

# LAMPLIGHTER



*"Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place." - II Peter 1:19*

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**America's  
Christian  
Heritage**



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# Observations by the Editor

## Our Cover

When someone refers to our nation's Christian heritage, an image of the Pilgrims landing at Plymouth Rock in 1620 is what usually comes to mind. And that is only proper, for they were among the first to bring the Christian religion to this country. But they were not the only ones.

The "Kingdom of New Mexico" was first claimed for the Spanish Crown in 1540, during the expedition of Francisco Vásquez de Coronado. He brought with him four Franciscan monks who attempted to indoctrinate the native Indians with the Christian faith. The first effort to colonize the region occurred in 1598 when Don Juan de Oñate established Santa Fé de Nuevo México as a province of New Spain.

New Mexico's third Spanish governor, Don Pedro de Peralta, was the one who founded a new city at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in 1608, which he called "La Villa Real de la Santa Fé de San Francisco de Asís," which in English means, the Royal Town of the Holy Faith of Saint Francis of Assisi.

In 1610, he made this town the capital of the province, making it the oldest capital city in what is the modern United States. Jamestown, Virginia, is of similar vintage (1607) but is no longer a capital. Santa Fe is at least the third oldest surviving American city founded by European colonists. The oldest is St. Augustine, Florida, founded in 1565.

The San Miguel Mission in Santa Fe, which is pictured on our cover, was a Spanish colonial mission church that was built between 1610 and 1626. It is the oldest church in the United States, and as such, it has been designated a U.S. National Historic Landmark. Though the church has been repaired and rebuilt numerous times over the years, its original adobe walls are still intact, although they have been hidden by later additions.

Nathan Jones' brief essay on page 11 presents an overview of some of the very courageous priests who attempted to introduce the indigenous peoples of the American West to Christianity.

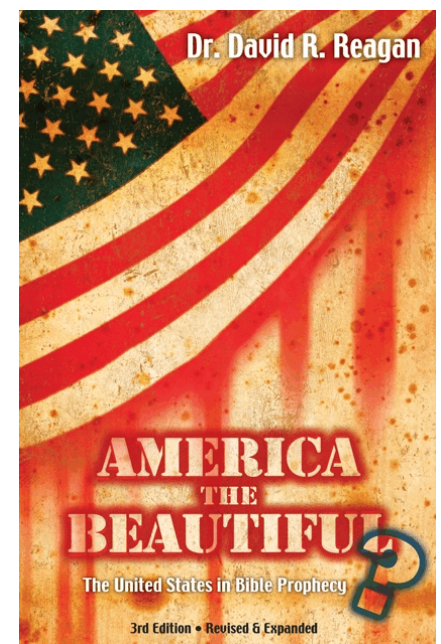


**Dr. David R. Reagan**

The articles in this issue will prove conclusively that our nation was established by Christians who incorporated basic biblical principles into the nation's founding documents. Unfortunately, the articles will also demonstrate that we are in the process of rapidly departing from those principles.

We are a nation that has turned its back on the Creator who has blessed us more than any other nation in history except ancient Judah. In the words of Jeremiah, our faces have "become harder than rock," we have "a stubborn and rebellious heart," and we no longer "know how to blush" (Jeremiah 5:3, 23 and 6:15).

What will be our fate? I urge you to get a copy of the new third edition of my book about the United States in Bible prophecy. You can order a copy through our website at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com), or you can order a copy by calling 1-800-705-8316.





# America's Christian Heritage

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

**T**he American constitutional system was the first government devised by Man that was based upon biblical principles.

Its cornerstone was a belief in the evil nature of Man, which produced a conviction that no person can be trusted with power. This belief that Man's nature is corrupted and irreparable (apart from the power of the Holy Spirit) represented a radical departure from history. Until that time, most of Mankind had always been ruled by kings who were considered to have a divine right to rule and who usually ended up ruling like they thought they were gods.

## A Biblical Example

I am reminded of the children of Israel when they arrived in the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua. The Lord God Almighty served as their king. He protected them and blessed them with freedom and prosperity. When they took their eyes off Him and rebelled, He would allow foreign nations to conquer them. When they repented, He would raise up leaders, called judges, who would deliver them from foreign domination.

This unique form of supernatural rule continued for 400 years until the people rose up in rebellion during the judgeship of Samuel and demanded an earthly king so that they would be "like all the other nations" (1 Samuel 8:5, 20). Samuel tried to warn them that an earthly king would abuse his power and make their lives miserable by sending their sons into war, exploiting their daughters, confiscating their fields, and imposing heavy taxation (1 Samuel 8:10-18). But they would not listen, and they got what they asked for — a long history of abusive kings.

## A Unique Form of Government

The American colonists rebelled against such a king, and they had no intention of replacing the British monarch with an American one. What is amazing is that they did not proceed to establish an oligarchical form of government since most of the leaders of the American Revolution were wealthy aristocrats.

But the vast majority of them were also devout Christians, and they were fully aware of the biblical teaching about the fallen nature of Man (Jeremiah 17:5,7,9):

- 5) Thus says the Lord,  
"Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind . . .
- 7) "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord . . .
- 9) "The heart is more deceitful than all else  
And is desperately sick . . ."



**Painting by J. C. Leyendecker  
for the *Saturday Evening Post*.**

Accordingly, our Founding Fathers did not trust anyone with power — not even themselves. They therefore proceeded to construct a government that would limit the use of power.

Equally important was their conviction that the Word of God constitutes a higher law to which all men and governments are subject and that the fundamental rights of Mankind are derived from that law and not from government. Thus, in the nation's Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

To put it another way, the Founding Fathers of our nation expressly rejected the traditional philosophy of Humanism and its concept that Man is basically good and capable of perfection and that therefore those who are highly educated have a natural right to rule over those less fortunate. They also rejected the radical form of Humanism that came to prevail in the French Revolution and which produced a reign of terror — namely, a belief in the essential goodness of the common man.

Again, because of their world view, our Founding Fathers trusted no one. They refused to establish a monarchy or an oligarchy. But they also distrusted the common man, and so they refused to establish a democracy because they feared it would quickly evolve into mobocracy.

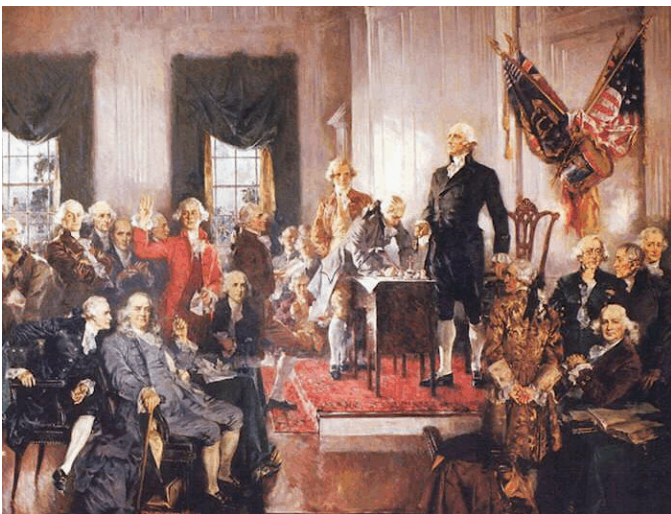
## A Representative Republic

They therefore carefully constructed a representative republic with an ingenious set of checks and balances. For example, in the original government established by our constitution, there was only one national official directly elected by the people — the local Congressman who was elected to serve for two years in the House of Representatives. Senators were not directly elected. They were appointed by state legislatures, and this continued to be the case until the adoption of the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1913 which requires the selection of Senators by direct popular vote.

Likewise, the President was not originally selected by direct election. Instead, he was selected by electors who, in turn, were appointed by the state legislatures. Over a period of time, the state legislatures began to allow voters to select the electors. But as late as 1824, more than a quarter of the state legislatures were still appointing electors.

Today, all electors are selected by popular vote. Even so, the system of selecting the President continues to be indirect since voters are voting directly for electors and it is the electors who directly select the President. Thus, in the election of 2000, George W. Bush was selected as President by the Electoral College (271-266) even though his opponent, Al Gore, garnered more popular votes (543,895 more than Bush).

Our Founding Fathers also divided the powers of government between the federal government and the state governments, defining what was given to the central government, prescribing what was denied to state governments, and stating that all other powers were retained by the States (10<sup>th</sup> Amendment). Within the federal government, power was further divided between three branches — legislative, executive, and judicial. And the basic rights of the people to be protected from all governmental intrusion were spelled out in the Constitution's Bill of Rights (the first ten amendments approved in 1791 and considered to be a part of the original Constitution since their proposal was essential to the ratification of the Constitution).



"Scene at the Signing of the Constitution of the United States" by artist Howard Chandler Christy (A detail from a larger picture.)

