

The DEFENDER - January 2015

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

A monthly publication of the
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



From the Director's Desk: Watching the Signs

A lot happened last year, suggesting that we're closer than ever to the return of our Lord and Savior. There's much saber rattling going on in the Middle East, with the prospect of more than one Arab nation going nuclear. Vladimir Putin is pulling a lot of strings behind the scenes, the Chinese are ubiquitous, Kim Jong-un is unpredictable, and the Castro brothers are still unpalatable. And on top of all of that, we seem to be on the verge of a race war here in America. Happy New Year.

With that as a backdrop, Christians should be vigilant in examining the events which will unfold in 2015. There are certain things in particular we should be looking for, while watching for signs of world government forming on the horizon. We don't know when these things will unfold. And we're not called upon to be datesetters. But Jesus gave us plenty of signs to look for which will preclude the coming Tribulation. While some are not yet ready to be revealed, others are recognizable.

There has long been a perception of elite thinking controlling the world's events. It's influential in politics, economics, entertainment, and even religion. The overriding thought in this is that the world's problems must be solved with global governance. Part of that includes a paradigm shift in public education, which is now seen as an ally to humanism. American exceptionalism is out and Common Core and multiculturalism are in. The elites believe our children are property of the state and it takes a village to raise them.

Another tactic employed by progressives is management by crisis, never letting one go to waste. The goal of course, is to have all of us believe that only the government can save us. On a larger scale, the UN is trumpeting people control through the guise of climate change and environmentalism. Their idea for solving the problem is to convince countries to give up their national sovereignty. One way this can be accomplished in America is by trashing the Constitution. We're told that the idea of limited government will infringe on the right of Americans to receive that to which the bureaucrats tell us we're naturally entitled. When all the entitlements finally overload the public welfare system and bring unmanageable debt to our nation, then the dollar will fall and the UN can institute a global currency, which will allow the internationalists to bring their form of order to the world.

A one world government won't work, however, without a one world religion. In order to get us there, natural disasters are being reported as Mother Nature's retaliation against our poor stewardship of the planet. We must submit to Gaia or risk feeling her wrath. This is where ecumenism comes in. The genius of the New Age movement is that everyone can become like god and rise above the coming apocalypse. In this current age of spiritual apostasy, we even see the evangelical church being lured into this. Recent abominations such as the ECT (Evangelicals and Catholics Together), the Emergent Church, and the merging of Christianity and Islam (Chrislam) all fly in the face of Paul's exhortation in 2 Corinthians 6:14 to "be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers." In spite of the fact that Oprah Winfrey tells us there are many ways to heaven, Jesus was clear in John 14:6 that He is the only way, and that "no man cometh to the Father, but by Me."

Satan's world is temporary. A new world is coming, one in which Jesus will be King of kings and Lord of lords. In the meantime, be strong my fellow Defenders, stand in the gap, occupy until He comes, and keep on keepin' on!

Rev. David Lewis

Politically Incorrect Christianity

Part III – The Authentic Founders of Science

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

In spite of all the arguments advanced by adversaries of evangelical professors – from actual intellectuals such as Voltaire and Hume, to today’s superficial “pop-atheists” such as Richard Dawkins and Penn and Teller – faulty conclusions and irrationality are often seen in their arguments. Their consensus is that Christianity imprisons men’s minds with “superstition and anti-scientific supernaturalism.” Their agreed position is that only when “religious shackles” are removed by the principles incubated in the anti-God lawlessness of the French Revolution and raised to maturity during the “Enlightenment,” is science free to develop.

They contend that the Bible prevented true advancement in science because “Flat Earth” theologians blunted all desire for science. Today’s reemergence of these baseless charges is foundational in 21st Century Atheism. They also hold that once the Greek and Roman civilizations regressed, the “blind” faith that suppressed reason brought on the Dark Ages. Yet in spite of Christianity’s “ingrained ignorance,” a few scholarly intellectuals arose in the 16th Century Renaissance period who finally taught men to think (they give nothing but discredit to the real freedom brought by the Reformation which allowed for independent thinking in every field of endeavor). Now, they say, men are free to pursue modern science once disciplined into an anti-faith belief system that frees all from the blight that Christianity and its taboos placed as obstacles to real learning. Now physics and chemistry and medicine can fully develop and blossom. This benighted view of modern science is taught as absolute truth in most universities in an anti-intellectual, politically correct “case closed, end of story, let none say otherwise.” The problem is, their position is 100% demonstrably false.

