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Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship Him. Matthew 2:1, 2

From The President's Desk

"Jesus Christ, whose birthday is celebrated throughout the world this month, has had a greater impact on human history than any person who ever lived. Though he died at the age of 33, the year in which we live is dated from his birth. Though he lived in an obscure corner of the Roman Empire nearly 2,000 years ago, more than one billion people today call themselves followers of Christ. Though he never wrote a book, tens of thousand of books have been written about his life and teachings.

"Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem, a town in Roman-occupied Palestine, around 4 B.C. After a flight into Egypt to escape the murderous wrath of King Herod, Jesus returned to Palestine with Mary and Joseph and grew up in the village of Nazareth, where he worked in Joseph's carpenter shop.

"At the age of 30 Jesus left Nazareth, gathered around him 12 men who became known as his apostles, and traveled throughout Palestine preaching love of God and love of neighbor and attracting followers by the thousands. He was a marvelous storyteller, illustrating his teachings with examples and parables about persons, places, and things that were familiar to his listeners. Christ's parables (e.g. The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son) are often cited even by non-Christians as literary and moral masterpieces for their simple yet profound messages.

"The core of Jesus' moral code was love, not only of God and neighbor, but even of enemies

because 'this will prove that you are sons of your heavenly Father, for his sun rises on the bad and the good.' He adhered to this difficult standard himself on the cross by asking forgiveness for those who had crucified him.

"Jesus urged his followers personally to help those in need – the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the imprisoned-saying that whatever they did 'for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.' He asked them to forgive the faults of others and laid down the Golden Rule: 'Treat others the way you would have them treat you.' He forbade murder and adultery, anger and hatred, and encouraged prayer and fasting and sacrifice, saying that 'if a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and follow in my steps.'

"Thousands of people were drawn to Jesus by his tenderness and compassion for the sick and the suffering ('Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you') by his mercy and forgiveness toward sinners, (Jesus said, 'People who are healthy do not need a doctor; sick people do'), and by his courage and fearlessness (He chased the money changers out of the temple and condemned the hypocrisy of the Scribes and Pharisees, calling them 'white-washed tombs – beautiful to look at on the outside but inside full of filth and dead men's bones.').

"The Pharisees, angry at Jesus' criticism of them and jealous of the crowds that followed him, sent clever men out to question Jesus while he was speaking in the hope of tripping him up. But he confounded them time and again, as when they asked him if it was lawful to pay taxes to the hated Romans, and he replied: 'Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, but give to God what is God's.' Or when they asked if a woman caught in adultery should be stoned to death, and Christ said: 'Let the man among you who has no sin be the first to cast a stone at her.'

"But Christians throughout the world believe that Jesus was more than just a good and holy man; they believe that he was the Son of God, the Messiah promised in the Old Testament. As evidence of their belief, Christians cite the fulfillments in Jesus of Old Testament prophecies regarding the place and circumstances of the Messiah's birth, the betrayal and suffering he endured, and the manner of his death.

"But the most convincing evidence of Jesus' claim to be God was the spectacular miracles he performed before hundreds and even thousands of eyewitnesses ('These very works which I perform testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me.'). He changed water into wine; cured the blind, deaf and lame; exorcised demons from people; fed thousands with only a few loaves of bread and fishes; and raised three people from the dead, including his friend Lazarus.

"The raising of Lazarus four days after he had died was the last straw as far as the chief priests and Pharisees were concerned and they wove a plot to kill Jesus, getting unexpected help from one of Christ's own disciples, Judas, who was willing to betray his master for 30

pieces of silver. Jesus was arrested late at night, put through the mockery of a trial, beaten and tortured, and then put to death on the orders of Pontius Pilate.

"The followers of Jesus thought they had seen the last of him when his body was taken down from the cross and placed in a borrowed grave outside Jerusalem nearly 2,000 years ago. But, three days later, the tomb was found to be empty and more than a dozen people reported having seen Jesus alive that Sunday. Over the next 40 days, Jesus was seen in different places at different times by small groups of people and by large groups, including a crowd of 500. On the 40th day, according to reliable eyewitness accounts, he gave his disciples their final instructions, to carry his teachings 'to the ends of the earth,' and then rose up into the heavens, not to return until the end of the world.