### The Philosophical Foundation

The philosophical concept undergirding all the actions of our Founding Fathers was the belief that Christian morality was absolutely essential for both the preservation of liberty and the stability of law. They emphasized this crucial point in their writings over and over again:

**Samuel Adams** (1722-1803) — Governor of Massachusetts, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and organizer of the Boston Tea Party:

A general dissolution of principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when they lose their virtue they will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader.<sup>1</sup>

Religion and good morals are the only solid foundations of public liberty and happiness.<sup>2</sup>

**Benjamin Rush** (1745-1813) — Signer of the Declaration of Independence, attendee at the Continental Congress, physician,

and first Surgeon General:

The only foundation for . . . a republic is to be laid in Religion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object and life of all republican governments.<sup>3</sup>

**Patrick Henry** (1736-1799) — First governor of Virginia and member of the Continental Congress:

The great pillars of all government and of social life [are] virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor . . . and this alone, that renders us invincible.<sup>4</sup>

**George Washington** (1732-1799) — Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, overseer of the Constitutional Convention, and first President of the United States:

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports . . . in vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens . . .<sup>5</sup>

**John Adams** (1735-1826) — Member of the Continental Congress, one of the drafters of the Declaration of Independence, and second President of the United States:

We have no government armed in power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion . . . Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.<sup>6</sup>

**Thomas Jefferson** (1743-1826) — Governor of Virginia, first Secretary of State, principle author of the Declaration of Independence, and third President of the United States:

No nation has ever yet existed or been governed without religion. Nor can be. The Christian religion is the best religion that has ever been given to man, and I as chief Magistrate of this nation am bound to give it the sanction of my example.<sup>7</sup>

**James Madison** (1751-1836) — Political philosopher, considered the "Father of the Constitution" and the "Father of the Bill of Rights," member of the House of Representatives, and fourth President of the United States:

We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government; upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.<sup>8</sup>

### A Continuing Concept

This concept of the inalienable interdependence of constitutional order and Christian virtue was not just characteristic of our Founding Fathers. It has continued to be emphasized throughout our history:

**Noah Webster** (1758-1843) — Considered the "Father of American Education" and publisher of *The American Dictionary of the English Language* in 1828:



In my view, the Christian Religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children, under a free government, ought to be instructed . . . no truth is more evident to my mind than that the Christian Religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.<sup>9</sup>

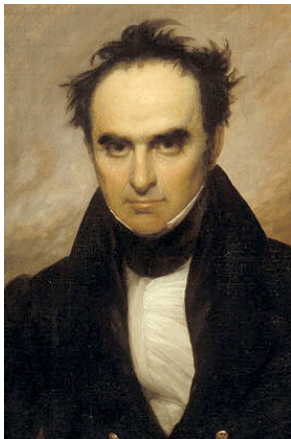
**John Quincy Adams** (1767-1848) — American diplomat, member of the House and Senate, and sixth President of the United States. On the occasion of the celebration of the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, he declared:

The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity.<sup>10</sup>

**Daniel Webster** (1782-1852) — United States Senator from Massachusetts and Secretary of State:

No truth is more evident to my mind than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.<sup>11</sup>

To preserve the government we must also preserve morals. Morality rests on religion; if you destroy the foundation, the superstructure must fall. When the public mind becomes vitiated and corrupt, laws are a nullity and constitutions are waste paper.<sup>12</sup>



**William McGuffey** (1800-1873) — American educator and author of the McGuffey's Reader, first published in 1836:

The Christian religion is the religion of our country. From it are derived our prevalent notions of the character of God, the great moral governor of the universe. On its doctrines are founded the peculiarities of our free institutions.<sup>13</sup>

**The New York State Legislature** — In 1838 the New York State Legislature declared:

This is a Christian nation. Ninety-nine hundredths, if not a larger proportion, of our whole population, believe in the general doctrines of the Christian religion. Our government depends . . . on that virtue that has its foundation in the morality of the Christian religion.<sup>14</sup>

**Andrew Jackson** (1767-1845) — Victorious commander of American forces in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815, military governor of Florida, and seventh President of the United States. Speaking of the Bible, he said:

That Book, sir, is the Rock upon which our republic rests.<sup>15</sup>

**Supreme Court of the United States** — Case of the United States v. Church of the Holy Trinity (1892):

No purpose of action against religion can be imputed to any legislation, state or national, because this is a religious people. This is historically true. From the discovery of this continent to the present hour, there is a single voice making this affirmation . . . These, and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian nation . . . We are a Christian people, and the morality of the country is deeply engrafted upon Christianity.<sup>16</sup>

**Calvin Coolidge** (1872-1933) — Governor of Massachusetts, Vice President of the United States, and 30<sup>th</sup> President of the United States:

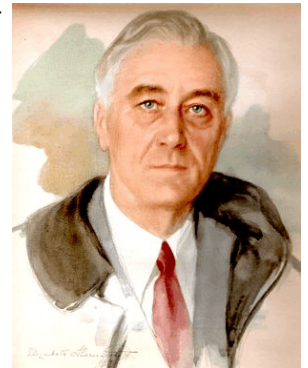
The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country.<sup>17</sup>

**The United States Supreme Court** — Case of United States v. McIntosh (1931)

We are a Christian people, according to one another the equal right of religious freedom, and acknowledging with reverence the duty of obedience to the will of God.<sup>18</sup>

**Franklin Delano Roosevelt** (1882-1945) — Governor of New York and 32<sup>nd</sup> President of the United States:

We cannot read the history of our rise and development as a nation, without reckoning with the place the Bible has occupied in shaping the advances of the Republic. Where we have been the truest and most consistent in obeying its precepts, we have attained the greatest measure of contentment and prosperity.<sup>19</sup>



**Peter Marshall** (1902-1949) — Scottish-American preacher, pastor of New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., and Chaplain of the United States Senate, in a prayer offered before the Senate in 1947:

May it be ever understood that our liberty is under God and can be found nowhere else . . . We were born that way, as the only nation on earth that came into being for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith.<sup>20</sup>

**Earl Warren** (1891-1974) — Governor of California and 14<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, in a *Time* magazine interview in February of 1954:

I believe no one can read the history of our country without realizing that the Good Book and the spirit of the Savior have from the beginning been our guiding geniuses . . . Whether we look to the first Charter of Virginia . . . or to the Charter of New England . . . or to the Charter of Massachusetts Bay . . . or to the

Fundamental Orders of Connecticut . . . the same objective is present . . . a Christian land governed by Christian principles. I believe the entire Bill of Rights came into being because of the knowledge our forefathers had of the Bible and their belief in it . . . I like to believe we are living today in the spirit of the Christian religion. I like also to believe that as long as we do so, no great harm can come to our country.<sup>21</sup>

**Dwight D. Eisenhower** (1890-1969) — Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe during World War II and 34<sup>th</sup> President of the United States:

Without God there could be no American form of government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first — the most basic — expression of Americanism.<sup>22</sup>

**Ronald Reagan** (1911-2004) — Governor of California and 40<sup>th</sup> President of the United States:

America needs God more than God needs America. If we ever forget that we are “One Nation Under God,” then we will be a Nation gone under.<sup>23</sup>

### Foreign Recognition

The French historian, Alexis de Tocqueville (1805-1859), visited the United States in the early 1830’s. In 1835 he published the first of a two volume study of this nation, titled, *Democracy in America*. He revealed that the intertwining of Christianity with government was very surprising to him;

Upon my arrival in the United States, the religious aspect of the country was the first thing that struck my attention; and the longer I stayed there, the more did I perceive the great political consequences resulting from this state of things, to which I was unaccustomed.

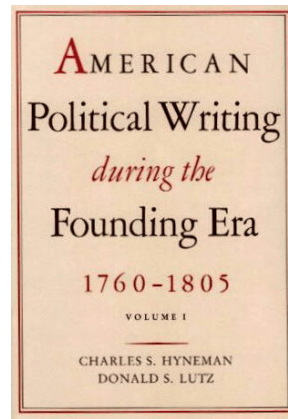
In France I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom pursuing courses diametrically opposed to each other; but in America I found that they were intimately united, and that they reigned in common over the same country . . . The Americans combine the notions of Christianity and of liberty so intimately in their minds, that it is impossible to make them conceive the one without the other.<sup>24</sup>



De Tocqueville’s traveling companion, Gustave de Beaumont (1802-1866) was similarly impressed with the Christian foundation of American government. He wrote:

Religion in America is not only a moral institution but also a political institution. All of the American constitutions [national and state] exhort the citizens to practice religious worship as a safeguard both to good morals and to public liberties. In the United States, the law is never atheistic . . .<sup>25</sup>

### Contemporary Recognition



University of Houston political science professors Donald Lutz and Charles Hyneman in 1983 published a monumental study that took them 10 years to bring together. They surveyed over 15,000 documents written by our Founding Fathers between 1760-1805 and discovered that the Bible was, by far, the most cited source, comprising 34 percent of all quotations. In fact, the Bible was quoted four times more than any other source.<sup>26</sup>

Significantly, the next most commonly cited sources were Barron Montesquieu (1689-1755), William Blackstone (1723- 1780), and John Locke (1632-1704). All of these men were strong adherents of natural law philosophy and encouraged the incorporation of biblical law into civil law.

Lutz and Hyneman affirmed that the Pilgrims, the Puritans and the constitutional framers all insisted on cementing the connection between law and morals by infusing biblical precepts into the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights.

In 1982 *Newsweek* magazine published an article entitled, “How the Bible Made America.” It concluded, “historians are discovering that the Bible, perhaps even more than the Constitution, is our founding document.”<sup>27</sup>

Even contemporary American Jewish leaders have asserted their belief that our nation is one that is based on Christian principles, and they have expressed their appreciation for the fact that this foundation has produced religious liberty for them.

