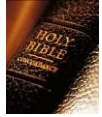


The DEFENDER— October 2024



“ . . . defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

A monthly publication of the
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast
and the Cub Hill Bible Presbyterian Church.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: Is This the Promised Land?

Everybody seems to have an idea of how to get to the so-called promised land. Some have referred to it as paradise, nirvana, and even heaven on earth. But what is it really? Is it an idea or is it an actual location?

The American Dream has often been misconstrued as the promised land, when in fact it's actually a vehicle to take you to that place in life where you can rise as high and become as rich as your ability and effort can achieve. Because America is a land of opportunity where individuals have the God-given unalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, many have realized a level of success that allows them to live a life of luxury. As desirable as that is, it's still a lifestyle and not a destination.

Which brings us to the Progressive Dream. Progressives base their dream on collectivism, where they see people, not as individuals, but as members of groups. And those people are to serve the group interests of the collective, which in practice usually means the state. Or as Anthony Fauci once said, “You have a responsibility to society. And there comes a time when you have to give up your individual right of making your own decisions for the greater good of society.” Suddenly the Progressive vision of heaven on earth has turned their idea of utopia into the frightening reality of a totalitarian dystopia.

Thus far we have considered the Promised Land as an idea, through the eyes of America's founders, and as a location, through the eyes of the global elitists who would control every thought and action in their god-like rule of the state.

We're brought now to the only viable option of a true Promised Land, where lifestyle and destination meet. It's a place where there is no sorrow and no one ever cries. They never get sick and they never die. All who labor and are heavy laden will find rest there. Somehow the word lifestyle being used to describe this location rings hollow. It is an actual place, a destination promised to those who meet one uncompromising requirement: perfection, as in without sin. God resides in this Promised Land, and if you're trusting in Christ alone as your Savior you can join Him there one day. In fact, Jesus tells us in John 14:2-3 that He is there right now, preparing a place for those who have personally asked Him to forgive their sins. That's paradise. That's heaven. That's a utopia that mankind can never deliver because the sin of pride and selfishness will always preclude that. Human beings cannot love one another enough to make heaven a reality. But Jesus can. While we were still separated from Him by our sin, He loved us enough to leave heaven and come to earth to die for us. And for those He died for He will take to heaven, to live with Him forever in eternal bliss and happiness. Only God can create and promise a land like that.

Rev. David Lewis

Study to Show Thyself Approved Unto God (2 Tim. 2:15)

Part 1 – In the Last Days, Perilous Times Shall Come (2 Tim. 3:16)

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

The Apostle Peter was “moved by the Holy Spirit” to tell believers that “In the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we have A MORE SURE WORD OF PROPHECY whereunto ye do well to take heed as A LIGHT THAT SHINETH IN A DARK PLACE” (in your hearts – 2 Peter 1:19-21).

Peter, with James and John, had seen the “TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS AND THE PROPHETS” on the mountain and heard the “VOICE OF GOD.” They were to hold this knowledge “UNTIL THE SAVIOR BE RISEN from the dead” (Matt. 17:1-9; Mark 9:2-9).

From that “DAY OF PENTECOST” (2,000 years ago – Acts, chapters 1 and 2) Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice and said (2:14-16) “Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth ... ye have taken and by wicked hands have crucified and slain (vs. 22-24). God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye crucified, both Lord and Christ” (vs. 36). Now they were pricked in their heart and said unto Peter ... “What shall we do?” Peter replied unto them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit for the promise is unto you and ... even as many as the Lord our God shall call” (vs. 37-39).

From that Pentecost Day 2,000 years ago unto today, Christians still rise up to live and to preach the “Gospel of Christ” but also to relate particularly to the prophesies regarding the imminent return to earth of the “ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, Jesus Christ” (John 3:16).

Let none think that they are too young to come to Christ like that little one who passed away knowing very little but was trusting Jesus as her savior or that old one who thinks their sins are greater than the power of the Creator of Heaven and earth, time and eternity (John 1:3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:1-4, etc.).

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ says to all, “Come unto me and learn of me, for ... ye shall find rest unto your souls” (Matt. 11:28-29). The one thief nailed to a Cross at Calvary was enabled to hear and accept Christ’s invitation because, “my sheep hear my voice ... and they follow me and I give unto them ETERNAL LIFE” (John 10:27). Jesus also said, “I AM THE DOOR” if any enter in, he shall be saved (10:9) and if ye keep my commandments ye shall abide in my love and in the Father’s love.