An emerging generation of truth seeking, history respecting, sociologists and philosophers of science are proving that biblically-based religion was not the enemy of learning and science but was actually the intellectual matrix that made it possible in the first place. Sociologist Randy Smith laid out hard evidence that real scientific advances emerged at one time in one place – Christianized Europe. The scientific method did NOT develop in sophisticated China or in philosophical India or in mathematical Arabia; indeed NOT even in ancient Greece or Rome.

It was only in biblically oriented and Christianized Europe that mankind systematized the study of nature (which they already knew was intelligently designed) and did quantify precise experimentation and the full practical perfection of measurement which led to a deeper, freer basis of understanding that unlocked the mysteries of God’s universe. It was actually when Christianity had ITS shackles removed at about the time of the 16th Century Reformation that the truths revealed in the Old and New Testaments opened the floodgates to discoveries in modern science and the benefits that flowed to mankind. The key biblical concept that impelled men to investigate nature was the belief that an unchangeable, all powerful, immortal God of love had providentially made and maintained creation FOR MAN.

Sociologist Randy Smith has pointed out other key scholastic concepts characteristic to the West that were precursors in the development of the scientific method. Other investigators go directly to ideas found in the Bible that began to widely permeate Western culture. Especially was this so once there was an explosion of the availability of God's written Word in peoples' native tongues during the 16th Century Reformation. The geniuses of the past, such as Galileo, Newton, Mendel and Planck, were prepared at least in part by ideas that they ascribed to by faith in the scriptures that they trusted, and they were solidly grounded by these operating assumptions. The contrast is more readily seen when comparing the motivation of men and women guided by Judeo-Christian beliefs to those in other cultures and religions.

Some of the foundational biblical insights that gave clarity to the full development of the scientific method were delineated in the 1994 book, "The Soul of Science: Christian Faith and Natural Philosophy," by Dr. Charles Thaxton and Nancy Pearcey. Their revelations of biblical insights began with the Bible's teaching that the created world is REAL and not merely consisting of illusory appearances such as in Eastern Pantheistic idealism (also in New Ageism and Christian Science, et al.). Hinduism teaches that the everyday world of material objects is Maya (illusion). This fantastic philosophy denigrates the Living God of creation and is a disincentive to the intense, careful attention necessary for advanced science.

Westerners that follow the Judeo-Christian biblical beliefs see the Biblical Worldview as settled reality since their Lord saw His handiwork as "very good" (Gen. 1:31). In some other worldviews, the material world is called evil: not something worth investigating but to escape from. Gnostic cults in the first century and the Manichees of the third were some of these. Augustine was converted to Christianity out of Manicheism and said, "God being good, created." A world created by a loving, living God for His adopted children is worthy of systematic, careful study. Consider what scientific geniuses say. The great astronomer Johannes Kepler wrote, "I give you thanks...God, that you have given me this joy in thy creation." Pagan cultures, past and present, see all nature as having an animistic substratum that is universally imbued with an impersonal spirit or soul. The Bible, God's Word, shows that God is not the world or nature's soul; God is its Almighty Creator and governor and His created things: sun, moon, stars, and man must not receive the adoration due only to Him.

The current crop of "pop-atheists" claim that it was Enlightenment thinkers like Rene Descartes, a pioneer of the "degodding of nature," who jump-started modern science. However, he was a johnnie-come-lately since millennia before the Bible condemned nature worship with its attendant adoration of man and inanimate objects of wood and stone and heavenly bodies (Ex. 20:1-5).

The contrast of nature worship with the attributes of the Living God opened the universality of spiritual and intellectual light In Western Christendom. Christ's truth did set us free once the Bible became available to all in their native language at the 16th Century Reformation's burst of freedom. In spite of Emergent Church idolatries, evangelical churches keep the Commandment against adoration of man-made objects.

Once it became understood that God created an orderly, dependable world, the shackles of ignorance taught that nature is imbued with an unfeeling, uncaring, impersonal spirit fell away. Nature's materials and processes could now be studied in their inherent patterns and systems derived from Divine intelligence, power and love. Now the world was no longer thought to be controlled by "capricious spirits or lesser gods" who could change minds and courses at will. Intelligent design began to be observed in everything once worship was properly confined to the God of grace, mercy and love. He who loved His creation and His created creatures (John 3:16) became our adoptive Father and our Brother – our Savior and Lord – to all who believe (Ep. 1:3-7; John 1:12-13; Acts 16:31; 1 John 5:13). With our one true and living God, as opposed to paganism's man-made panoply of deities at war with each other, the universe could be studied and understood for the coherent unified creation it is (Ps. 119:89-91).