Consider, for example, the viewpoint of Jeff Jacoby, a Jewish columnist at the *Boston Globe*:

This is a Christian country — it was founded by Christians and built on broad Christian principles. Threatening? Far from it. It is in precisely this Christian country that Jews have known the most peaceful, prosperous, and successful existence in their long history.<sup>28</sup>

Dennis Prager, a Jewish columnist and popular radio talk show host, has warned:

If America abandons its Judeo-Christian values basis and the central role of the Jewish and Christian Bibles (its Founders’ guiding text), we are all in big trouble, including, most especially, America’s non-Christians. Just ask the Jews of secular Europe.<sup>29</sup>

Don Feder, a Jewish columnist and long time writer for the *Boston Herald*, expressed a similar viewpoint:

Clearly this nation was established by Christians. . . As a Jew, I’m entirely comfortable with the concept of a Christian America.<sup>30</sup>

The choice isn’t Christian America or nothing, but Christian America or a neo-pagan, hedonistic, rights-without-responsibilities, anti-family, culture-of-death

America. As an American Jew . . . [I] feel very much at home here.<sup>31</sup>

Michael Medved, a Jewish radio talk show host and columnist, agrees that America is indeed a Christian nation:

The framers may not have mentioned Christianity in the Constitution but they clearly intended that charter of liberty to govern a society of fervent faith, freely encouraged by government for the benefit of all. Their noble and unprecedented experiment never involved a religion-free or faithless state but did indeed presuppose America's unequivocal identity as a Christian nation.<sup>32</sup>

### President Obama's Viewpoint

President Barack Obama has repeatedly asserted that the United States is "no longer a Christian nation," but he has never defined what he means by this statement. What about it? Are we still a Christian nation, or have we abandoned the faith our nation was based upon?<sup>33</sup>

There is certainly a sense in which the President is correct. Although the vast majority (85%) of Americans identify themselves as Christians, only about 9% at most would claim to be born-again, Evangelical Christians. This means that most Americans are simply professing Christians, or cultural Christians.

But this sad fact does not negate the historical evidence that our Founding Fathers established this nation on Christian principles and that those principles still serve as the basis of our constitutional structure and our laws.

The problem, of course, is that those with Obama's viewpoint are determined to cut America loose from its Judeo-Christian foundation. They have a classic European-style Humanist worldview that despises Christianity and Capitalism, and the result is that freedom is endangered.

We are speeding toward a secular, pagan society devoid of values that contribute to virtue and civility. If this transition continues unabated, our system of government will not be able to survive, for it is based upon the assumption of a citizenry that is endowed with biblical truths.

We need to pray for our nation as never before. We need to pray that the schemes of the secularists will be frustrated, confused, and defeated. And we need to pray for a national spiritual revival.

Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first . . . (Revelation 2:5) ✚

### Notes:

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- 5) The Great Books Foundation, *The Will of the People: Readings in American Democracy* (Chicago: Great Books Foundation, 2001), page 38.
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"The choice before us is plain: Christ or chaos, conviction or compromise, discipline or disintegration. I am rather tired of hearing about our rights . . . The time is come . . . to hear about responsibilities . . ." — Peter Marshall, U.S. Senate Chaplain 1947.

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- 30) Don Feder, *A Jewish Conservative Looks at Pagan America* (Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1993), pp. 59-60.
- 31) Don Feder, "Yes – Once and For All – America is a Christian Nation," [DonFeder.com](http://DonFeder.com), February 16, 2005 ([www.donfeder.com/articles/0502chrisAmerica.pdf](http://www.donfeder.com/articles/0502chrisAmerica.pdf)).
- 32) Michael Medved, "The Founders Intended a Christian, not Secular, Society," *Townhall.com*, October 3, 2007 ([http://www.townhall.com/Columnists/MichaelMedved/2007/10/03/the\\_founders\\_intended\\_a\\_christian\\_not\\_secular\\_society](http://www.townhall.com/Columnists/MichaelMedved/2007/10/03/the_founders_intended_a_christian_not_secular_society)).
- 33) For an outstanding article about Obama's denial that America is still a Christian nation, see David Barton's article, "Is President Obama Correct: Is America No Longer a Christian Nation?" [www.wallbuilders.com/LIBissuesArticles.asp?id=23909#FN3](http://www.wallbuilders.com/LIBissuesArticles.asp?id=23909#FN3).



## Did You Know?

Christopher Columbus attributed his discovery of the New World to the guidance of the Holy Spirit? Here's how he described it:

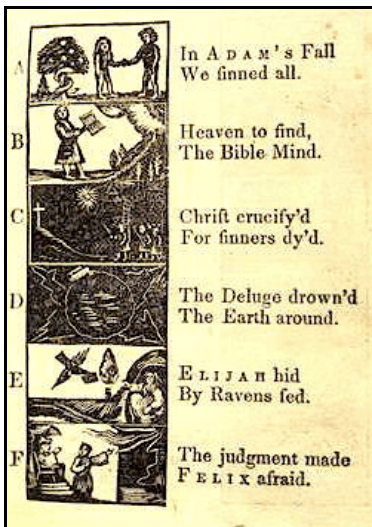
It was the Lord who put into my mind (I could feel His hand upon me) the fact that it would be possible to sail from here to the Indies . . . There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit because He comforted me with rays of marvelous inspiration from the Holy Scriptures . . . Our Lord Jesus Christ desired to perform a very obvious miracle in the voyage to the Indies, to confront me and the whole people of God.

There were 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence and 24 of them were seminary graduates.

Five days after the Declaration was adopted, the Continental Congress approved the use of public funds to hire military chaplains. The Congress also ordered the importation of 20,000 Bibles for the American troops.

General George Washington sent out a letter to his regiments which stated: "The General hopes and trusts, that every officer and man, will endeavor so to live, and act, as becomes a Christian Soldier, defending the dearest Rights and Liberties of this country."

Through all 50 state constitutions, without exception, there runs an appeal and reference to God as the Creator of our liberties and the preserver of our freedoms.



A page from *The New England Primer*

*The New England Primer*, first published in 1690, remained the nation's most popular school textbook for more than 100 years, selling roughly 5 million copies in a nation with only 6 million people. The 106 lessons it contained were saturated with Bible passages, and the lessons encouraged devotion to Jesus Christ.

*McGuffey's Reader*, which replaced *The New England Primer*, was first published in 1836. It was filled with biblical principles and religious instruction. It ultimately sold more than 120

million copies and was officially recognized as a public school textbook in 37 states.

Almost every one of the first 123 colleges and universities established in the United States had Christian origins and purposes. For example, Harvard University, founded in 1636, had as its motto: "Truth for Christ and the Church." Also its rules for students stated: "Let every student be plainly instructed, and earnestly pressed to consider well, the main end of life and studies is, to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life

(John 17:3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning." Somewhere along the line, as the school secularized, the motto was changed to "Truth."



The Original Seal



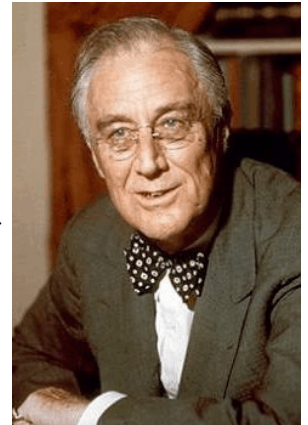
Today's Seal

Yale University, founded in 1701, issued this charge to its students: "Above all, have an eye to the great end of all your studies, which is to obtain the clearest conceptions of Divine things and to lead you to a saving knowledge of God in His Son Jesus Christ."

Princeton University, founded in 1746, still declares on its crest, "Dei sub numine viget," which is Latin for "Under God she flourishes." Jonathan Dickinson, the first president of Princeton, once declared, "Cursed be all that learning that is contrary to the Cross of Christ."

The United States government issued Bibles to all its troops during World War II which contained the following statement from President Franklin Roosevelt:

As Commander-in-Chief, I take pleasure in commending the reading of the Bible to all who serve in the armed forces of the United States. Throughout the centuries men of many faiths and diverse origins have found in the Sacred Book words of wisdom, counsel, and inspiration. It is a fountain of strength and now, as always, an aid in attaining the highest aspirations of the human soul.



On the evening of D-Day, June 6, 1944, while Allied troops were landing on the coast of Normandy, France, President Roosevelt read a 6½ minute prayer over national radio, asking God to grant the troops a victory. (You can hear the prayer at [www.historyplace.com/speeches/fdr-prayer.htm](http://www.historyplace.com/speeches/fdr-prayer.htm).)

The words, "under God," were added to the pledge of allegiance by Congress in 1954.

"In God We Trust" was adopted by Congress in 1956 as the national motto of the United States. It first appeared on a two-cent coin in 1864. Since 1938 all U.S. coins have featured the inscription. The motto did not start appearing on paper money until 1957.

Both chambers of the House and Senate at our national capitol building feature the inscription, "In God We Trust" on their walls. ✚



# Who Cares About History?

**Peter Marshall**

(Editor's note: The Reverend Peter Marshall is a Presbyterian minister who for over forty years has gained national recognition as a preacher, teacher and writer on America's Christian heritage. His website, located at <http://petermarshallministries.com>, features a wealth of materials about America's Christian heritage. He has produced publications designed for all age groups. A new video album has just been produced by this ministry that features three interviews with Reverend Marshall. You will find it featured on the back page of this issue. The article below was posted on July 12, 2005.)



