

MONTH IN REVIEW

- ❑ “Test me, LORD, and try me. Examine my heart and mind.”
—Psalm 26:2
- ❑ “The fool says in his heart, ‘God does not exist.’”
—Psalm 14:1
- ❑ “The one who lives honestly, practices righteousness, and acknowledges the truth in his heart.”
—Psalm 15:2
- ❑ “But their minds were closed....Whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts.”
—II Cor. 3:14, 15
- ❑ “The god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God....He has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God’s glory in the face of Jesus Christ.”
—II Cor. 4:4, 6
- ❑ “For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as to divide soul, spirit, joints, and marrow; it is a judge of the ideas and thoughts of the heart.”
—Hebrews 4:12
- ❑ “Brothers, don’t be childish in your thinking, but be infants in evil and adult in your thinking.”
—I Cor. 14:20
- ❑ “[C.S.] Lewis christens this skeptical reflex ‘bulverism,’ after its imaginary inventor, Ezekiel Bulver. Lewis imagines the moment that bulverism was born, when five-year-old Ezekiel heard his mother say to his father, ‘Oh, you say that because you are a man.’ Bulver intuitively grasped the stunning implication: arguments need not be refuted, only *situated*. One rebuts a *thought* simply by calling attention to the genealogy or location of its *thinker*.”
—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, *Christianity and the Postmodern Turn*, p.76
- ❑ “[C.S.] Lewis never treated postmodernity directly (he died four years before Derrida published *Of Grammatology*), but he foresaw its coming. His two examples of bulverist thinkers who have anew discovered ‘that we exist’ are Freud and Marx. Instead of examining *what* we think, Freud and Marx explain *why* we think what we do. The celebrated turn to the subject—‘that we exist’—is the discovery of human situatedness, perhaps the central insight of postmodernity. Human situatedness—in history, social class, gender, culture, religion—has become the focus of postmodern investigations. The result: every issue is ultimately about identity politics, about where, what, and who one is. *Postmoderns are so preoccupied with the situated self that they cannot get beyond it*. Whatever one is doing—whether reading or speaking or observing or thinking—postmodern attention is invariably riveted on the pro-

cess of attending, not the object of attention. There is no rose left nor, for that matter, truth, goodness, and beauty.”

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, *Christianity and the Postmodern Turn*, p.76

❑ “[C.S.] Lewis acknowledges, anticipating the postmodern penchant for play, that ‘this is obviously great fun.’ Yet there are questions that ought soberly to be raised: first, *are* all thoughts contaminated at the source (e.g., reason, language)? Second, is the contamination such so as to render the contaminated thought untrue? The situatedness or contamination of thought is, of course, a two-edged sword. If *all* thoughts are contaminated, then so is postmodern theory.”

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, *Christianity and the Postmodern Turn*, p.76

❑ Postmodern philosopher James K.A. Smith (Calvin College), seeks to divide the human heart from the human mind—the “heart” is not primarily rational or cognitive’ (Myron B. Penners, Ed., *Christianity and the Postmodern Turn*, p.219). One look at the above Scriptural texts notes the close association of heart and mind. If there is any significant difference it could be that the heart “knows” apart from human language—which is another ‘god’ of the Postmodernists. Nearly all our texts (and especially Hebrews 4:12) make it clear that the heart has cognitive abilities. Hence, the importance of the mind and heart in knowing certainly pre-dates the so-called Modern era. Indeed, it was Christian thinkers who gave us the Sciences (see Rodney Stark, *For the Glory of God*) which formed the backbone of the Modern era. The postmodernist war against modernism is, in part, a war against Christian influence on modernism. Modernism went wrong when it forgot God and accepted the ideas of Marx, Darwin, Freud, and Nietzsche. Incidentally, all four of these atheists are heroes to the secular Postmodernists, (and some are heroes to the “Christian” Postmodernists, too! One referred to Marx as in the mode of the prophet Amos).