"Whatever attitude people hold toward Jesus Christ, whether they believe him to be God or not, there is no question that if his teachings were followed faithfully by everyone, the world would be a better and more peaceful place to live."

The above summary of our Lord's birth and life was written by James J. Drummey and first published in *The Review of the News*.



Month In Review



Merry Christmas

Q "And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth.

"To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

"And the angel came unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

"And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

"And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favor with God.

"And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

"He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

"And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

—Luke 1:26-33

Q "Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness.
Drive the dark of doubt away:
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day."

—Henry van Dyke (1852-1933)

Q "This Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, he shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars. He spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet, without writing a single line. He set more pens in motion, and furnished them far more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs or praise, than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times."

—Philip Schaff, historian

Q "In the United States of America, our traditional, Western, Judeo-Christian culture is collapsing. It is not collapsing because it failed. On the contrary, it has given us the freest and most prosperous society in human history. Rather, it is collapsing because we are abandoning it.

"Starting in the mid-1960's, we have thrown away the values, morals, and standards that define traditional Western culture. In part, this has been driven by cultural radicals, people who hate our Judeo-Christian culture. Dominant in the elite, especially in the universities, the media, and the entertainment industry (now the most powerful force in our culture and a

source of endless degradation), the cultural radicals have successfully pushed an agenda of moral relativism, militant secularism, and sexual and social 'liberation.' This agenda has slowly codified into a new ideology, usually known as 'multiculturalism' or 'political correctness,' that is in essence Marxism translated from economic into social and cultural terms.

"This new, cultural Marxism has had remarkable success in discrediting America's common culture and substituting for it cultural fragmentation based on ethnic groups, gender, sexual identity, and class. If this trend continues, Americans will increasingly find they have less in common with each other as Americans. National identity will weaken. Other, mutually hostile identities will strengthen, until the nation comes apart: region vs. region, minority vs. minority, and gang vs. gang. When a nation comes apart at its cultural seams, eventually it turns on itself and fights."

—William S. Lind, John F. Schmitt, Gary I. Wilson, *Marine Corps Gazette*, December 1994, p. 37.

Q "Previous civilizations have been overthrown from without by the incursion of barbarian hordes. Christendom has dreamed up its own dissolution in the minds of its own intellectual elite. Our barbarians are home products, indoctrinated at the public expense, urged on by the media systematically stage by stage, dismantling Christendom, depreciating and deprecating all its values. The whole social structure is now tumbling down, dethroning its God, undermining all its certainties. All this, wonderfully enough, is being done in the name of the health, wealth, and happiness of all mankind. That is the basic scene that seems to me will strike a future Gibbon as being characteristic of the decline and fall of Christendom."

—Malcolm Muggeridge, *The End of Christendom*, p. 17,18

Q "Since September 11, we've been invoking god more than a Baptist preacher in a Sunday sermon. Irving Berlin's love song to his adopted land has climbed to the top of the charts.

"For most of our history, Americans believed there was a direct correlation between our conduct as a people and our fate as a nation.

"George Washington observed, 'The propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which heaven itself has ordained.'

"We implore God to bless America – to bestow His blessings on us collectively. And yet,

when planes aren't crashing into buildings, as a nation we tend to ignore Him, or to treat His laws as the archaic prescriptions of a monarch long dead.

"Approximately 6,000 died in the World Trade Center, and the nation mourned. Roughly 4,000 die in abortion clinics each day – medical terrorism conducted in the name of choice. Except for much-abused right-to-lifers, no one gives a darn.

"One state condones doctor-assisted suicide. Several have legalized medical marijuana. Vermont has put homosexual unions on the same plane as that honorable estate instituted of God. Some Internet sites make Sodom seem wholesome.

"Our courts and cultural elite have told God He isn't welcome in our communal house.

"We've banished Him from classrooms, school commencements, even high school sports events. In public schools, t-shirts with obscenities are OK, but the Ten Commandments are banned.

"The ACLU has waged a successful jihad against the public display of crèches and menorahs. Instead of God hiding His face from us, we hide from Him. Out of embarrassment, perhaps?