**Reverend Peter Marshall**

*"...Why do you not know how to interpret the present time?" (Luke 12:56)*

**W**ho cares about history, anyway? The right answer is that we all should care about it. Why?

Because history tells us who we are and why we are here. Woodrow Wilson, who was President of the U.S. during WWI, once said:

A nation which does not know what it was yesterday, does not know what it is today, nor what it is trying to do. We are trying to do a futile thing, if we do not know where we came from or what we have been about.

By those standards, we Americans are in huge trouble. Proof of this comes from many sources. When seniors at 55 of our top universities were asked to name the victorious general at the battle of Yorktown during the War for Independence, only 34% were able to name George Washington. Only 7% of fourth graders could name "an important event" that took place in Philadelphia in 1776.

Popular historian David McCullough relates the story of a young woman thanking him for the talk he had just given at the University of Missouri. "I'm so glad you came," she said, because until now I had not understood that the original 13 colonies were on the east coast."

One scarcely knows whether to laugh or cry.

## **Boring Teachers and Bad Books**

In the students' defense, it really isn't their fault. The fault lies with the history teachers, the horrendous American history textbooks, and the lack of required history courses in our universities and colleges.

Many of the people who read the books on American history produced by our ministry say to me, "I hated history in school,

but I love your books. You make it so interesting!" I always tell them that if they hated history in school, the reason was that the teacher was boring. They always agree.

When history is taught as just facts, dates, names, places and events, it is pathetically boring. History should be taught as stories — stories of real people, and the choices they made for good or for evil, and what happened as a result of those choices. Then it comes alive for listeners or readers, because they can identify with the real flesh and blood people that you are telling them about.

For example, if I am teaching you about Lord Howe's attack on the Continental Army at the Battle of Brooklyn Heights during the War for Independence, and I comment that Lord Stirling's Marylanders fought bravely against that vastly superior British force, but were virtually wiped out, you might or might not remember that fact.

But, if I add that General George Washington wept as he watched Stirling's men being cut down through his field glass, and cried out, "Good God, what brave men I must lose this day," that will make an impression on you that you are likely to retain. Why? Because the strong emotions of America's Commander-in-Chief are going to touch your heart. The account of this battle has now become a story, with real persons who react with real feelings. Now it has come alive for you.



William Alexander (1726-1783) was an American born aristocrat who claimed his family's Scottish title of the Earl of Stirling. He became known as Lord Stirling.

Despite his aristocratic bearings, he ardently embraced the cause of liberty. He became a personal friend of General Washington, who placed the utmost confidence in his ability and integrity.

Congress appointed him brigadier general in the Continental Army in March 1776. Because of his courageous battlefield leadership, he was dubbed by one newspaper as "the bravest man in America," and he was praised by both Washington and the British for his bravery and audacity.

He was captured by the British but was released in a prisoner exchange and promoted to major general. Washington held him in such high regard that he placed Stirling in command of the entire Continental Army for nearly two months, while he was away on personal business.

History teachers must first, last, and always be good story tellers. But the textbooks — good grief! Most of them are written by committees, and thus are a predictable exercise in bland tedium. Not to mention the politically correct slant of most of them, which makes you want to lose your lunch.

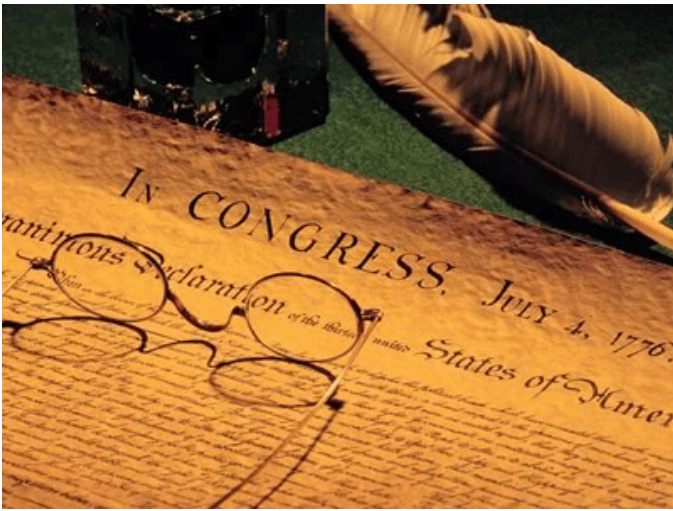
When, as is the actual case with one popular textbook, there are less than 50 lines about George Washington and over 200 lines about Marilyn Monroe, why should we be surprised when students that have read these treatments of American history have no real understanding of it, of the meaning of it?

## The Essence of American History

You see, from my perspective, the only proper way to understand American history is from an understanding that *America is a divine experiment on the part of God Almighty, to see if a nation founded on the Biblical principles of self-government could produce a society where there is liberty and justice for every soul.*

The word “experiment” means that it could fail.

The Founding Fathers were well aware of the risk, that what they were attempting had never been done before. When venerable Ben Franklin came out of the Constitutional Convention after that document had been written, one of the leading ladies of Philadelphia stopped him on the street. “Doctor Franklin, what manner of government have you given us?” she queried. “A republic, madam,” came the reply. “If you can keep it.”



Aye, and that’s the rub, isn’t it? Keeping it. The problem is that we are losing it. And one of the main reasons is that we don’t know its history or why it came about in the first place. Especially are we ignorant of God’s purposes for America, and His hand in its story.

The great educator, Noah Webster, who compiled the first American dictionary and taught over a century’s worth of children to spell with his “Blue-backed speller,” wrote:

Every child in America should be acquainted with his own country. As soon as he opens his lips, he should rehearse the history of his own country.



Noah Webster

The reason for this? Not to create some blind self-righteous nationalism in our young people, but as Webster put it, “to implant in the minds of the American youth the principles of virtue and of liberty . . .”

Or, as Samuel Eliot Morrison, the historian of U.S. Naval operations in WWII noted, “reading history will help us to behave better.” Indeed it will.

We can learn from the Founding Fathers. For example, John Adams, in one of his many letters home to his wife Abigail, written during the War for Independence said, “We can’t guarantee success in this war, but we can do something better. We can deserve it.”



John Adams

He is saying that we can’t control how things are going to turn out, because that is in the hands of God. But we can choose to live more noble and moral lives, and thus become more worthy to receive His blessings. Out of the pages of American history John Adams is speaking to my personal motivations in life — I can learn from him.

That’s really the point, isn’t it? That out of the pages of our own American past we can learn the things that will help us become the kind of persons that God can use to help bring this nation back to Himself.

Before it’s too late. ✚

## One of Peter Marshall’s Interesting Stories

The delegates at the Second Continental Congress were laboring over the Declaration of Independence. They had decided that any vote for independence would have to be unanimous, meaning that if any state voted against it, they would not declare it.

Delaware had three delegates. Two of them had split their votes, one for independence, the other against. Several states had voted against independence on July 1st, and the President of the Congress, John Hancock, indicated the final vote was to be taken July 2nd. A rider was sent to fetch the third Delaware delegate, a man by the name of Caesar Rodney. He was needed in case the other two Delaware men split their vote again.

Through violent thunder and lightning Rodney rode all night, and reached Independence Hall just in time to cast the decisive vote for independence on the afternoon of July 2, 1776. His single vote gave us the Declaration, because the other two Delaware representatives split their vote once again. Eleven other states voted for independence with Delaware that day, but if Rodney had voted “nay” Delaware would have voted “nay” and independence would have been lost.

One vote. Never under-estimate the power of a single vote.

But the rest of the story is that Caesar Rodney had cancer of the face. The only doctor that he thought could help him was in London, and he knew that if they declared independence it would mean war — an immediate invasion by Britain. More than likely, he would never see England alive. But when the crisis came, without any hesitation Rodney voted for independence. A month later, when he signed the Declaration, as far as he knew, he was signing away his life. ✚



# Fearless Christianity Built America

**Nathan Jones**

**“Y**ou Christians are always cherry picking history to support your absurd claim that America was founded on Christianity. It was not!”

Thus wrote Goatcheez, the alias name of a person who posted his view under an article concerning America's Christian heritage. He was rather cheased off over the very notion that America was founded on the efforts of Christians spreading the Word of God. Was Goatcheez right?

Revisionist historians are working overtime today to obliterate the Christian heritage of our nation. But if you remove Christianity, you remove what drove the heart of the very people that became the explorers of the New World. What scraps that remain in the history books would be the Cortez's and Pizarro's — Conquistadors who raped the land and killed the people for the love of gold. Remove the people who came to the New World seeking souls for Christ, and very clearly much of the United States would never have even existed.

For evidence, let's go back to the very beginning of the New World with its discovery in 1492 by Christopher Columbus. Christopher, which literally means “Christ-bearer,” wrote in his journals how he felt called by the Holy Spirit to bring the Gospel to the other side of the world.<sup>1</sup> Columbus saw himself in Isaiah 49:6 (NIV): “I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.”

## The Western Missionaries

Most of us are familiar with the Pilgrims and Puritans who settled the East Coast of our nation and provided the theological foundation for our form of government. Less well known are the missionaries who went to the West Coast and the Central part of our nation.