The overly aggrandized ancient Greeks lent nothing to the scientific method. Greek pagans, like Plato, taught that the world was a "pale shadow of the real world of ideas." Truth for him was only found in a group of select men capable of philosophical contemplation. In his "Allegory of the cave," his tale of a prisoner escaping and finding the "light" was fatally blighted in and by a culture stagnated in an elitist, paganistic folly of perpetual darkness. The polytheism that pervaded Greek and other cultures that made slaves of those created in the image of God (the vast majority) stifled any possibility for scientific advancement. The growth of true science would have to wait for a citizenry permeated with the knowledge of the living creator God.

God's creation is subject to and regulated by His immutable sovereign omnipotence which lovingly controls the universe for His deserved glory and His children's blessing. Those who are taught the principles found in God's Word know they are investigating a rational, intelligently prepared order based upon fixed discoverable laws of which the morning stars sing (Job 38:7).

Keep looking up.

Principal Source: "The Politically Incorrect Guide to the Bible," by Robert Hutchenson
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www.regnery.com



Our Days Are in God's Hands

By Nancy Long

New Year's Eve is possibly the only day of the year in which almost everybody's attentions and thoughts are focused on the exact same thing. There's something climactic about counting down the hours then the minutes and even the seconds, as the old year slips away then passes into history, never, to be seen again.

As you read this we are rapidly moving towards the beginning of a brand new year, 2015. Time passes so quickly, we say or better said, perhaps, how quickly we people move through this thing known as "time"! Our days on this earth are short, and man is extremely fragile.

Scripture tells us that ***"the days of our years are threescore and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away"*** (Psalm 90:10). We would all most likely agree that 80 or 90, or perhaps, in some instances, even 100 years, constitutes a very long life; but living in light of eternity, ***"life is like a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away"*** (James 4:14).

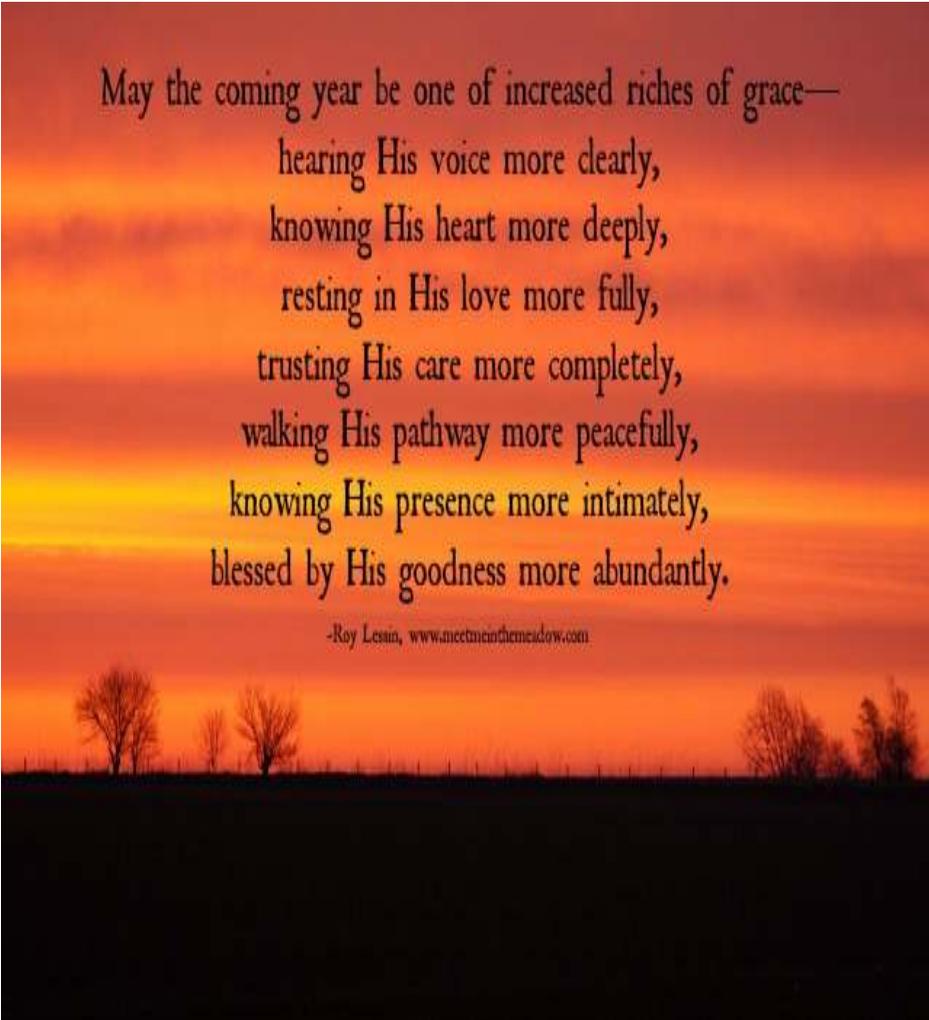
At the start of each new year, many resolutions are made. Determinations to lose pounds, to begin a healthier lifestyle, to give up bad habits and implement good ones, to maybe read the entire Bible within the next twelve months, to even memorize Scripture, etc. --- all are well intended, all worthy goals, all good.