"Ah, but we're a secular nation, liberals say. Church and state must be separate. Taking God seriously is a threat to our liberties. Well and good. But don't go running to God in times of trouble, when the horror of chemical or biological warfare looms.

" 'America the Beautiful,' another song much in vogue these days, calls for Heaven's favor ('God shed His grace on thee'). But it also asks the Master of the Universe to make us worthy of His blessings. "America! America! God mend thine every flaw, confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.'

"God blessed the nation that acknowledges Him." (Ps. 32:12)

—Don Feder, *Human Events*, October 15, 2001 p. 9

Q "Somewhere on the Earth, on average every 12 seconds, a child dies of DDT-preventable malaria. The United States National Academy of Sciences estimated that DDT saved 500 million lives before it was banned. The discoverer of DDT was awarded the Nobel Prize.

"Then came *Silent Spring*— a book filled with deliberate falsehoods and blatantly marketed unreasoning and unjustified fear. The burgeoning enviro movement chose these lies for one of their first big campaigns. This campaign coincided with the rise of the United States

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA was in search of a big win with which to promote itself. "The EPA studied the subject and its own scientific review board reported that — DDT is harmless to the environment and is a very beneficial substance that should not be banned.

"Politics prevailed, however, over reason. DDT was banned, and the U.S. government spread that ban throughout the world by tying it to all sorts of international programs.

"The result: Malaria, which was well on the way to control and eradication, now afflicts 250 million adults and kills about 3 million children per year. The deaths of children alone make this the most heinous act of technological genocide the world has ever known. It is the second-most extensive overall act of genocide— surpassed only by the reigns of terror under Communism in Red China.

"Many enviros have spoken of this openly as a 'population control measure.' *The Wall Street Journal* has been more blunt, with its references to white males deciding to kill black, brown, and yellow babies.

"Yet, the killing goes on—and on—and on.

"We are delighted to see, therefore, a resurgence of interest in this subject among conservative political organizations. See, for example, *CEI On Point*, February 23, 2001, published by the Competitive Enterprise Institute, 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 1250, Washington, DC 20036, and 'DDT and Malaria' by Dr. Jane Orient, *Environment and Climate News*, April 2001, p 11, available from 19 South LaSalle Street, Suite 903, Chicago, IL 60603.

"While the EPA is riddled with the worst politicians in our country, and the new director certainly does not inspire confidence, it is clear that, for the first time in many years, these forgotten children of the Third World may have a chance. President Bush has already overruled his EPA director once (on global warming).

"The enviro propaganda effort against DDT has been so vicious that, if the DDT ban were reversed, the entire enviro movement would be in danger of collapse. Reversal is difficult because DDT has been so completely demonized. There is, however, now a chance.

"*Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson, the book that spearheaded the demonization of DDT, was dedicated to Albert Schweitzer, whom Carson quoted as saying 'Man has lost the capacity to foresee and to forestall. He will end by destroying the Earth.' This was falsely presented to Carson's readers as Albert Schweitzer's concern about DDT.

"The first research paper I ever wrote, reporting work done as an undergraduate at Caltech,

was Robinson, A. B., Manly, K. F., Anthony, M. P., Catchpool, J. F., and Pauling, L. (1965) *Science* **149**, pp 1255-1258. Before coming to Caltech, Frank Catchpool had been chief physician for Albert Schweitzer in his famous hospital at Lambarene.

"Frank told me that practicing medicine there was unusual in that virtually everyone, including the nurses, had malaria. The nurses could not work during severe malarial episodes. Diagnosing patients was more difficult because the physician had to detect the symptoms of other diseases - usually in the presence of the symptoms of malaria.

"The quotation in *Silent Spring*, however, was about Schweitzer's fear of nuclear weapons. Of malaria, Schweitzer actually said, 'How much labor and waste of time these wicked insects do cause us. . . but a ray of hope, in the use of DDT, is now held out to us.'

"For the past generation, since the destruction of that hope by the EPA, the scourge of malaria has killed over 50 million children and kept about 250 million adults in bondage to disease. "Our new President has many concerns and distractions. Unlike his predecessor, however, he is a decent and well-meaning human being. If this resurgence of interest in DDT among conservative political organizations should grow and spread, perhaps the truth will reach the President with enough force to cause him to understand this issue and once again overrule the EPA. Another child's life—every 12 seconds—depends upon it."