❑ “It is probable that Nature is not really in Time and almost certain that God is not. Time is probably (like perspective) the mode of our perception. There is therefore in reality no question of God’s at one point in time (the moment of creation) adapting the material history of this universe in advance to free acts which you or I are to perform at a later point in Time. To Him all the physical events and all the human acts are present in an eternal Now. The liberation of finite wills and the creation of the whole material history of the universe (related to the acts of those wills in all the necessary complexity) is to Him a single operation. In

— UPCOMING EVENTS —

ADULT CONFERENCE

Please mark your calendars for the spring Adult Conference, March 19-24, 2006, at Glen Eyrie Conference Center in Colorado Springs. Summit will provide the same faculty offered during our summer sessions. Watch this space or our website for details.

this sense God did not create the universe long ago but creates it at this minute—at every minute.

—C.S. Lewis, *Miracles*

❑ “Human intellect is incurably abstract. Pure mathematics is the type of successful thought. Yet the only realities we experience are concrete—this pain, this pleasure, this dog, this man. While we are loving the man, bearing the pain, enjoying the pleasure, we are not intellectually apprehending Pleasure, Pain, or Personality. When we begin to do so, on the other hand, the concrete realities sink to the level of mere instances or examples: we are no longer dealing with them, but with that which they exemplify. This is our dilemma—either to taste and not to know or to know and not to taste—or, more strictly, to lack one kind of knowledge because we are in an experience or to lack another kind because we are outside it. As thinkers we are cut off from what we think about; as tasting, touching, willing, loving, hating, we do not clearly understand. The more lucidly we think, the more we are cut off: the more deeply we enter into reality, the less we can think. You cannot *study* Pleasure in the moment of the nuptial embrace, nor repentance while repenting, nor analyse the nature of humour while roaring with laughter. But when else can you really know these things? ‘If only my toothache would stop, I could write another chapter about Pain.’ But once it stops, what do I know about pain?”

—C.S. Lewis, *God in the Dock*

❑ “Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise; I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days. Put no confidence in princes, nor for help on man depend; He shall die, to dust returning, and his purposes shall end.

“Happy is the man that chooses Israel’s God to be his aid; He is blest whose hope of blessing on the Lord his God is stayed. Heav’n and earth the Lord created, seas and all that they contain; He delivers from oppression, righteousness He will maintain.

“Food He daily gives the hungry, sets the mourning pris’ner free, raises those bowed down with anguish, makes the sightless eyes to see. Well Jehovah loves the righteous, and the stranger He befriends, helps the fatherless and widow, judgment on the wicked sends.

“Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise; I will sing the glorious praises of my God through all my days. Over all God reigns forever, through all ages He is King; unto Him, your God, O Zion, joyful hallelujahs sing.

—Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul

❑ “RULE 1 Life is not fair—get used to it.

“RULE 2 The world won’t care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

“RULE 3 You will NOT make 40 thousand dollars a year right out of high school. You won’t be a vice president with a car phone, until you earn both.

“RULE 4 If you think your teacher is tough; wait till you get a boss. He doesn’t have tenure.

“RULE 5 Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping—they called

it Opportunity.

“RULE 6 If you mess up, it’s not your parents’ fault, so don’t whine about your mistakes, learn from them.

“RULE 7 Before you were born, your parents weren’t as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you are. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parents’ generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

“RULE 8 Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life has not. In some schools they have abolished failing grades and they’ll give you as many times as you want to get the right answer. This doesn’t bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.

“RULE 9 Life is not divided into semesters. You don’t get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you find yourself. Do that on your own time.

“RULE 10 Television is NOT real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

“RULE 11 Be nice to nerds. Chances are you’ll end up working for one.”

—Bill Gates

❑ “In New Orleans, beginning Tuesday morning, August 30, I saw men in helicopters risking their lives to save stranded flood victims from rooftops. The rescuers were White, the stranded Black. I saw Caucasians navigating their small, private boats in violent, swirling, toxic floodwaters to find fellow citizens trapped in their houses. Those they saved were Black.

“I saw Brotherhood. New York Congressman Charlie Rangel saw Racism. Yes, there are Two Americas. One is the real America, where virtually every White person I know sends money, food or clothes to those in need—now and in other crises— regardless of color. This America is colorblind. The other is the America fantasized and manufactured by Charlie Rangel, Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, who constantly cry ‘racism!’ even in situations where it does not exist, even when undeniable images illustrate love, compassion and concern. These three men, together with today’s NAACP, want to continue the notion of Racist America. It is their Mantra, their calling card. Their power, money, and continued media appearances depend on it.

