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Safety In Our Conflict-Government Church

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Could the Government we see be only the mirror image of people who vote?

Dr. Clarence Holland
The question is, “Can this nation be a Christian nation?” Did God set America apart and did He establish it on a Christian foundation? Are its values, laws, and founding documents built upon Christian principles? We acknowledge that America is a diverse nation but are the foundations of this nation Christian in design?

Can a nation be religious? Every nation throughout history has been built on some religious foundation. Israel-Judaism, India-Hinduism, Russia-Atheism, China-Confucianism, Moslem countries-Islam, and America-Christianity
We think this present conflict; political, social, and cultural, to be new. It’s not. The Greek mind and the Hebrew spirit has always been in conflict. These two polar positions have always strived against each other.

Currently, this conflict has been set against the back-drop of the election. This isn’t new! However, this election has become more of a Biblical issue because of the secular mandates that exist in this present conflict.

Consider this: The Greek mind verses the Hebrew Spirit.
Christianity verses Atheism; CNN verses Fox News; Fahrenheit 9/11 verses The Passion of Christ; Howard Stern verses Rush Limbaugh; the Inerrant Word of God verses a Flawed Bible; The Marriage Amendment verses Homosexual Civil Unions; Stem Cell Research verses Partial Birth Abortions; Diplomacy verses Terrorism; Creation verses Evolution; Tolerance verses Intolerance, Absolute Truth verses Situational Ethics; One Nation verses One Nation Under God; what the media says verses what the Bible says; and the Conservative Right verses the Liberal Left.

These are just a few of the Greek mind-Hebrew spirit issues that are clouding the minds of American Christian Voters.
Hold Up That Mirror Once Again!

“You took the good things for granted; now you must earn them again. For every right that you cherish, you have a duty which you must fulfill. For every hope that you entertain, you have a task that you must perform. For every good that you wish to preserve, you will have to sacrifice your comfort and your ease. There is nothing for nothing any longer.”

President George Washington, 1775
This “prophet” was looking into a Mirror!

“And these two crises: the political crises of today’s world and the oncoming spiritual crises, are occurring at the same time. It is our generation that will have to confront them.”

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, “Warning to the West” 1976
“…We have given free and absolute power to these Christians of exercising their own religion. And, as this indulgence has been granted to them, so you understand that a similarly free and unrestricted power is, with a view to the peace in our time conceded to all others as to their own religion or observance, free liberty of worship which he prefers; for we desire that no religion may have its honor diminished by us.”
Every structure, building, system, and government begins with the laying of a proper foundation. The attention and care given to the design (shape, strength, and purpose) of the foundation is directly related to the structure that can be built upon it. When a structure is built on an improperly designed foundation or when an improper structure is built upon a quality foundation the end result is a cracking foundation or crumbling structure.

Please understand the analogy.
Adopted by the Continental Congress in 1789 was the following statement: “Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.”

George Washington wrote: “Do not let anyone claim to be a true American if they ever attempt to remove religion from politics. Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that the national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles. Take away religion and the country will fail.”
A House Judiciary Report dated 1854 presented: “In this age there is no substitution for Christianity: That was the religion of the Founders of the Republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants...The great, vital, and conservative element in our system is the belief in our people, in the pure doctrine and divine truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

And last in this list of policy writers is President James Madison. He stated, “Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other.”
• Therefore, the foundation built by our founding fathers was designed specifically for a political structure with the religion of Christianity as its framework.

• Those that deny this have rewritten their version of the U.S. Constitution. And are dishonest in their presentation of the true nature of the Church and State relationship in America.

• Notice, I did not use the phrase “Separation of Church and State.”
Virginia House of Burgesses-1760 A.D. “Be it enacted by the General Assembly, that no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be forced, restrained, molested, or burthened (burdened) in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief; but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinion in matters of religions, and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities.”
....And Found Itself Back Where It Had All Started!

- **Amendment To The Constitution, Proposed To The House Of Representatives in September, 1789 A.D.**

  "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press; or the rights of people peacefully to assemble. And to petition the government for a redress of grievances."
A Quote and A Theme

“….if the American taxpayer could provide education for every child in America, within a short period of time the effect of the public school system would empty all the jails and prisons in the country…Let the home and church teach faith and values, and the school teach facts.” (Horace Mann, (1796-1859) Considered the Father of American Public Education)

Social Order and Culture Unification through Education.
Society was impacted and controlled by each piece of a student’s education. But, now who controls society’s thinking and reactions?

1. Religious liberty is an inalienable right!
2. Citizenship in a diverse society means living with our deepest differences and committing ourselves to work for public policies that are in the best interests of all individuals, families, communities, and our nation.
3. Public schools must model the democratic processes.
4. Public schools may not promote nor inhibit religion.
5. Parents are recognized as having the primary responsibility for the upbringing of their children.
6. Civil debate, which is the cornerstone of our democracy, is vital to the success of our nation.
7. No child will be seriously compromised while at school.
Religious Neutrality-The Litmus Test

To pass constitutional “muster” a government practice must have:

- A secular purpose;
- A primary focus which neither advances nor inhibits religion; and
- No excessive government entanglements with religion.
Where is the “safety in this conflict?”

- Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof…”

- Everyday, Jessica, a student at P.S.101, sits under a tree in the schoolyard, recites prayers, and engages her classmates in discussions of a religious nature. The recess monitor, concerned about the activity, alerted school officials who forbid Jessica to continue her recess prayer and discussion.

- Who is right and why? Use the Litmus Test.
Safety In Our Conflict

by Dr. Chick Holland-
Respect for Authority - Obeying God’s Word

- Turn to Romans 13
- Turn to Acts 4
- Turn to Amos 3:7-8
- Justify the seemingly disagreement between the two statements.
- What is your conclusions?
There has always been kings, priests, and prophets. The king was to maintain order, build up the nation’s defenses, govern laws that protect the people, and guarantee justice is carried out. The priests were to bring the nation to face God and live accordingly. They were to teach the people God’s ways and God’s laws. The prophets were to hold both king and priest accountable to God’s standards of behavior and actions. The prophet was to remind the nation’s public and religious leaders of their responsibilities before God. When God allowed Kings, God instituted the role of Prophet. We are the prophet.
We hold the measuring stick, the Bible, and measure the nation’s actions according to that measuring stick. When society deviates from God’s Laws, the prophet (you and me) is to remind them to return or face God’s judgment.

Why the Bible? Because, currently this is a Christian Nation, Under God.
“You took the good things for granted; now you must earn them again. For every right that you cherish, you have a duty which you must fulfill. For every hope that you entertain, you have a task that you must perform. For every good that you wish to preserve, you will have to sacrifice your comfort and your ease. There is nothing for nothing any longer.”