However, recognizing that our days are in God's hands, and that there's an ***"appointed time to man upon the earth"*** (Job 7:1) knowing and believing our lives could be taken away today would we be ready? Would you be ready? We don't often think about it, but considering the brevity of life, today really could be the last one you've been given to live. The two New York City policemen, young officers of the law, who were shot and killed recently while sitting in their car, weren't thinking that this could/would be their final hour on earth No guarantees, you see, for another tomorrow.

Think about it long and hard, my friends ponder it for more than a moment, please. There may never be another opportunity to say, ***"I love you"*** to your spouse or to your child. There may never be another occasion to say to a loved one or a friend, ***"thank God that you are in my life"***, or ***"I forgive you"***, or even ***"Please forgive me."*** There may never be another day to say, ***Lord, I'm a sinner. I've fallen short of Your glory. I want I desire to have a relationship with You. Please forgive***

me, and make me one of your children, so I can have the assurance that when I die, whether today, tomorrow, or years from now, I will live forever, and ever, and ever, in a glorious place called heaven eternally with You."

Life is a gift, and it comes from God. May we always be grateful. ***"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it"*** (Psalm 118:24). I pray for you, my Defender readers, and exhort you to adopt an attitude of gratitude for each day God gives. Take time for the Lord it is truly life's only lasting investment.



May the coming year be one of increased riches of grace—
hearing His voice more clearly,
knowing His heart more deeply,
resting in His love more fully,
trusting His care more completely,
walking His pathway more peacefully,
knowing His presence more intimately,
blessed by His goodness more abundantly.

-Roy Lesia, www.meetmeinthemeadow.com

Did You Know . . .

Founding Godly Christian Sentiments

“The only foundation of a free Constitution is pure Virtue, and if this cannot be inspired into our People in a greater Measure, than they have it now, they may change their Rulers and the forms of Government, but they will not obtain a lasting liberty.” — “I have examined all religions, as well as my narrow sphere...would allow; and the result is that the Bible is the best Book in the world....” (**John Adams**)

“Admiring and thankfully acknowledging the riches of redeeming love, and earnestly imploring that divine assistance which may enable us to live no more to ourselves, but to him who loved us and gave himself to die for us.” (**Roger Sherman**)

“Principally, and first of all, I resign my soul to the Almighty Being who gave it...relying on the merits of Jesus Christ for the pardon of my sins.” — “...The confusions that are and have been among the nations may be overruled by the promoting and speedily bringing in the holy and happy period when the kingdoms of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ may be everywhere established, and the people willingly bow to the sceptre of Him who is the Prince of Peace.” (**Samuel Adams**)

“It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not be religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here.” (**Patrick Henry**)

“A more beautiful or precious morsel of ethics (collected by himself from the sayings of Jesus, and arranged in a blank book) I have never seen; it is a document in proof that I am a real Christian.” (Thomas Jefferson)

“Education is useless without the Bible.” — “The Bible was America’s basic text book in all fields.” — “God’s Word, contained in the Bible, has furnished all necessary rules to direct our conduct.” (**Noah Webster**)

“To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest Glory to laud the more distinguished Character of Christian.” — “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.” (**George Washington**)

“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 our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government; upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves...according to the Ten Commandments of God.” (**James Madison**)

[Excerpts, *America’s God & Country*, W. J. Federer, ed., 1996.]

[Excerpts, *A Cloud of Witnesses*, S. A. Northrop, ed., 1800s, 1987.]

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

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We are now on internet radio: www.evangelismradio.com (various times).

Listen also to IDOT's "Moment of Truth"
airing Monday through Friday during morning drive time
on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore.

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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

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

Adult Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00 AM