“Often, people caught up in accusing others of sin neglect to undergo their own personal introspection. They begin to think

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From the President's Desk

Dr. David A. Noebel

On each graduation evening at the Summit I relate to the students and their parents (who might be in attendance) that their tuition monies pay for Summit's upkeep and very existence for about 5 or 6 months. I also tell them that after that I turn to our wonderful Summit family and ask them to help me meet Summit's financial obligations for the remaining months.

Well, as you can see, I am right on time! Our students paid for all our bills from May through October, and now I turn to you to help me fund the Summit from November through April 2006.

Some of you give each month to the Summit and attach notes and articles and other nice things, and for that I am truly humbled and grateful. You make "Summit family" a touching reality. You send along your encouragements and tell us you are praying for us, and that means more than you know.

In fact, I'm looking at a letter I received in July from a mother who said, "Our youngest daughter just returned from her session at Summit Ministries and as our three older children did, she experienced two wonderful weeks of intense teaching, combined with fun and Christian fellowship.... We thought it might encourage you to know how Summit Ministries has been influencing our family and our children. We are most grateful for your dedication and commitment to training the youth of our nation, and we pray that the Lord will continue to give you strength and wisdom as you serve Him for his glory."

It indeed encourages us to know that our efforts are not in vain, that we are affecting for good God's people and their families. Thank you for making this point.

Some of our *Journal* readers are part of our Summit Millennium Team, which means you give us at least \$1000 during the year. I could use more members, of course, but I would be amiss if I didn't say a special thank you to this group of supporters.

Just knowing I have such a group gives me great encouragement, especially when the burden of keeping this ministry in the black descends upon me. Thank you for doing your part, and if you haven't yet responded this year, please consider responding now.

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they alone inhabit the moral high ground. It is high time these men peered into their own hearts at the dark chamber that causes this unceasing labeling of their fellow Americans as 'racist.' They may find in that chamber their own racism—against Whites.

"There is only one real America. Beginning Friday morning in Houston, thousands of regular citizens poured into the Astrodome offering water, food, clean clothes, personal items, baby diapers and toys, love and even their homes to the evacuees who had been bused in from New Orleans. Most of the givers were White, most of those being helped were Black. But there was Jesse Jackson, busy on TV, accusing the country of not putting

I need to say a special heart-felt thank you to all who respond with the \$20, \$50, or \$100 gifts throughout the year. These gifts keep us going. Not being funded by big government, big business, or big foundations, we are kept above water by these donations that add up to pay our bills.

Indeed, I would like to challenge each reader to get involved with this ministry even in a small way. If each *Journal* reader would give \$25, we could meet all our obligations and have a jump-start for 2006.

Let me close with a note I just received from a grandmother: "My granddaughter attended Summit Ministries this past July 11-22. Her parents could not say enough good things about her experience there. She is a special, wonderful girl to me and to have the foundation she received from you before going off to college this fall is a great help. I'm so grateful. I'm delighted to send a donation to such a worthy ministry. I borrowed one of the books she brought home, so I get to benefit too!"

As this grandmother is helping us, I'm praying each of you will consider helping us as well!

I look forward to hearing from you shortly as my wife and begin our 44th year with this unforgettable ministry directed at giving Christian young people an oasis of Christian truth amongst the roaring waves of doubt, unbelief, sexual immorality, drugs, despair, and the abyss.

(All tax-exempt gifts can be sent to Summit Ministries, PO Box 207, Manitou Springs, CO 80829.)

P.S. I thought you might like to know that the September 23, 2005 edition of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* devoted a lengthy article to the Summit. It said, in part, "While the [Summit] workshop is sometimes referred to as a camp, that moniker is misleading. On an average day, students sit through six hours of classes. This is not about horseback riding or leather tooling: this is serious business." And so it is... Thank you for being a part of it.

Blacks —i.e., him—on some type of Commission he is demanding. Where was he early in the week? Not sweating with others from around the country who had scraped their last dollar to come help. With Jesse, it's always about Jesse.