While the Protestant Reformation was still in its infancy in the early 1500s, lovers of God in Europe gave up their lives of privilege and self-indulgence to join the only outfit in town that would send them to win souls in need, and so donned the habit. They were willing to give up everything, even life itself, to brave undiscovered and hostile parts of America to tell people long separated from God about Jesus Christ.

In their wake these early missionaries planted churches, schools, and orphanages that became the very seed of burgeoning new towns. In the New Mexico area, Alonso de Benavides in 1630 began baptizing eighty thousand Indians in ninety communities and set up twenty-five missions. Fray Junipero Serra, called the “Light of California,” founded the missions of San Diego, San Carlos, San Francisco and Santa Barbara.<sup>2</sup>

The lands of the Great Lakes were also being explored by Christian witnesses like Jacques Cartier, who in 1543 discovered the Saint Lawrence River. He set up a cross by the waters whereby he could witness to the Indians.<sup>3</sup> Jacques Marquette

brought the Gospel to the Illinois tribes, exploring much of the Mississippi River before dying of dysentery at the age of thirty-eight.<sup>4</sup>

The selfless courage of these missionaries Satan could not stand up against, no matter how hard he tried. And try he did.

Men like Isaac Jogues were unwavering in their desire to reach the lost. When he was captured by the Iroquois in 1642, Jogues had his fingers cut off, and he was turned into a slave.<sup>5</sup> After a year he escaped to Albany, and when he returned to France, he begged to be returned to the Iroquois Indians. Awed again to see Jogues return, the Mohawk's called him a sorcerer and out of fear clubbed him to death and beheaded him.<sup>6</sup>

Jean de Brébeuf worked nineteen years among the Huron tribe until 1649 when he was also kidnaped by the Iroquois and tortured to death. The Iroquois poured boiling water on his naked body to mock baptism, tied red-hot hatchets around his neck, and set a birchbark belt on fire around his waist. When Brébeuf finally made a sound to encourage his fellow captors, the Indians cut off his lips and tongue, rammed a hot poker down his throat, and ate the skin off of his arms before his eyes. In awe of Brébeuf's faith under trial, his tormentors drank his blood in the hopes of gaining the courage God had given him.<sup>7</sup>

## A Call to Courage

America's greatest explorers were also America's greatest missionaries. They loved their Savior and they lost more than themselves, even to the point of death. The light they shined in the New World, the darkness was powerless to overcome (John 1:5). The result was the Christian foundation of the United States of America.

May we never forget the debt our nation owes the many missionary pioneers, and may we always seek to follow their fearless example. To do neither is to bring about the spiritual death of this nation. ✚

## Notes:

- 1) Peter Marshall & David Manuel, *The Light and the Glory* (Tarrytown, New York: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1977), p. 31.
- 2) Ibid., p. 72.
- 3) Ibid., p. 75.
- 4) Wikipedia, “Jacques Marquette,” [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacques\\_Marquette](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jacques_Marquette), accessed May 10, 2010.
- 5) Wikipedia, “Isaac Jogues,” [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaac\\_Jogues](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaac_Jogues), accessed May 10, 2010.
- 6) Peter Marshall & David Manuel, pp. 77-78.
- 7) Wikipedia, “Jean de Brébeuf,” [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean\\_de\\_Br%C3%A9beuf](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean_de_Br%C3%A9beuf), accessed May 10, 2010.



**Nathan Jones**

# The End of the American Experiment

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

(Editor's note: This article is taken from the Postscript in the third edition of Dr. Reagan's new book, *America the Beautiful? The United States in Bible Prophecy*.)

**A**s I view the future of our nation today, I must admit that I have ambivalent feelings. I am extremely sad, and yet I am full of joyful expectation.

I feel a deep sense of sadness as I see the Great American Experiment in representative government come to an end. We have been abundantly blessed by God ever since our forefathers arrived on this continent, and we have served as a channel of His blessings to other nations, both as a proclaimer of the Gospel and as a champion of human rights.

## Keys to Our Success

One of the secrets to our great success was our commitment to the Judeo-Christian principles revealed in God's Word. Those principles served as the basis of our systems of government, education, and economics.

An even greater reason for our phenomenal success was our commitment to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Our forefathers came to this continent in search of freedom to proclaim the Gospel. Our nation was established as a Christian nation. Our relationships were governed by Christian principles. Our laws were based upon God's commandments. The Church, whether Catholic or Protestant, provided us with our reason for being.

## Our Track Record

We were far from perfect. We struggled with difficult issues like race relations, women's rights, and the balance between labor and management. But our hearts were in the right place because of the Christian principles which propelled us in the right direction. We steadily made progress in all these difficult areas, and many others.

Throughout the centuries as we sought to evangelize the American continent, we also sent missionaries to the uttermost parts of the earth.

In the first half of the 20th Century, we soared to great heights as we came to the world's rescue in two world wars. In both cases, we entered these international conflicts for selfless purposes — not to gain territory but to “make the world safe for democracy.”

## Our Stumbling Point

But at the height of our glory and power, following our

victory in World War II, we began to turn our back on God. We took our eyes off the One who had blessed us so abundantly and began to focus on ourselves. We gave our hearts to materialism.

In the process, we began to divorce God from our lives — kicking Him out of our schools and separating Him from our government processes. The secularization of our society became our passion, and the result was increasing paganism in every aspect of life.

## Our Persistent Rebellion

We have mocked God. We have given our hearts to idols. We have forgotten the source of our blessings. We have turned a deaf ear to the prophetic voices God has raised up to call us to repentance. We have ignored the remedial judgments He has placed upon us, writing them off to coincidence.

We must now face the consequences of our rebellion. God has stepped back and lowered our hedge of protection. He is allowing evil to multiply. Greed is destroying our economy. Incivility is ripping apart our social structure.

Money has become our god.

Belief in Man has become our religion.

The pursuit of pleasure has become our lifestyle.

And the payoff is nihilism. We are wallowing in despair.

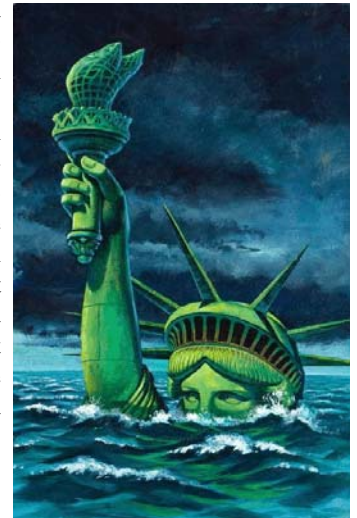
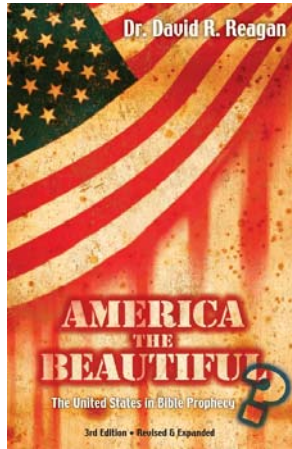
We are destined for destruction. But even as I witness the disintegration of all that I hold dear, my heart is full of joyful expectation because the signs of the times are literally shouting that all of history is about to arrive at its consummation with the return of Jesus.

## A Biblical Reminder

My mixed feelings remind me of Jeremiah after his beloved city and temple had been destroyed by the Babylonians and his nation had been taken into captivity. He wrote a funeral lament called Lamentations in which he vented the agony of his heart. But right in the middle of it, in a great act of faith, he suddenly paused and made one of the most hopeful declarations to be found in all of God's Word (Lamentations 3:21-24):

This I recall to mind,  
Therefore, I have hope.  
The steadfast love of the  
Lord never ceases;  
His mercies never come to an end;  
They are new every morning.  
Great is Thy faithfulness.  
“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul;  
Therefore I will hope in Him. (RSV)

Just like Jeremiah, even as I witness all I love being destroyed around me, I can look to the future with great hope and joyful expectation because of the marvelous promises concerning the future that are contained in God's Prophetic Word.



(Artist unknown)



### Some Certainties

Based on those promises, I know with absolute certainty:

- That Jesus is returning soon;
- That He will defeat all the enemies of God;
- That He will establish a worldwide reign that will bring peace, righteousness, and justice to all the nations.
- And that all of us who are believers will be given the incredible blessing of ruling with Him.

I can hardly wait. All that is within me yearns for the glorious day very soon when Jesus will break from the heavens.

### The New World on the Horizon



An unknown artist's depiction of the millennial reign of Jesus. Light goes forth from Jerusalem, men beat their swords into plowshares, a child plays with a snake, and the wolf dwells peacefully with the lamb.

The corrupt world system that currently dominates this globe is destined to be destroyed. A new world is coming where there will be no homeless, no poor, and no hungry. Justice will prevail. Fairness and equity will abound.

The nations of that world will be committed to the Lord, and the blessings of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the seas.

It is no wonder that the Apostle Paul wrote: "I consider the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us" (Romans 8:18).

In the dark days that lie ahead, let us keep in mind that God is on His throne, He still hears prayers, He still answers prayers, and He has the wisdom and power to orchestrate all the evil of Satan and Man to the triumph of Jesus. Keep in mind also that:)

No eye has seen,  
No ear has heard,  
Nor has the mind of Man conceived  
What God has prepared for those who love Him.  
(1 Corinthians 2:9)

But God has revealed those things to us in His Word. Cling to those revelations in the days ahead. Cling to His glorious promises, and you will be sustained.