—*Access to Energy*, March 2001, p. 3

Q "Ask Westerners about Osama bin Laden and you'll hear how marginal he is. American specialists on Islam tell us that 'Osama bin Laden is to Islam like Timothy McVeigh is to Christianity' (according to Mark Juergensmeyer of the University of California). Karen Armstrong, author of a best-selling book about Islam, reports that the 'vast majority of Muslims . . . are horrified by the atrocity of Sept. 11.' President George W. Bush says bin Laden represents a 'fringe form of Islamic extremism . . . rejected by Muslim scholars and the vast majority of Muslim clerics.'

"Evidence from the Muslim world suggests otherwise. With the exception of one government-staged anti-bin Laden demonstration in Pakistan and very few prominent Islamic scholars, hardly anyone publicly denounces him. The only Islamic scholar in Egypt who unreservedly condemns the Sept. 11 suicide operations admits he is completely isolated. American officials are still waiting for Muslim politicians to speak up. 'It'd be nice if some leaders came out and said that the idea the U.S. is targeting Islam is absurd,' notes one U.S. diplomat.

"They do not because the Muslim world is bursting with adulation for the Saudi militant. 'Long live bin Laden' shouted 5,000 demonstrators in the southern Philippines. In Pakistan,

bin Laden's face sells merchandise and massive street rallies leave two persons dead. Ten thousand march in the capitals of Bangladesh and Indonesia. In northern Nigeria, bin Laden has (according to Reuters) 'achieved iconic status' and his partisans set off religious riots leading to 200 deaths. Pro-bin Laden demonstrations took place even in Mecca, where overt political activism is unheard of.

"Everywhere, *The Washington Post* reports, Muslims cheer bin Laden on 'with almost a single voice.' The Internet buzzes with odes to him as a man 'of solid faith and power of will.' A Saudi explains that 'Osama is a very, very, very, very good Muslim.' A Kenyan adds: 'Every Muslim is Osama bin Laden.' 'Osama is not an individual, but a name of a holy war,' reads a banner in Kashmir. In perhaps the most extravagant statement, one Pakistani declared that 'bin Laden is Islam, He represents Islam.' In France, Muslim youths chant bin Laden's name as they throw rocks at non-Muslims.

"Palestinians are especially enamored. According to Hussam Khadir, a member of Yasser Arafat's Fatah Party, 'bin Laden today is the most popular figure in the West Bank and Gaza, second only to Arafat.' A 10-year-old girl announces that she loves him like a father. Nor is she alone. 'Everybody loves Osama bin Laden at this time. He is the most righteous man in the whole world,' declares a Palestinian woman. A Palestinian Authority policeman calls him 'the greatest man in the world . . . our Messiah' even as he (reluctantly) disperses students who march in solidarity with the Saudi.

"Survey research helps understand these sentiments. In the Palestinian Authority, a Bir Zeit poll found that 26 percent of Palestinians consider the Sept. 11 attacks consistent with Islamic law. In Pakistan, a Gallup found a nearly identical 24 percent reaching this conclusion.

"Even those who consider the attacks on Sept. 11 an act of terrorism (64 percent of both Palestinians and Pakistanis) show respect for these acts of political defiance and technical prowess. 'Of course we're upset that so many died in New York. But at the same time, we're in awe of what happened,' said a young Cairene woman.

"An online survey of Indonesians found 50 percent seeing bin Laden as a 'justice fighter' and 35 percent a terrorist. More broadly, I estimate that bin Laden enjoys the emotional support of half the Muslim world.

"That America's politicians and experts on Islam insist on seeing bin Laden as an isolated McVeigh-like figure is worrisome; they miss the danger that bin Laden's militant Islam poses to existing governments – perhaps their greatest challenge of recent times. Their fear of him goes far to explain why the authorities so heavily discourage pro-bin Laden sentiments (forbidding posters of him, arresting militant Islamic leaders, blocking street gatherings, closing schools and universities, patrolling streets with loaded machine guns and even shooting demonstrators).