"After decades of hearing accusations from Jesse, Al, Charlie, the NAACP and certain elitists about how racist America is, it would have been refreshing to hear them for once give thanks to those they for years have been maligning. These self-anointed spokesmen for the Black community lead only when it comes to foisting guilt and condemnation, and not when it comes to acknowledging the good in those they have made a career in castigating.

“As a Rabbi I have a message I wish to offer to my fellow members of the cloth, Reverends Jackson and Sharpton: It is time to do some soul searching. Your continued efforts to tear this country apart, even in light of the monumental goodness shown by your White brothers, is a sin.

“There are no churches in the world like the American churches. And there are no better parishioners and members of churches anywhere in the world. These churches are saving the day. Their members—infused by the special and singular teachings of our unique American Judeo-Christian understanding of the Bible—are, at this moment, writing an historic chapter in giving, initiative, and selflessness. They are opening their homes to strangers. They are doing what government is incapable of doing. America works because of its faith-based institutions. It always has. That is what makes it America.

“So next time the ACLU tries to diminish and marginalize the churches, saying there is no role for religion in American public life, that an impenetrable wall must be erected separating the citizens from their faith, cry out ‘Katrina.’ Next time the ACLU goes to court asking that U.S. soldiers not be allowed to say Grace in the Mess Hall and that communities be forbidden from setting up a nativity scene, ask yourself: without the motivation of Goodness sourced in Faith, would people offer such sacrifice? Where else does this Brotherhood come from but the Bible which teaches “Thou Shall Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself.”

“I saw brotherhood on Fox News, where 24/7 reporters used their perch as a clearinghouse for search-and-rescue missions and communication between the stranded and those in position to save. In contrast, the Old-line networks continued with their usual foolish, brain-numbing programming. Those who always preach ‘compassion’ chose profit over people.

“The *New York Times* has utterly failed America. Its columnists could have used their talents and word skills to inspire and unite a nation. Columnists such as Frank Rich and Paul Krugman, however, revealed their true colors by evading their once-in-a-lifetime chance to help and instead chose to divide, condemn, and fuel the fires and poison the waters of Louisiana. In them, I saw no Brotherhood. The newspaper always preaching ‘compassion’ verifies Shakespeare’s ‘They protest too much.’

“Similar elitists here in the northeast and on the west coast have over the years expressed their view of the South as ‘unsophisticated’ and Texans as ‘cowboys.’ Well, the South has come through, especially Houston and other parts of Texas, whereas, as I write this on Labor Day, the limousine moralizers are lying on east and west coast beaches thinking they’re doing their part by reading *Times*’ editorials and calling George Bush ‘racist.’ How sanctimonious life becomes when proving you are not a racist depends not on living in a truly integrated neighborhood, but by simply calling others racist.

“Like so often in history, facts trump platitudes. Reality reigns. Those who always preach brotherhood, thus far have acted devoid of it. Those who for decades have been accused by elitists of not having compassion are the ones living it. They are: the churches, the military, and the sons and daughters of the South.”

—Rabbi Aryeh Spero, October 3, 2005

□ “It’s not easy to dislodge a trendy fad, particularly among

the public intellectuals and the aspiring sophisticates of the chattering class, but ‘multiculturalism’ may be getting an intellectual re-examination. The strivers so easily captured by the hula hoops of academic imagination have a long way to go, but the signs are there (and not a moment too soon).

“‘Multiculturalism’ is the notion that all cultures are inherently equal; the notion should not only be tolerated, but encouraged. The Judeo-Christian values that undergirded the founding of our country and inspired the moral rules that bound us together in a common culture, honored even when honored in the breach, are to be held in doubt and suspicion. When these values were deconstructed, so that they no longer held us together, the literary, philosophical and historical canons of Western civilization changed.

“Young people, naturally given to critiquing anything and everything their parents believe, became easily indoctrinated with the fashionable notions of multiculturalism. Disarmed, they could not defend the culture that produced their freedoms and the good life in which to enjoy those freedoms. They were soon not even capable of perceiving the consequences that flow from an inability to make distinctions. Instead of appreciating the self-correcting freedoms growing out of the common culture—leading to the ends of slavery, the relief of oppressed women, and the civil-rights revolution that propelled blacks into the mainstream—the young were encouraged to focus on the negatives of Western history. The manifest shortcomings of other cultures were cheerfully ignored.

