"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Mark 8:36-37, KJV

". . . Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God!"

Mark 10:24b, KJV

"And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment. Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little

flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Luke 12:16-34, KJV

"Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed."

John 6:27, KJV

"Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire."

1 Corinthians 3:13-15, KJV

"And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away."

1 Corinthians 7:31, KJV

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

2 Corinthians 4:18, KJV

"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

Philippians 4:11, KJV

"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, KJV

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into

temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

1 Timothy 6:6-10, KJV

"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Hebrews 13:5, KJV

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you. Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain."

James 5:1-7, KJV

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

1 John 2:15-17, KJV

"No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

2 Timothy 2:4, KJV

"And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed

unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it."

Luke 4:5-6, KJV

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

James 4:4, KJV

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

My friends, let's be honest. The previous verses describe Mr. Trump to the letter. He is a man of the world. Everything the Scriptures warn against regarding this topic, he embraces. If you saw TV images of the inside of his Trump Tower penthouse in Manhattan, then you already know exactly what I am talking about. Those images are the perfect picture of opulence and wealth. You can see exactly what Mr. Trump believes in simply by looking at those televised images. That is why it is very difficult for me to embrace the thought that President-elect Trump is going to be some kind of great blessing to the poor.

Regarding his spirituality, all I can suggest is that we take a hard look at his life, his relationships, and his business dealings. Even those have come under serious fire in the mass media, and have for some time now been the object of a number of legal suits.

As some of you will know, I don't like to judge anyone when it comes to the topic of their Salvation, or lack thereof, because I can't see deep into their heart. Besides that, it is really between them and the Lord anyway. Only God knows who is truly saved, and who is not saved, so it is foolish for any of us to attempt to make that determination on our own. As the Lord said in the following verses, we can make a kind of general determination regarding an individual simply by looking at the "fruit" their life bears; but I think that deciding whether or not they are truly saved is taking it a bit too far:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Matthew 7:15-20, KJV

All I am willing to say is that from the start, Trump has impressed me as being a rather superficial man. He is also rather proud, boastful and overly confident, and he loves to exaggerate to the point of lying, or at least being extremely inaccurate in his public remarks. This does worry me, and I am concerned that even though he began with no real political experience, he found himself in the middle of political boot camp, and quickly picked up some of the tricks of the trade.

I will say this though. I love the man's spunk and energy. At seventy years of age, I'd have to say that he has a lot more energy than I do, and I am not quite as old as he is yet. I find it quite amusing the way he has not backed down from the liberal press, or from the traitors within his own party who all abandoned him, because they were obviously more concerned about their own political futures. We need a man with guts in the office of the presidency, who is not afraid to speak the truth; so that part of his personality may possibly serve Mr. Trump well. Of course, there also needs to be a balance with diplomacy, so that he is not always sticking his foot in his mouth, as he was prone to do on the campaign trail.

At the same time, I do have some concerns about his beliefs. Does he truly practice some degree of Christianity from his heart which isn't readily apparent on the surface? And I am talking about more than just making the usual Sunday church appearances for the benefit of public consumption, as many politicians love to do. Or is it simply rhetoric fashioned to mold public opinion, and keep us Christians under the deception that we have a true Christian president?

My friends, please don't take offense, but these are serious questions that we need to ask ourselves. If we are honest

with ourselves, we need to recognize that over the years and decades, we have seen way too many politicians use, abuse and discard the American Christian electorate. They have all smooth-talked us for that all-important vote, and then what? True or not? That is why this sudden casting of Mr. Trump as a dedicated Christian has bothered me. Again, look at the fruits.

On the more mundane and political side, based on certain things which he has stated, and the conservative Republican company which Mr. Trump now keeps -- who are obviously no doubt applying some very serious pressure to the man right now -- I have other concerns. Because of that company, and his strong ties to the business world, I am very concerned that Mr. Trump may eventually hurt the poor, the sick and the elderly, due to stringent Republican financial policies which will primarily benefit the rich and the elite, at the expense of the aforementioned groups. For example, if you are a senior citizen who depends on some form of Social Security, or someone living in poverty who depends on the Medicaid program, will you find your benefits hit sometime in the not-to-distant future? In other words, will Trump rob Peter to pay Paul, as so many politicians tend to do?