"The wide and deep Muslim enthusiasm for bin Laden is an extremely important development that needs to be understood, not ignored."

—Daniel Pipes, *The Washington Times*, October 25, 2001, p. A23

Q "CIA Director George Tenet, whose agency failed to predict or stop the cold-blooded murder of more than 6000 innocent Americans, holds the dubious distinction of being the first CIA director to preside at a 'Gay Pride Day' at the agency. There's no indication that Tenet himself is gay, but the event which took place at the agency on June 6th, 2000 was extraordinary and demonstrates the misplaced priorities at the CIA. Tenet welcomed openly homosexual Rep. Barney Frank to the affair, telling the congressman that the agency is 'recruiting very actively' in the homosexual community . . ."

Q God Will Not Be Mocked

"A group called the 'Agency Network of Gay and Lesbian Employees' exists at the CIA. It was reported that the 'Gay Pride' event drew about 100 homosexual employees from the CIA and the National Security Agency. Ironically, Frank gave a speech at the event, saying he was a 'strong supporter' of the CIA and wanted them 'to catch terrorists.' "

—Howard Phillips, *Issues and Strategy Bulletin*, October 15, 2001

Q "Since the Sept. 11 attacks, First Lady Laura Bush has tried to help bring healing to the nation and reassure children. But one 'healing' event threatened the picture of apolitical unity and left conservatives scratching their heads about White House political savvy.

"The First Lady's press office announced that on Oct. 11, Mrs. Bush would 'participate in the launch of the second annual "Close the Book on Hate" campaign' sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League and the Barnes and Noble bookstore chain. The ADL's focus on 'hate' encompasses not only real hate, such as racism, anti-Semitism, and scapegoating of Arab-Americans, but also classifies as hateful those who object to the homosexual political agenda. The ADL's list of 'National Allies of Close the Book on Hate' includes the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the Human Rights Campaign, and Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

"Asked whether the First Lady's staff knew the campaign included liberal gay activists, press aide Ashleigh Adams said, 'Yes. When you see the reading list, you'll see this is just what it says it is, closing the book on hate.' But the ADL's reading list includes several infamous pro-homosexuality books for children (*Heather Has Two Mommies, Daddy's Roommate*), homosexual books for teens (*Two Teenagers in Twenty: Writings by Gay and Lesbian Youth*), as well as adult tomes (*Overcoming Heterosexism and Homophobia*).

"Mrs. Bush agreed to sit with schoolchildren in the Georgetown branch of Barnes & Noble and read from the children's book *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman, in which a young girl named Grace refuses to accept that she can't play Peter Pan because she's black. Noelia Rodriguez, Mrs. Bush's press secretary, insisted, 'She's not trying to send a political message. She's emphasizing the need for all of us to come together as Americans to get through this terrible tragedy and heal together, especially the children.'

"But Susan Lapin of the Jewish group Toward Tradition has criticized the Barnes & Noble/ADL effort, especially the inclusion of gay propaganda like *Heather Has Two Mommies* on the reading list. 'By adding this tome to a list of books decrying hatred, Barnes & Noble is making a de facto statement that those who object to the premise of this book must themselves be haters.'"

—*World* magazine, October 20, 2001, p. 7

Q "The Romanian government issued a statement Oct. 1 praising President Bush's openly gay U.S. ambassador to Romania after conservative political groups in the U.S. and Romania criticized the president's decision to appoint a gay person to the diplomatic post.

"The anti-gay Family Research Council and three other U.S. religious right groups joined the Romanian Cradle Union and the League for Combating Anti-Romanian Manifestations, both based in Bucharest, in denouncing Bush's appointment of gay foreign service officer Michael Guest to the ambassadorial post in Bucharest.

" 'The Romanian authorities greeted Mr. Guest's presence in Romania as the representative of the greatest democracy in the world,' said a statement released Monday, Oct. 1 by the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The statement praises Guest for 'his excellent and well-known professional capability as an expert in NATO issues, his outstanding knowledge of Central and Eastern Europe, and, last but not least, his friendly attitude towards Romania and its people.'