As dark as this world is becoming, all who firmly believe in the “DIVINE INSPIRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD” (2 Pet. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16) ought to stand together as far as truth and knowledge permits. We live in the shadow of the persecuted peoples of World War II and of

those Christians who were martyred for their faith principally under Nazism and Communism in Germany and Russia in the 20th Century.

Those who love God and Jesus Christ (the Virgin Son of God – Is. 7:14, 9:6) also declare their belief in forgiveness of sins by the finished work of Christ on the Cross of Calvary 2,000 years ago and made available to all called of God, to accept the invitation of the Holy Spirit of God who says, “COME.” The “GIFT OF GOD” that brings us our “faith by grace alone,” brings to those hearts God has opened “salvation that justifies to all who believe with the sanctification that will last for all eternity” (Ep. 2:8-10).

In his writings and teachings and especially in his book, “THE LAMP OF PROPHECY,” Professor Harry A. Ironside spoke of a converging of the ages, one era closing and another beginning. Well studied students of scripture and history tell us they see the scriptural keys to the mysteries of this present age and discern the signs coming from the PLAN OF GOD and the soon return of Jesus Christ.

Ironside showed how the Lord Jesus in Matthew 23 laid out the sad case of the failure of Israel’s leadership in Jerusalem that would bring death and destruction. Jesus said, after He and His disciples had visited the Temple, “See ye not all these things ... there shall not be here, one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down” (Matt. 24:2). Next Jesus said, “take heed that no man deceive you” (vs. 4) “for false prophets shall deceive many” (vs. 11) and “then shall come GREAT TRIBULATION ... to this time, No, nor ever shall be” (vs. 21).

The Lord Jesus now taught His followers to, “Now learn a parable of the Fig Tree” [a symbol of Israel] when his branch is yet tender ... summer is nigh ... even at the doors” (Matt. 24:32-35); “Heaven and earth shall pass away ... my words shall not pass away;” therefore, be ye also ready (vs. 44). In Matthew 25 all believers are cautioned “... ye know neither the day or the hour in which the Son of Man cometh” (25:13).

Led by his vision sent to him from the Lord Jesus Christ, Saul of Tarsus was changed on the road to Damascus to no longer be a terror to Christians but rather to serve as an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ and to His Church. Now Paul came to know and teach the mystery of the promised Christ of God who was to come (Gen. 3:15; Luke 1:30-38). Now the mystery hid in God from the beginning of the world is now made manifest (Col. 1:26; Rom. 16:27) and revealed not only to Israel but to every nation (Ep. 1:5-9; 3:1-7).

When Jesus disputed with the ungodly leadership in Jerusalem He said, “He that is of God heareth God’s words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God (John 8:44-47). Your Father Abraham rejoiced to see my day ... Verily, verily, I say unto you, before Abraham was I AM” (56-58). The unsaved leaders “stumbled at the stumbling stone” (Rom. 9:31-33) but believers come to God as “living stones built up a spiritual house ... by Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:5). Behold I lay in SION a chief CORNERSTONE ... the same is made of the HEAD OF

THE CORNER ... but you are a 'chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people' ... called by God out of darkness into His marvelous light" (6-9).

The Apostle Paul wrote and preached that Gentiles are no longer "strangers and foreigners" to the covenants of God but are, since the resurrection of Christ, fellow citizens with the saints ... of God; built upon ... Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone" (Ep. 2:19-22). Now what was hidden from Old Testament believers is now revealed in the "dispensation of the grace of God" (Ep. 3:2) to all men to see the mystery of the fulfillment of the coming of the promised Deliverer Jesus Christ (Rom. 11:26) and to soon also see His return to earth "when His feet shall again stand on the Mount of Olives" (Zech. 14:4; Rev. 19:1-16).

The Lord Jesus Christ is the head of an army that is constantly battling the powers of hell but they shall not prevail. A right thinking Christian does not close their eyes to the "signs of the times" and will not be ignorant of Satan's devices, but we know that "greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (worldly) but mighty through the pulling down of strongholds."

By the redeeming blood of Christ the saints on earth, since the cross and Pentecost, Jews and Gentiles who confess and trust the Savior Jesus Christ (Rom. 10:9-10) come to the same common ground being cleansed from all sins and now live in faith as the "one new man" (Ep. 4:24, 2:15; Col. 3:10).

And as Jesus said, "LOOK UP" (Luke 21:28).