“The great contemporary fault line of multiculturalism is the tolerance of Islamist barbarity that passes for understanding. This has led to the conspicuous inability to recognize the dark side of Islam that politicizes authentic religious faith and produces the terrorism that stalks the civilized world. Though only a small number of Muslims actually perceive murder as a religious duty, millions of Muslims support those who do, and many millions more conspicuously refrain from criticizing the evildoers, either from fear or from a desire to see their faith become dominant across the world.

“As a result, multiculturalism has become ideology that menaces a culture unable to defend itself. This multiculturalism undercuts assimilation and fosters an anti-American bias in favor of cultures determined to destroy our own. The British example says it all. Multiculturalism in England was shaped not only by academicians, but by civil servants, think tanks, minority pressure groups, center-left politicians, and what John O’Sullivan calls with irony ‘the Great and the Good.’ In the *New Criterion* magazine, he argues that certain government institutions, together with the popular media, created an ideology of ‘institutional correctness’ of condescending anthropology. The British government, unrestrained by constitutional guarantees of separation of church and state, subsidized ethnic, religious, and linguistic ghettos by supporting ‘faith schools,’ where minority children were encouraged to maintain the cultures their parents fled.

“In the interest of tolerance men and women who knew better rationalized the suppression of women, genital mutilation and even ‘honor killings’ by Muslims. Better to let the natives keep their quaint customs rather than impose common values that smack of ‘Britishness.’ The bombings in London, however, changed the debate. When the British learned that their suicide bombers were home-grown, recruited from minorities who were

not marginalized—the bombers had grown up playing cricket—multiculturalism as a guiding ideology was suddenly suspect. The Dutch before them had begun to rethink multiculturalism as well, when a radical Muslim murdered the filmmaker Theo Van Gogh in Amsterdam for his criticism of Islamic suppression of women. The killer left an Islamist manifesto spiked to his breast.

“Though not as daffy over multiculturalism as the Netherlands or Britain, America has been moving that way. The melting pot of assimilation, which has nurtured the American dream for more than two centuries, has become ever more suspect. A poll for the Pew Hispanic Center finds that 55 percent of Americans of Mexican descent consider themselves Mexicans first. A similar study of Muslim immigrants in Los Angeles finds that only 10 percent think of themselves as Americans rather than citizens of the countries they abandoned for new lives here.

“Multiculturalism has become both masochistic and condescending. Born of good and generous intentions, it inevitably led to cultural amnesia, sapping the strength of the common bond. ‘An unintended and beneficial consequence of the London bombings,’ writes Mr. O’Sullivan, ‘is the transformation of the debate in Britain over multiculturalism.’ The clock is ticking here, too.”

—Suzanne Fields, *The Washington Times*, September 15, 2005, p. A21

□ “Americans like their churches conservative. According to Dave Shiflett, author of *Exodus: Why Americans are Fleeing Liberal Churches for Conservative Christianity* [available at HEBookService.com], more and more Americans are abandoning liberal churches that reject tradition and orthodoxy, and flocking to ones that uphold conservative beliefs.

“Why are churchgoers rejecting this new vogue of liberal Christianity that embraces a homosexual clergy, abortion, sexual freedom and ‘tolerance’ as the highest virtues? In an increasingly secular age, it would appear that such liberal denominations would be gaining in membership. Not so, says Shiflett, who also wrote *Christianity on Trial*. Shiflett contends that it is precisely this liberal attitude that has turned off so many Americans from mainline Protestant churches. Instead, these churchgoers prefer to hold fast to tradition and orthodoxy. They want their church to adhere to central dogma such as the virgin birth, the resurrection and the trinity. They also aspire to a higher level of spirituality that demands sexual restraint and a commitment to the Ten Commandments.

“Shiflett began his inquiry when he discovered a seminary student was ostracized for believing in God. He says that ‘something has gone decidedly amiss when a person who believes in God is the odd man out at a seminary.’ To Shiflett’s astonishment, this was not an isolated incident. After interviewing dozens of people who abandoned liberal denominations, he found similar scenarios. Among these was a Unitarian hospital chaplain who refused to comfort a dying patient with the promise of an after-life because the chaplain doesn’t believe in one; a famous bishop who rejected the virgin birth and resurrection; and a Maryland church that created Lenten ashes out of tax forms, draft cards, olive oil and human blood.