Oh Lord, our Lord,  
How majestic is your Name in all the earth!  
(Psalm 8:1) ✚

## The Year of the Bible

In 1983 the late Dr. Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade, suggested that 1983 be declared "The Year of the Bible." The idea caught on and Congress passed a resolution in October of 1982 in which it declared the Bible to be "The Word of God," and in which it designated 1983 as "The Year of the Bible."



Dr. Bill Bright

President Ronald Reagan implemented the resolution on February 3, 1983 at the annual National Prayer Breakfast. He read a proclamation that stated, in part: "Of the many influences that have shaped the United States of America into a distinctive nation and people, none may be said to be more fundamental and enduring than the Bible."

The proclamation proceeded to state that "the Bible and its teachings helped form the basis for the Founding Fathers' abiding belief in the inalienable rights of the individual, rights which they found implicit in the Bible's teachings of the inherent worth and dignity of each individual. In his informal remarks, the President said, "Can we resolve to reach, learn and try to heed the greatest message ever written, God's Word, and the Holy Bible? Inside its pages lie all the answers to all the problems that man has ever known."

Dr. Bill Bright followed up the President's proclamation by forming a national committee of the nation's top religious leaders representing the Catholic, Jewish and Protestant faiths. This committee, plus regional, state, and city directors influenced scores of governors and mayors to sign their own "1983 Year of the Bible Proclamations." Through everyone's efforts millions of Bibles were distributed and read nationwide that year, and the country was greatly impacted spiritually and morally.

That was 27 years ago.

In 2008 Congressman Paul Broun (R-Ga) proposed once again declaring a "Year of the Bible." He introduced a resolution to give that designation to the year 2009. It would be an understatement to say that "all Hell broke loose." It produced a push-back of biblical proportion in the blogosphere, with critics dismissing it as either unconstitutional or a waste of time. Jews in Congress and atheist activists condemned the resolution, while none of the many Democrats in Congress who were Christian would agree to sign on as co-sponsors.

Barney Frank, the homosexual Congressman from Massachusetts, mocked the resolution by asking, "Does that mean 2009 is not the year of the Bible? And what is 2012 the year of? The Quran?" Another Congressman, Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) said, "That's an endorsement of religion by the federal government, and we shouldn't be doing that."

What a difference just a few years makes when a society is sliding toward Sodom and Gomorrah. ✚

# Boy Scouts of America Celebrates 100 Years

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

In February of this year (2010), the Boy Scouts of America celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A Chicago publisher named W. D. Boyce incorporated the organization on February 8, 1910. Since that time, more than 110 million American boys have been members of the BSA.

I am one of those. I joined the Cub Scouts in 1949 at age 11. My mom served as our Den Mother, and she served with gusto. We made field trips to all kinds of businesses and institutions, the most memorable being to the city jail where we were confronted by a naked prisoner! To say the least, it was enough to convince all of us that we should never break the law.

We learned civil manners and wilderness survival skills. We studied the cultures of American Indians. We did community service projects. We marched in parades, and as we marched, we chanted our Den's motto which my mother wrote and which was based upon the Cub Scout colors of blue and gold:

Blue and Gold, Blue and Gold,  
You know, we know,  
You've been told.  
We're the stuff. That's no bluff.  
We're Den 1, and that's enough!

I proceeded on up through the ranks of scouting, becoming a Boy Scout and then an Explorer Scout. I achieved the rank of Life Scout, and I regret to this day that I did not earn the highest rank of Eagle.

One of the highlights of my scouting experience was the week I spent at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico in 1954.



My Scout group at Philmont Scout Ranch in the mountains of New Mexico in the summer of 1954. That's me on the first row on the far left. Our Scout Master is standing behind me.



It proved to be the toughest week of my life up to that time. We hiked in mountains to a height of over 10,000 feet, carrying most of our supplies on our backs. We were determined to win a plaque that said, "We All Made It!" At times that required us to carry some of our fellow Scouts on our backs when they experienced severe leg cramps.



My richest experience as a Scout occurred in 1953 when I attended the Third National Jamboree which was held at Irvine Ranch in California (where the city of Irvine is located today). We traveled to the site on a chartered train that carried several thousand Scouts from Texas. We visited quaint Santa Fe where the Indians sold trinkets at the train station. We traveled through Salt Lake City, Utah to San Francisco where we visited China Town. On the way back we got to see the Grand Canyon in Arizona.



We were told that we needed to take something unique to the Jamboree to trade with Scouts from other states. I think every boy from Texas got the same idea — horned toads! We ended up with hundreds of them on the train, most of them in cardboard boxes with air holes punched in them. When we arrived at the California border, agricultural inspectors came on the train, and when they saw some of the toads running loose, they went bananas! They searched the train thoroughly, but we were still able to sneak dozens, if not hundreds, of the strange critters into the state.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ★ 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING



CELEBRATING THE ADVENTURE ★ CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

Scouting had a major impact on my life. The whole organization is based on Christian principles and is devoted to maintaining the Christian heritage of our nation. It reinforced the values I learned at home and at the church. Consider:

## The Scout Oath:

On my honor, I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country;  
To obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake and morally straight.

## The Scout Law:

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly,



courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

**The Scout Motto:** Be Prepared.

**The Scout Slogan:** Do a good turn daily.

Because the Scouts stand as defenders of America's Christian heritage, the organization has come under increasing attack in recent years. Homosexual leaders have attacked the Scouts for being "discriminatory" because they refuse to allow homosexual boys to be members and homosexual men to be leaders. (Can you imagine anything more bizarre than demanding that groups of boys be led by homosexuals?)



Painting by Norman Rockwell

The organization has also been under constant attack from Humanists, Atheists, and Agnostics who demand that it drop all its references to God and its advocacy of religious involvement. (Why don't these groups form their own youth organizations?)

The ACLU has also been a thorn in the side of the Scouts, constantly hounding them with law suits. One of these cases went all the way to the Supreme Court in 2000. The Court ruled that the BSA is a private organization whose membership standards are protected by the Constitution's guarantee of freedom of association. But the law suits continue as the ACLU tries to cut off any form of government support, such as the use of public parks.

The BSA's stated purpose at its incorporation in 1910 was "to teach boys patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred values." The current mission is "to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."

That such an organization with such high ideals and values would become a target of law suits and political harassment is just one more sign of the rapidly growing secularization and paganization of our society. A classic example of the persecution the organization faces daily occurred at the 2000 Democrat Convention in Los Angeles when hundreds of delegates booed a group of Boy Scouts as they tried to lead the convention in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I praise God for the Boy Scouts of America. They are instilling Christian values in young people who will hopefully be some of the future leaders of our nation. May God bless them and protect them from the merciless and relentless attacks of those who despise everything that made this nation great. ✚

Note: The font used for the headlines in the Christian Heritage articles is called "Benjamin Franklin" because it is similar to the font Franklin used in his printing business. It seemed an appropriate font for an American heritage issue of this magazine.

## D. C. Symbols

The buildings housing the institutions of our national government in Washington, D.C., are filled with symbols of our nation's Christian heritage.

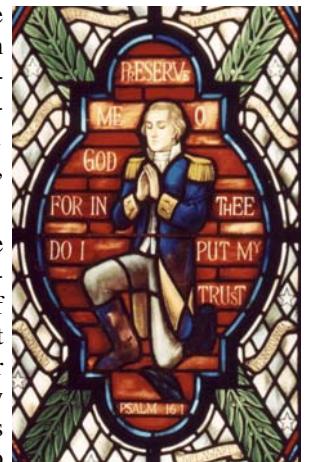
In 1999 the Family Research Council published an article entitled, "Hallowed Ground: Washington's Monuments to Faith, Family and Freedom." In it they made this observation: "From cornerstones to capstones, from cornices to colonnades, from halls of Congress to the hallowed hillsides of Arlington Cemetery, a mighty causeway of faith courses through the landscape of the nation's capital."

For example, in the Capitol rotunda there are eight huge oil paintings depicting scenes from American history. Four of them feature spiritual themes. Two show prayer meetings, one illustrates a Bible study, and the fourth is a picture of a baptism.



"The Baptism of Pocahontas" by John Gadsby Chapman is one of four religious paintings that hang in the Capitol rotunda. This is a detail from the painting that was unveiled in 1840.

The stained glass window on the right showing George Washington praying is located in the Congressional prayer room. The verse surrounding the figure is Psalm 16:1 which says, "Preserve me O God, for in Thee do I put my trust."



Moses holding the tablets of the Law of God is displayed prominently in a frieze on the exterior of the East side of the Supreme Court building. He is shown in another frieze inside the building. Directly above the bench where the justices sit is another frieze that shows two men sitting with the Ten Commandments between them. One man represents "The Majesty of the Law," the other is a symbol of "The Power of the Law." The tablets of the Ten Commandments, showing the numbers one through ten, are on the doors of the courtroom. It is tragic that in 1999 the guides were instructed to tell visitors that the numbers stood for the first ten amendments to the U. S. Constitution!