Chief Source:	The Lamp of Prophecy
Author:	Harry A. Ironside
Publisher:	Zondervan Publishing House
	1940 Second Edition
	Grand Rapids, MI



In His Time—Part 2

By Nancy Long

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 – *“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silent, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace. What profit hath he that worketh in that therein he laboureth? I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it. He hath made every thing beautiful in His time: also He hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life. And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God. I know that whatsoever that God doeth, it shall be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men shall fear before Him. That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; that God requireth that which is past.”*

I pray we've come to see more clearly in some of the words I wrote last month, and have begun to sense too, the wisdom in these aforementioned verses of Scripture. We do indeed live in a world of change, a state of constant flux. What is experienced today, *is* today, but what will be awaiting on the morrow, we know not! God has deliberately imposed restraints on man's control over life, and has as well, limited, by the sheer fact that we humans are finite and fallen, our complete understanding of it. We are continually being shown, through events providentially sent, that we really have absolutely no control at all! How much are we able to master the weather or have any control over accidents or even relationships? We literally do not know with assurance, what's around the next corner! How discouraging these thoughts might be, and perhaps, even frightening, if it wasn't for the knowledge that a Supreme Being, a Sovereign God, a God who is above all things who is good, and holy, and just, *is* in complete control of everything!! This *“eternal, immortal, invisible, and only wise God”* (1Tim. 1:17) has appointed the times and the seasons, and also the circumstances and happenings of life that touch each and every one of us. This is good, my friends! This is very good!! We can find solace here! We can find comfort, and peace and rest!!

It is extremely important we consider our days, and time here on this earth, as blessings that we take events as they come, and accept everything as a **gift** from the Master Potter/ Designer, and Creator. It is a necessity to view every detail of our lives, and seize each one of them as opportunities to thank and glorify the Lord who *“before ordained that we should walk in them”* (Eph. 2:10). Our steps are indeed ordered, fellow believers (Psalm 37:23).

The apostle Paul exhorts us: *“whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatever ye do, do all to the glory of God”* (1 Cor. 10:31), and another like it: *“Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him”* (Col. 3:17) and one more: *“Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men, knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ* (Col. 3:23-24). Such an attitude of gratitude can transform lives!!

If the Lord in heaven has granted you prosperity today, rejoice, find gladness and satisfaction in it. Praise God from whom all blessings flow, and be content in the state you find yourself (Phil. 4:11), for this is the situation, at least for the time being, that God is using to mold and work in you, to help prepare you for glory.

If Almighty God has provided you with a “problem” today, be grateful *in* it! Realize that you need it, even though you might not necessarily like it. Face your present difficulty with a smile, understanding and accepting we, as God’s children, can’t have everything we’d like right now. We need to adopt a “big picture” mindset! Again, I repeat the Apostle Paul’s exhortation to *“be content in the state you find yourself.”* Lean on the faith that’s been given you, trust His ways are perfect, and He will make all things beautiful **in His time!**

*“In His time, in His time; He makes all things beautiful in His time,
Lord, please show me every day, As You’re teaching me Your way,
That You do just what You say, in Your time.”*

*“In Your time, in Your time; You make all things beautiful in Your time. Lord, my life to You I
bring, May each song I have to sing, Be to You a lovely thing, in Your time.”*

Text and Music – Diane Ball

Epilogue:

Speaking personally I have been writing for Cub Hill Bible Presbyterian Church’s Defender magazine, once a month, for the past 20 years. The Lord has abundantly blessed me through this ministry.

I had a stroke three years ago and another small one this past April. I am, as well, almost 84 years old, and I read with perfect clarity: *“Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with Thee, Thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass”* (Job 14:5) and again in (Psalm 90:10) *“The days of our years are threescore and ten; and if by reason of strength they be foreshore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.”*

I too, have been left with some side effects, one of which is that I'm unable to grasp onto words, thoughts and ideas, like I once did previously. I am no longer able to safely drive. I am living a "new normal." This is, of course, not my choosing, but again, I read in God's Word, ***"that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose"*** (Rom. 8:28). and again, it's clearly stated, ***"Do everything without complaining"*** (Phil. 2:14), as well as ***"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you"*** (1 Thess. 5:18). and lastly, ***"Rejoice and be glad in each day God gives"*** (Psalm 118:24). *"I believe, Lord help Thou mine unbelief"* (Mark 9:24).

If, please, my name comes to mind, my Defender friends, I'd like you to pray for me that I'll be a good witness to the One who's given me more than I could ever ask, or even think to the One who's freely given life to my dead spirit to the One Who's made everything beautiful in His time!