“Americans are becoming appalled by left-wing sermons, intellectual fads and political correctness trumping dogma and tradition—the most notorious example being the installation of homosexual Gene V. Robinson as an Episcopal bishop.

“The consequences of mainstream Protestant denominations embracing liberalism has been ‘sprawling vacancies in the pews.’ Church attendance among mainline Protestantism has decreased significantly over the past decade. The United Churches of Christ has lost 14.8%, the United Methodist Church declined by 6.7%, and the Episcopal Church and the Baptist Church lost more than 5% of their membership.

“But Shiflett contends that the backlash to this new trend is a rise in conservative Christianity. More and more churchgoers are embracing socially conservative denominations and congregating in various traditional Evangelical, Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches. Churches that have maintained allegiance to traditional Christian belief have experienced a drastic increase in membership. The Evangelical Free Church’s membership soared by 57%, Conservative Christian Churches and Churches of Christ grew by 40%, the Assemblies of God rose by 18% and the Church of God increased by 40%.

“Shiflett believes the rise in conservative Christianity is linked to the desire by Americans to preserve their faith and religious heritage. Unlike the liberal denominations that favor heresy, conservative churches bring the authentic message of Christ to their flock. Americans are attracted to the spiritual challenge of the Gospel and want to be held to this higher standard of faith.”

—*Human Events*, August 15, 2005, p.20

□ Jay Leno had a good line the other night. He was talking about all the disasters going on right now—hurricanes, terrorism, war, fuel costs, etc. His line was, “Do you really think this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?”

□ “Few concerns of people are actually proper concerns for us all and even those few that are, ought to gain support through persuasion, not coercion.

“A prominent movement today that utterly fails to see this point is environmentalism. By embracing the false doctrine that matters designated to be ‘the wilds’ are superior to all others, that only what is wild is part of authentic nature, they have fallen into the trap of imperialism. They have convinced themselves that what isn’t of the wilds isn’t natural and, therefore, does not deserve respect and a place in the world. So, all housing developments are treated as evil and unnatural, never mind that they are the nesting places for human beings who are every bit a part of nature as the beaver or the swallow. But whereas the beaver and the swallow are deemed precious, thus deserving all the coercive powers of government behind them, humans are treated by environmentalists as some kind of fungus or virus. Why? Not one good reason has ever been offered. No more than the personal preference of environmentalists lies behind the malicious imperialism they’ve decided to lord over everyone.

“Of course, environmentalists aren’t alone, but they have managed to accrue the tone of moral superiority by producing reams of literature in which they promote the myth that only the wilds qualify as nature.

“Such an insidious attitude is, sadly, treated with sympathy and understanding even by those who do not quite go with the flow—as if the environmentalists really did have a hold of a true ideal.

“But the environmentalists haven’t gotten hold of an ideal, not by any means. They have, instead, perpetrated a grand ruse,

namely, that their imperialistic mission is a holy crusade.

“Yes, some of the wilds will always be of importance to most people, just as are decent housing, transportation, science, education, art, commerce and even athletics. But it is whatever matters to us that ought to determine the measure of environmental concern that makes the best sense, not what matters to others. And even that proper measure must be something promulgated in a non-coercive fashion.

“Let us leave behind the imperialist temptation once and for all. Let us not assume that our pet projects must be everyone’s or that our pet peeves must be shared by all. Humans are a highly diverse lot and no one’s best has to be everyone’s best, or worst everyone’s worst.”

—Tiber Machan, machan@champman.edu

□ “Dear Mr. Noebel: Through Mr. G. T. of America Asleep kNOw More, I have received a copy of your book *Clergy in the Classroom*. Now in my 24th year of teaching in the public schools, I am just beginning to understand the full impact of all that I have witnessed.