The aluminum tip of the capstone on the Washington Monument has a Latin inscription which reads, "Laus Deo," meaning "Praise be to God." And these are only a few examples! ✚

## New TV Set Completed

Below is an artist's rendering of our new TV set that should be completed by the time you receive this magazine. This is our first new set since we started broadcasting eight years ago in 2002.

It is a very flexible set. The walls consist of back-lit film panels that can be easily changed. Thus, if we were to devote a program to the signs of nature, we could replace the Eastern Gate picture with one of a volcano erupting.

There are actually three sets pictured below. A conversation set is shown on the left in front of the "Christ in Prophecy" wall. On the right is another set featuring a desk with a world map behind it. The center section, in front of the Eastern Gate, is the third set where a person can stand and talk to the camera.

We decided on the Eastern Gate picture as the basic one for the set because it symbolizes the promise of Jesus to return. Ezekiel 44:1-2 prophesies the gate will be closed (a prophecy fulfilled in the 1500's), and it says it will not be reopened until the Messiah returns. The gate faces the Mount of Olives where Zechariah 14:4 says He will return. And Psalm 24 says that when the Messiah returns, this gate will blow open to receive "the King of glory" (Psalm 24:7-10).

We decided to decorate the desk set with a world map because the book of Ezekiel says that Jerusalem is situated "at the center of the nations" (Ezekiel 5:5 and 38:12).

Actually, there is a fourth set that cannot be seen in the picture below. It is located directly behind the point from which the television set is viewed. It is our green wall that we use for singers and actors. They perform in front of it, and then we can insert behind them any setting we please, from the Hill Country of Texas to the Judean Wilderness of Israel.

The first series of programs we are scheduled to shoot on the new set will be with the famous American archeologist, Jim Fleming. ✚

## "Christ in Prophecy" Broadcast Schedule

### National Networks

<b>Daystar Network</b> <b>DirecTV Channel 369</b> <b>DISH Channel 263</b> On cable networks throughout the nation.				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Wed. 4:00pm	Wed. 5:00pm	Wed. 6:00pm	Wed. 7:00pm

<b>Inspiration Network</b> Available on cable networks <b>DirecTV Channel 364</b> <b>DISH Channel 259</b>				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Fri. 9:00am	Fri. 10:00am	Fri. 11:00am	Fri. Noon

<b>The Church Channel</b> <b>DirecTV Channel 371</b>				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Sat. 6:30pm	Sat. 7:30pm	Sat. 8:30pm	Sat. 9:30pm

<b>National Religious Broadcasters Network</b> <b>DirecTV Channel 378</b>				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Sun. 2:00pm	Sun. 3:00pm	Sun. 4:00pm	Sun. 5:00pm





## **Focus on Russia and Eastern Europe**

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

**O**ur outreach to Russia and Eastern Europe began in the early 1990's when I received a telephone call from a man who had a delightful foreign accent. Words rolled off his tongue like music, and there was a smile in his voice. He identified himself as George Bajenski (pronounced Ba-yen-ski), a native of Poland.

George explained to me that he was head of a ministry based in Toronto, Canada — a ministry devoted to raising funds to help the churches in Communist Poland. He said he had been on a cross country trip, calling on churches, and that one of the pastors had given him a set of tapes containing a series of my messages. George had listened to the tapes, and he was excited by what he had heard. "I want the people of Poland to hear about the soon return of Jesus," he exclaimed with excitement. "When can you go?"



**Ministering in Russia in the early 90's after the fall of Communism.**

That was the beginning of a wonderful relationship for which I have praised the Lord repeatedly ever since. One of my staff members at that time, John Jackson, and I toured all of Poland with George that fall, preaching the soon return of Jesus everywhere we went.

I will never forget the opportunity we were given to hold an open forum on Bible prophecy in the Town Hall of one city.

When we arrived we were informed that it would be the first time that facility had ever been used for a Christian meeting. Only a few months before, the idea of holding such a meeting in the city council chambers would have been unthinkable. What a miracle! And we had standing room only!

Throughout the decade of the 90's George served as our interface with the churches of Eastern Europe. He arranged trips into Poland, Belarus, and Russia, and he traveled with us, introducing us to key church leaders and serving as our translator in both Polish and Russian.

George was also instrumental in getting many of our written materials translated and published in Russian and Polish.

After the fall of Communism, George and his wife, Vera, started spending much more of their time in Poland. They are models of Christian love and compassion, always seeking a church, a family, or an individual they can help in the name of Jesus.

### **Two Key Ministries**

George and Vera introduced us to two people whom we have supported for many years. One is a Polish pastor by the name of Kazik Barchuck. The other is a Russian evangelist named Vasily Lastochkin.

When I was introduced to Kazik, he was serving as the assistant pastor of a large church in Warsaw, and he had just discovered that he was Jewish. Many people in Poland had hidden their Jewish identity during the 1930's and 40's because of severe persecution. This had happened in his family, and he had grown up not knowing of his Jewish heritage.

But when Kazik discovered his Jewish roots, he decided to do something about it. He resigned his pastoral position and set up a Messianic ministry to reach out to Jews in the name of Yeshua. Twenty years later his ministry has been greatly blessed.



**Kazik Barchuck prepares to begin a Messianic service in Warsaw.**

Vasily Lastochkin was a drunk on the streets of Moscow when he was approached by an American missionary who shared the Gospel with him. Vasily's life was totally transformed in a short period of time, and he has been preaching as a traveling evangelist ever since, for the past 20 years.

In recent years Vasily and his wife and daughter have started focusing their evangelistic efforts on teenagers who are in prison. He goes to prisons throughout Russia and shares Jesus with these very desperate young people. His dream is to some day establish a half way house for these teens to use in transitioning back into society.



**Vasily with teen prisoners at a prison in Russia.**

If you feel led of the Lord to provide special assistance to either one of these ministries, designate your gift for Poland or Russia, or ask that it be divided between them. ✚

## Video Album Updated

Dr. Reagan's very popular video presentation about the European Union has been updated to 2010.

Dr. Reagan considers the development of the European Union to be a modern day, end-time prophetic fulfillment second in importance only to the re-establishment of Israel.

His update covers all the developments during the past six years, including the adoption of the Lisbon Treaty in December of 2009 which gave the Union a more centralized political structure, including for the first time, a chief executive officer. Dr. Reagan believes this is the position from which the prophesied Antichrist will arise.

The update also includes a point-by-point-refutation of the new theories that the Antichrist might arise instead from a revival of the Ottoman Empire and will thus be a Muslim leader.

He also explains the prophetic significance of the Union's continuing reluctance to admit the nation of Turkey to its membership.

Dr. Reagan concludes the update with a discussion of the impact of all the recent events in Europe on the likely timing of the Rapture.

The video has been expanded in length from 30 to 50 minutes. \$12. Call 800-705-8316.



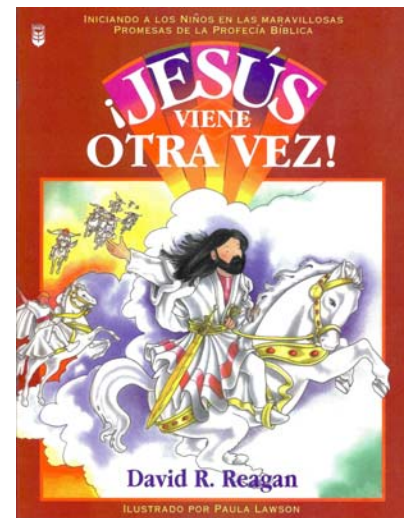
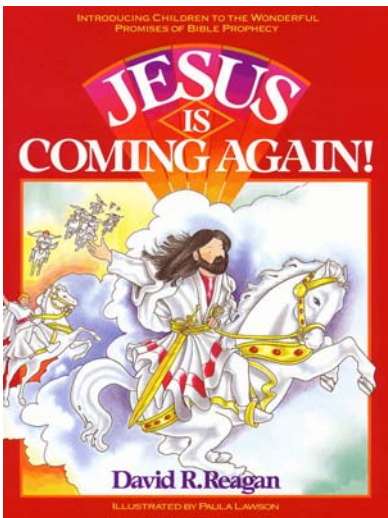
## Children's Book Available in Spanish

We are very pleased to announce that our children's book about end time Bible prophecy is now available in Spanish as well as English.

The book is designed for pre-school and elementary children. It focuses on the blessings God has promised the world when Jesus returns.

The book is beautifully illustrated in full color by a gifted Christian artist. It has a large format (8½ x 11"). It is 28 pages in length and has a durable cover.

It contains teaching tips for parents, together with a list of Scripture references. \$10 in either English or Spanish.



## Interested in Studying the Book of Revelation?

Most people are convinced that the book of Revelation is impossible to understand. That's because the book has been so badly abused by those who spiritualize it in order to make it mean what they want it to say.

Dr. Reagan has spent his life studying the book and teaching it in a down-to-earth easy-to-understand manner. He argues that the book can be understood by anyone who has the Holy Spirit residing within them if they will only accept it for its plain sense meaning.