Even if you have just a cursory understanding of American politics, and a general understanding of human nature, if you are completely honest with yourself, you should be able to realize and consider, that not much different from every other president who has preceded him, and despite all of the promises that he made on the campaign trail, President Trump may eventually disappoint American Christians, and fail to fully meet their expectations. Trump will more than likely compromise some of his personal convictions. He'll probably cave in to certain political pressures and backtrack on some issues. I think it is inevitable. He will not fully deliver the promised goods. Also, Mr. Trump may make some deals which are not to our benefit as Christians. If you honestly believe otherwise at this current time, I think you may be setting yourself up for disappointment.

The bottom line is that there is no such thing as the perfect president. They are as human and imperfect as you and I are. They are a mixed bag of tricks. Please don't forget that men of force are also men of faults, and the incoming president has clearly demonstrated that he is a man of force. After all,

he steamrolled right into the White House beyond expectations. Therefore, I think it would be wise for some of you to lower your expectations a bit, and prepare yourself for at least a few disappointments from Mr. Trump.

The President-elect will no doubt get some things right, but he will also get some things wrong, maybe even very terribly wrong. After all, as has become clearly evident from Trump's famous Twitter account -- some of you may prefer to refer to it as his infamous battering ram -- he is a man who is given to sudden impulses. Hopefully, his cabinet members and staff will keep him in check, and will provide a sufficient amount of moderation. Time will tell.

From what I have seen thus far, I think he recognizes his own limitations, particularly in the political sphere; and that is why he's already delegated many important responsibilities to individuals who are more knowledgeable and experienced than himself. I can't say that I agree with all of his choices, but I do applaud him for taking the time to finally listen to the voices of other people. That is something which is very hard to do for men like Mr. Trump who are at the helm of business and power. They always want to run the whole thing, and that could be Trump's downfall if he is not careful. The entire nation is now depending on him, and not just his corporation.

So aside from the main lesson of this article, which is that we should never underestimate our spiritual enemy, or the level of his craftiness, the second important point I wish to convey to you is that we should not place our faith in any elected leader, because they are all worldly men, prone to sin and imperfection, who are all susceptible to negative spiritual influences and worldly forces. More often than not, in my view, as a result, they are also destined to disappoint God-fearing and Bible-believing Christians such as ourselves. Therefore, we should not set our expectations too high with such men. We should really only place our faith in God above, because He is our Savior, Helper, Protector and Provider.

Now, I don't want to overly discourage you. I do want to give President-elect Trump the benefit of the doubt. I would also like to see him succeed in the areas where I agree with him, and fulfill some of the commitments that he made to the public while on the campaign trail. However, given my age, and all that I have seen over the past six plus decades, it has made

me rather skeptical, so that I am naturally inclined to not trust individuals such as politicians. I hope that I am wrong about Mr. Trump, and it would in fact be a pleasant surprise if he does prove me wrong in the long term. We shall see.

With these thoughts I will bring this article to a close. I trust that it has been a blessing and an inspiration in your life. If you agree with the above message, and believe that it is important enough, please consider sharing it in full, either by providing a clickable link to the original article on the Bill's Bible Basics website, or by using the "Share" link or button, retweet button, etc., that is found on the social networks in which you participate. Thanks so much, and may God bless you for being a soldier for the truth!

For additional information, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were also mentioned in this article, or which are related to the topics which were discussed in this article. They are likewise located on the Bill's Bible Basics web server:

The Gay and Lesbian Agenda: To the Point!
When Sin is No Longer a Sin
Queen James Bible: Blasphemous Abomination Exposed!
The Overhauling of Straight America
Free Will and Personal Choice
Beholding the Evil and the Good
Do You Want Love and Light, or Rod and Wrath?
Did the Devil Make You Do It?
The Fruits of Disobedience
Not Everyone is a Child of God
Child of the Lamb or Child of the Goat?
Bloody But Unbowed: Timothy McVeigh and the Death Penalty
Famous Forties in the Bible
Civil Disobedience and Christian Persecution
Abomination of Desolation: Explained!
Apostasy of Oprah Winfrey: America's False Prophetess?
Elijah: Where Are the True Prophets of God?
Modern False Prophets and Worldly Ecumenism
Nostradamus: Prophet of God, or Messenger of Satan?
Office of a Prophet
The Misguided End of the World Predictions of Harold Camping
Abortion: The Slaughter of the Innocent
The Fruit of the Womb
America: Land of the Free . . . and Hypocrisy!

Who is the Real Terrorist?

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