“Regrettably, adequate training to stand, and to stand with fellow believers, has not been forthcoming from any of the churches I have attended, although I know now from the copyright dates on books and histories of organizations that there have been watchmen like yourself sounding cries of alarm for years. I thank God for your perseverance, and for your book to read and reference and share. I am just one person—as was Abraham and Noah—but will do all I can to answer the clarion call for God.”

—D.H.

□ “Dear Dr. Noebel: My wife Lynn and I were privileged to accompany our grandson Kent to this past 2 week session of Summit Ministries. We sincerely appreciate the hospitality of both you and the Summit staff. The Lord has greatly used your faithful and diligent work to bring His truth to young people.

“Lynn and I will do all we can to encourage as many young people from our church and Christian community to attend future Summit opportunities. We will pray continually for Summit to be a tool used by the Lord to plant the seeds among Christian young people that will grow them into a mighty army that will break down the enemy strongholds in all the areas that Summit addresses.

“Thank you again for a very stimulating and rewarding two weeks at Summit. In His Service”

—K.S.

□ 1. Thou shalt have no other God except thyself; after all, it’s thy self-esteem that counts. If thou doth not love thyself, who will?

2. Thou shalt not make any graven image out of any substances which cannot be recycled.

3. Thou shalt not take the name of liberals in criticism, including feminists, racial minorities, or any person who thinks he is a victim of America.

4. Remember the anniversaries of Roe vs. Wade and Anita Hill’s testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, and keep them holy.

5. Honor thy mother. If she is dysfunctional, it is thy father’s fault.

6. Thou shalt not kill. With these exceptions: life forms under the second trimester, and those opting for medically assisted suicides.

7. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Unless thou aspirest to high political office, use a condom, or cannot help it.

8. Thou shalt not steal. Unless thou art disadvantaged or upset with a jury verdict.

9. Thou shalt not bear false witness. Unless thou art discussing the history of the 1980s, art campaigning, or can afford good legal counsel in the event that thou art discovered.

10. Thou shalt not covet. Unless thou art the victim of gender-related oppression or institutional racism, or art still angry with Reagan’s tax cuts.”

□ “Hunter S. Thompson, the counterculture’s favorite writer, who shuffled off this mortal coil six months ago by firing a bullet into his drug-addled brain, has finally been laid to rest in an appropriately eccentric style. Thompson’s ashes were shot into the sky by a rocket over his Colorado farm, then very effectively scattered with the aid of red, white, and blue fireworks. Among those present for the show was historian Douglas Brinkley, who declared Thompson to have been ‘the Billy the Kid of American literature,’ sociopathy being regarded with awed admiration in these circles. The world of politics was represented by boomer idols John Kerry and George McGovern. The distribution of Mr. Thompson’s remains was only the high point of a day-long celebration of countercultural idiocy, with Bob Dylan wailing from speakers, an oration delivered in Tibetan, and a 153-foot monument decorated with a Day-Glo peyote button ‘visible for miles around.’ Dear God, will the Sixties never be over?”

—*National Review*, September 12, 2005, p.12

□ “The U.S. Naval Academy has no plans to banish the noon mealtime prayer for midshipmen, after the Air Force issued a policy this week that discourages prayers at some events but keeps the tradition at others.

“‘We’re going to continue our existing practices,’ said Cmdr. Rod Gibbons, a spokesman at the Academy in Annapolis. ‘We have no plans to change our existing practice.’ Annapolis is the only service academy that sanctions a mealtime prayer.

“The brief prayer time, honored by generations of midshipmen, unfolds this way:

“The brigade of about 4,000 students gathers at noon at King Hall. They stand by their chairs for announcements and the welcoming of any guests. Then, one of the school’s six chaplains delivers a nondenominational prayer. Sometimes a moment of silence is observed instead.

“‘Those who want to participate may do so,’ Cmdr. Gibbons said. ‘Those who do not wish to participate do not have to pray. But they are expected to remain respectful for those who do.’

“No group has sued to force an end to the noon prayer at the Naval Academy, but a lawsuit was filed in Virginia. The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in 2003 that Virginia Military Institute’s mealtime prayers were unconstitutional because they violated free speech.

“The Naval Academy is holding its ground after the Air Force released guidelines this week that discourage public prayer at some official functions servicewide.”

—*The Washington Times*, September 1, 2005, p.A3



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