"Guest assumed his duties as ambassador Sept. 18 when Secretary of State Colin Powell administered the oath of office at a State Department swearing-in ceremony. Powell

recognized Guest's parents and domestic partner of six years, school teacher Alex Navarez, as they stood beside Guest during the ceremony. Powell also noted during the ceremony that Navarez would be joining Guest in Bucharest. A State Department official said Guest departed by plane for Romania on September 25.

"Bush nominated Guest for the ambassadorial post in June, and the Senate approved the nomination by unanimous voice vote in August."

—Lou Chibbaro, Jr., *The Washington Blade*, October 5, 2001

Q "The attack [of September 11th] was successful primarily because Americans did not take seriously the words and actions of religious fanatics: much written in the Arab press, sermons by radical Islamic clerics, published interpretations of the Koran and Islamic law, various terrorist acts, including the assault on the U.S.S. Cole and the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. In all of these, the fanatics didn't just telegraph what was coming; they shouted their intentions."

—Cal Thomas, *The Washington Times*, October 3, 2001, p. A17

Q "Historian Paul Johnson worries that 'creeping appeasement' will weaken our national resolve and make us vulnerable to future such attacks. 'One central reason why appeasement is so tempting to Western governments is that attacking terrorism at its roots necessarily involves conflict with the second largest religious community in the world,' Johnson writes in the Oct. 15 *National Review*. The word 'Islam,' he notes, does not mean 'peace' but 'submission.' Johnson calls Islam 'an imperialist religion, more so than Christianity has ever been, and in contrast to Judaism.'

"Reading selected verses from the Koran in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks is instructive. Sura 5, verse 85 prophesies an inevitable conflict between Muslims and non-Muslims: 'Strongest among men in enmity to the Believers wilt thou find the Jews and Pagans.' Sura 9, verse 5 adds, 'Then fight and slay the pagans wherever you find them. And seize them, beleaguer them and lie in wait for them, in every stratagem (of war).' The Koran insists that no matter how mighty a nation is, it must be fought 'until they embrace Islam.' "

—Cal Thomas, *The Washington Times*, October 3, 2001, p. A17

Q "My name is H.F. I was a student (session 5) at the Summit this past summer. I cannot even begin to tell you how much the information and the invaluable teaching that I received has helped me, even now – nearly three months later! I work at the public library here in Cincinnati, Ohio, and I am one of two Christians there. Because of the instruction at the Summit, I am now able to really enjoy getting into deep discussions with my coworkers about controversial issues such as abortion, stem cell research, big government, domestic oil drilling, homosexuality, atheism, relativism, and so many other topics! I have even been able to turn the discussion toward more serious questions, like life after death, salvation, and God. Because of what you and the other speakers taught me, I have been able to share the gospel with four of my coworkers.

"I am a senior in high school and am starting to apply to various colleges, now with the enthusiasm of one ready to tell the world about Christ! Summit was the best two weeks of my life, changing me forever. I am hoping to come back next summer, this time as a staff worker. I want to be able to spend more than two weeks in the environment that so drastically altered the way I think! I thank God every day for using you and the other speakers to show me His truth."

Q "I ask the Right Reverend Bullen Dolli, an Episcopal Bishop in Sudan, what he believes about the nature and intent of contemporary Islam. 'It is a militant religion,' he tells me and laughs at those who serve as its character witnesses.

"Dolli was in Washington last week at the investigation of the Institute on Religion and Democracy. He attempted to warn Congress and anyone else who would listen of the dangers to his country and the United States posed by Islam, especially in its militant form.

"In Sudan, says Dolli, the coercive instruments of the state use brutal force to ensure that no other religion but Islam is practiced. The congregation of All Saints Cathedral in Khartoum, a peaceful assembly of Christians, was recently disbanded and many members were arrested, tried in kangaroo courts and either imprisoned or punished by caning.

"Dolli says former Sudanese President Sadiq el-Mahdi has prophesied that by 2010, the world will be dominated by Islam. His prophecy is written in Sudanese school textbooks.

"In Sudan, says Dolli, many Christian church buildings have been either bulldozed or bombed from the air. Non-Muslims suffer persecution in employment, and all women, whether Muslim or not, are forced to wear the black chador and veil. The government army has been renamed 'Jundy Allah' (the Army of Allah) and they fight jihad against those in Southern Sudan and non-militant Moslems.