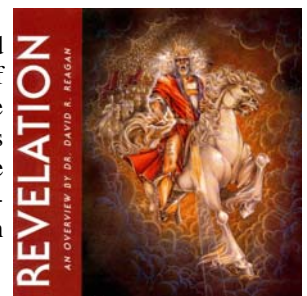
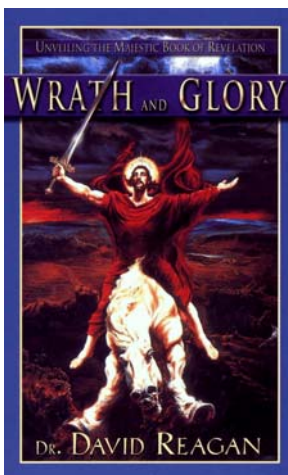
We have produced a number of resources to help you understand Revelation. The simplest is a one hour audio CD in which Dr. Reagan provides a bird's-eye-view of the

entire book from start to finish, chapter by chapter. It is titled "Overview of Revelation," and it sells for \$5.

This same overview is available in video form on a DVD that contains lavish illustrations, charts and diagrams. It is called "Revelation Revealed." It is 75 minutes long and sells for \$12.

Dr. Reagan has written a detailed interpretation of Revelation, chapter-by-chapter, called *Wrath and Glory*. The book is 240 pages in length and sells for \$15.

Finally, Dr. Reagan has recorded a verse-by-verse interpretation of Revelation that consists of 12 one hour CDs. This audio album sells for \$35. It is also available on one MP3 CD for \$15. There is an optional study guide that goes with this album. It sells for \$5.





# Ministry News

## Schedule —

In **July** Dr. Reagan will tape several television interviews with Dr. Jim Fleming, a world famous biblical archaeologist. In late July Dr. Reagan will hold a prophecy conference at First Baptist Church in Bayfield, Colorado (23-25). **August** will be a very busy month for Dr. Reagan. He will begin the month speaking at David Hocking's prophecy conference at the Calvary Chapel in Chino Hills, California (6-7). In the middle of the month he will travel to Louisiana to speak at the annual prophecy conference sponsored by Maranatha Ministries (Al Gist). It will be held at First Baptist Church in Broussard (13-14). While in Louisiana, Dr. Reagan will also speak at Amana Christian Fellowship in Maurice (15). Dr. Reagan will conclude the month at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Terre Haute, Indiana (21-22). In **September** Dr. Reagan is scheduled to speak at the Steeling the Mind Conference in Denver, Colorado which will be held at the Denver South Marriott Hotel (18).

## Conference —

Lamb & Lion's Web Minister, Nathan Jones, is putting together a special Bible prophecy conference for young adults and families. It will be held at McKinney Fellowship Church in McKinney, Texas, during the weekend of October 22-23. The theme of the conference is "Future Hope." For more detailed information about speakers and musicians, check our website at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com).

## Prophecy Partners —



**Gail Ballinger and one of her Dachshunds named Petie.** Gail is a retired school teacher who lives in Owasso, Oklahoma where she serves as a member of the school board. She is a Prophecy Partner and has been to Israel as a member of a Lamb & Lion pilgrimage group.

The financial and prayer foundation of our ministry is supplied by our Prophecy Partners. These are people who have made a commitment to pray regularly for the ministry and provide financial assistance of at least \$20 per month. We currently have about 2,500 Prophecy Partners, and we praise God for each one of them. To become a Partner, just give us a call at 800-705-8316. Thanks!



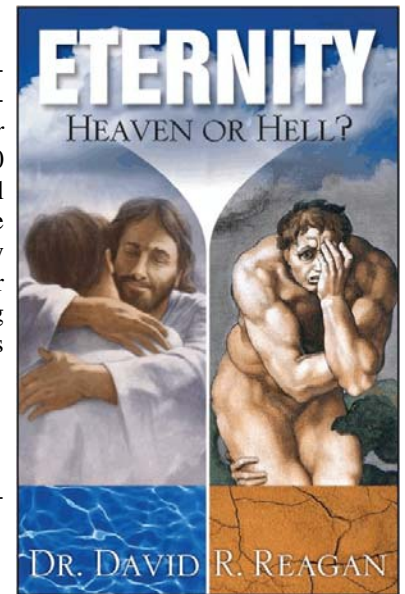
## Website —

One of the most important outreaches of our ministry is supplied by our website. Through it we can reach people all over the world. Our Web Minister, Nathan Jones, has done a masterful job of making the site interactive, informative, and interesting. You can watch our TV programs on the site, as well as other video programs. You can use the site's powerful and fast search engine to find articles about every aspect of Bible prophecy. You can read past issues of our magazine on the site. And you can talk directly to Nathan, asking him questions about Bible prophecy. Additionally, the site provides detailed information about the ministry's organization, finances, and resource materials. So, check it out at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com).

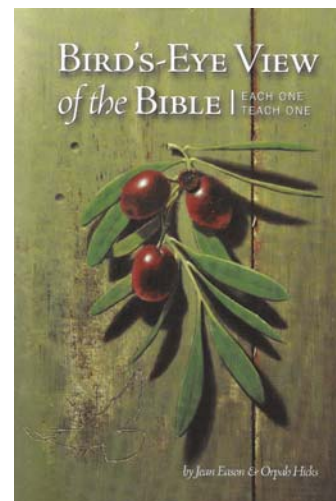
## New Book —

Dr. Reagan is near completion of a new book entitled *Eternity: Heaven or Hell?* It will run about 200 pages in length and will sell for \$15. It should be ready for distribution by August. You can pre-order copies now by calling 800-705-8316. Chapters include:

- What Happens When You Die?
- What About Resurrection and Judgment?
- What Will Heaven Be Like?
- Is Hell For Real?
- Are There Many Roads To God?
- How Can We Be Certain of Life After Death?
- Are You Living With An Eternal Perspective?



## Recommended Book —



Dr. Reagan highly recommends this new book by two very gifted Bible teachers, Jean Eason and Orpah Hicks. It presents an overview of basic biblical doctrines in a tested format that has proved very effective in small groups. Dr. Reagan served as a consultant in the preparation of the book, and the book includes several of his articles. The last section of the book features some fascinating testimonies by former Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Mormons, and others. 174 pages, \$10.



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## New Video Album

Three video interviews we conducted recently with the Reverend Peter Marshall are now ready for distribution as a video album that runs approximately 70 minutes in length.

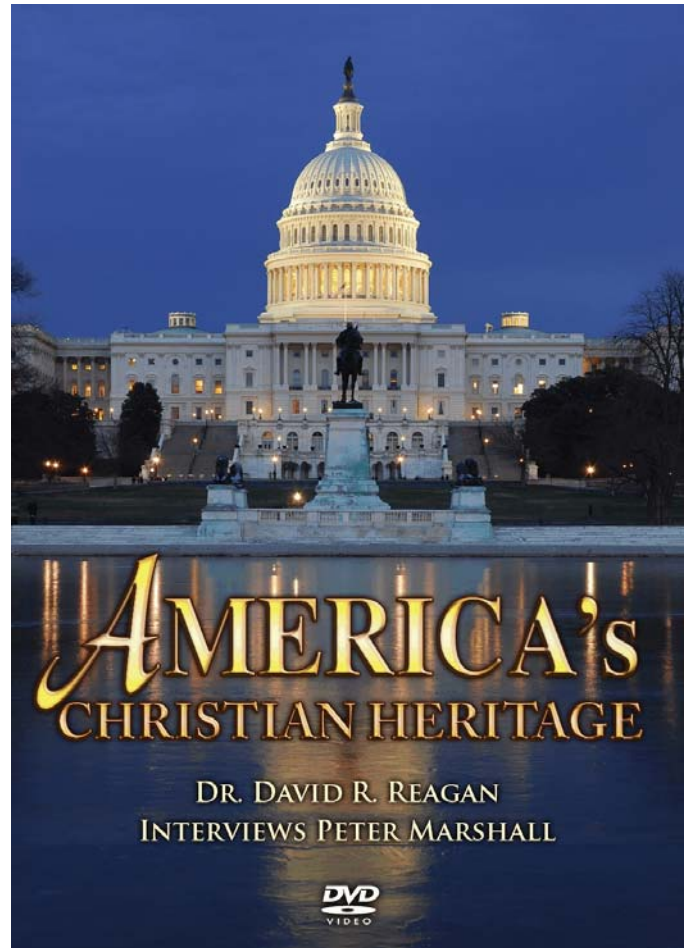
The first interview focuses on the great Christian Heritage of our nation. The second addresses the current challenge to that heritage. The third interview is a bonus that is added to provide a special blessing for you. It is all about Reverend Marshall's mom and dad, two of the most influential and well-known Christians of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

His dad was Dr. Peter Marshall, the marvelously gifted poet-preacher from Scotland who in 1937 became the pastor of the historic "Church of the Presidents," the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. His father was also serving as the Chaplain of the United States Senate when he died suddenly in 1949 at the age of only 46.

His mom, Catherine Marshall, became even more well-known in 1951 when she published a biography of her husband titled, *A Man Called Peter*. It was later made into a very successful movie. Catherine continued to write novels like *Christy* until her death in 1983.



Dave Reagan and Peter Marshall



Peter Marshall stepped out of the shadow of his parents in 1977 when he published a seminal study of the Christian heritage of America, titled, *"The Light and the Glory."* He has authored many more books since that time about our Christian heritage, designed for all age groups. You can find these materials listed on his website at <http://petermarshallministries.com>.

This new video album sells for \$12 plus the cost of shipping and handling. You can order a copy by calling 800-705-8316. Please call Monday through Friday between 8am and 5pm Central time. ✚