My Favorite

When I am asked to name
My favorite Founding Father
I find it is a quite difficult decision
one that forces me to ponder.

Should I select a man who served as a soldier
and a general and answered his country's call
to be our first President under our Constitution,
or should I select the man who is credited with
writing the Constitution itself?

Is it possible that I should select the man who
spoke so few words yet wrote so eloquently,
penning our Declaration of Independence,
or the man who is remembered as saying
the most words in Congress,
whose wife is known for her outspoken viewpoints,
and who was himself a President
and also fathered a future President?

Is the better choice a man who signed not only one
but four of our founding documents
and who is also known for his inventions and almanac?

When considering the question I must not overlook
the men who rode on horseback to alert the towns
of the arrival of the British troops, or the many men
who stood upon the several battlefields
and laid their lives on the line for our freedom.

Founding Father

Should I choose a man of the cloth or of power?
Could it be a farmer, a man of color,
a man of medicine or a lawyer?
Or is it a man of wealth or a pauper?

To select only one man is a most difficult decision
when considering that so many have given
of their fortunes, their lives, and their sacred honor
for the freedoms we have enjoyed for so many years.

So who should I name as My Favorite Founding Father?

My selection is the one true Father who is referred to as
'Nature's God' and the 'Supreme Judge'
in our Declaration of Independence
the one who is remembered on all our currency
and in many songs and prayers.

Without the Creator
the men who declared the colonies
'free and independent'
and created the structure of this great nation,
via our Constitution, would not have existed or
assembled together at that moment in history
to bring forth
the United States of America.

My choice could not be clearer;

May God bless America!

By: S. Hunter Smith

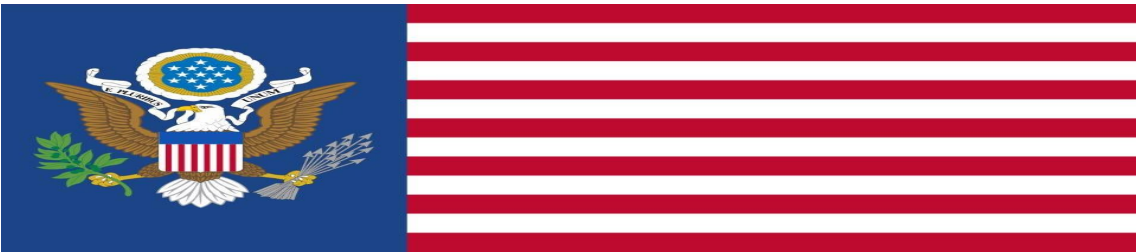
Moments of Truth

Satan's henchmen are alive and well in Maryland's Democrat party. They're trying to amend the State Constitution.

Their proposal is stated as the Right to Reproductive Freedom, but before you get misled by the wording, understand that this is not limited to abortion alone but also is a consent to the use of any drugs or procedures on the reproductive anatomy—be it male or female. AND ... also understand that this amendment applies to males and females—regardless of age. That means NO parental consent is needed. Did I mention how evil Democrats are?

Any future changes to this amendment—should it pass—must be made by the General Assembly and ratified by the voters, which in the People's Republic of Maryland is nearly impossible to do.


So stop it this November by voting "NO" on election day. Vote against amending the Maryland Constitution. All that is necessary for evil to prosper is for good people to do nothing.



It's been estimated that 40 million Christians are not even registered to vote, and of the 40 million who are, half of them won't.

If that happens the current ungodly, evil culture in America will remain uncontested by the very people who can make the difference in returning our nation to its founding principles. If they stay home on November 5th, then those who hate God will elect their representatives who will pass legislation that will continue to take away our God-given freedoms by replacing them with progressive secular humanist values.

Once again, the church will have dropped the ball when given a chance to stand up for God. The Bible is clear that we reap what we sow, and we're not going to like what we see.



"The time has come
to turn back to

God

and reassert our
trust in Him
for the healing
of America."

Ronald Reagan

ChristianQuotes.info

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

The Defender is available, free of charge, on audio CD.
Please contact us if you would like to receive a copy by mail.

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In Defense of Truth can be heard online
at www.evangelismradio.com:
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and on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore every Sunday from 6:30-7:00 AM

Listen also to IDOT's "Moment of Truth"
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WRITE TO US!

Rev. David Lewis &
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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 am
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 am
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	12:30 pm
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 pm
Friday, October 4th, Bonfire	7:00 pm