"Slavery continues to be practiced by the murahaleen, members of government-backed militias who regularly conduct raids against Christians in Southern Sudan. The murahaleen have killed thousands, enslaved children and young women, stolen cattle, plundered and burned food stores and crops and are reported by various human rights organizations to have raped both men and women.

"More than 2 million Sudanese civilians are estimated to have died since 1983 as a result of the continuing warfare, according to the IRD. Many millions more have been forced to flee their homes. Dolli says radical Islam's goal is to dominate the entire African continent with its militant, oppressive, dangerous and increasingly popular brand of religion. So-called 'Islamic moderates,' in the bishop's view, are among the first targeted for extermination by the extremists, even before they go after Jews and Christians.

"If Sudan is too far away to worry about, is Potomac, Md., close enough? *The Washington Post's* Marc Fisher recently visited a Muslim school in that D.C. suburb. What he found ought to send chills up every American spine. An eighth-grader told Fisher: 'If I had to choose sides, I'd stay with being Muslim. Being an American means nothing to me. I'm not even proud of telling my cousins in Pakistan that I'm American.'

"The school principal said: 'Allegiance to national authority is one thing, but the one who gives us life is more entitled to that authority. This is the story of religion through all time. When national laws and values go counter to what the Creator believes, we are 100 percent against it.'

"When Christians, Jews and those of most other faiths disagree with the American government, they have worked within the system to change it, or in extreme cases (as with Martin Luther King Jr.) have been willing to suffer government's punishment for violating our laws for a nobler purpose. It is different with militant Islam, which seeks to dominate the nation in which it grows and, when in control, diminishes the rights of all who disagree.

"Don't think so? Is there a country controlled by Islamic militants that guarantees equal rights for all? Why are we allowing Muslim schools in this country to promote ideas that are seditious? Bishop Dolli knows better. Why don't the rest of us, especially after Sept. 11?

—Cal Thomas, *The [Colorado Springs] Gazette*, October 27, 2001, p. M 7

Q "Perhaps one of the best-known promises of a conditional blessing is found in 2 Chronicles, 7:14, which says, 'If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land.'

"But what has our country done recently to merit God's blessings? Let's see where we stack up on the 'if' side of the equation.

- We have kicked God out of our schools, graduation ceremonies, high school football games and every aspect of public life, rejecting the very blessing we now seek, while standing the First Amendment on its head.
- We allow the Third Commandment to be continually transgressed, incessantly taking God's name in vain in our society with no condemnation.
- We have allowed the killing of 40 million unborn babies, mostly for convenience and practically, never for medical reasons, ignoring the Sixth Commandment.
- We have become a nation obsessed with sex. We have consigned the Seventh Commandment to the trash heap of history, replacing it with sexual promiscuity and perversion.

"Both heterosexual and homosexual transgressions are commonplace in today's culture. We accept what God calls detestable.

- We stood idly by while the nation's past highest officeholder flagrantly disregarded the Ninth Commandment, giving false testimony.

"Is this the type of behavior we are expecting God to bless? The question is not if God is on our side; it's if we are on God's side.

"There are two basic world views, anthropocentric (human-centered) and theocentric (God-centered).

"In the anthropocentric world view, which has dominated our nation for the past 40 years, the focus is on materialism.

"There is no need for God's blessing because mankind is considered basically good, and getting better.

"In the theocentric world view, mankind is basically evil, and needs direction and salvation. He is very much in need of God's blessing and protection.

"Mathew 6:33 says, 'But seek first His kingdom, and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'

"As America prepares to go to war against terrorism, we must first get our own spiritual house in order. If we really expect God to once again bless our land, America must truly repent.

"I fear that if we fail to do so, we will fare no better than the Israelites in Joshua, Chapter 7.

"And as for who said national sins are punished by national calamities it was George Mason, on Aug. 22, 1787.

"It was preceded by his comment that "Every master of slaves is born a petty tyrant. They bring the judgment of heaven upon a country.'

"Thus George Mason unknowingly predicted the Civil War."

—Bill Wheaton, *The Fairfax Journal*, October 5, 2001, p A4

