



The JOURNAL

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“Justice executed is a joy to the righteous but a terror to those who practice iniquity.”

—Proverbs 21:15

MONTH IN REVIEW

❑ “The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity; to give prudence to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion—a wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, to understand a proverb and an enigma, the words of the wise and their riddles; the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

—Proverbs 1:1-7

❑ “I do not see how we could have come to know the greatness of God without that hint furnished by the greatness of the material universe.”

—C.S. Lewis, *God in the Dock*, p. 42

❑ “It is not Christianity which need fear the giant universe. It is those systems which place the whole meaning of existence in biological or social evolution on our own planet. It is the creative evolutionist, the Bergsonian or Shavian, or the Communist, who should tremble when he looks up at the night sky. For he really is committed to a sinking ship. He really is attempting to ignore the discovered nature of things, as though by concentrating on the possibly upward trend in a single planet he could make himself forget the inevitable downward trend in the universe as a whole, the trend to low temperatures and irrevocable disorganization. For entropy is the real cosmic wave, and evolution only a momentary tellurian ripple within it.”

—C.S. Lewis, *Ibid.*, p. 44

❑ “In other words, wherever there is real progress in knowledge, there is some knowledge that is not superseded. Indeed, the very possibility of progress demands that there should be an unchanging element. New bottles for new wine, by all means: but not new palates, throats and stomachs, or it would not be, for us, ‘wine’ at all. I take it we should all agree to find this sort of unchanging element in the simple rules of mathematics. I would add to these the primary principles of morality. And I would also add the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. To put it in rather more technical language, I claim that the positive historical statements made by Christianity have the power, elsewhere found chiefly in formal principles, of receiving, without intrinsic change, the increasing complexity of meaning which increasing knowledge puts into them.”

—C.S. Lewis, *Ibid.*, p. 45

❑ “Black liberation theology has its roots in the racial turmoil of the 1960s and 1970s. Although [Rev. Jeremiah Wright] wants us to think that black liberation theology is the typical message of black churches, many black pastors view it as a misguided if not an aberrant form of Christianity. The main theme is not freedom from man’s sin by salvation in Christ, but the black struggle for freedom from the oppression of whites.

“Historical, orthodox Christian beliefs are redefined in black liberation theology. For example, the words ‘Christ,’ ‘salvation’ and ‘gospel’ are all the same, but the emphasis is the black experi-

ence of deliverance from slavery and ongoing deliverance from political, economic and social oppression by whites. Whites are often portrayed as the real demonic forces of this age. Traditional biblical Christianity is dismissed as an irrelevant, oppressive white man’s religion.”

—Ed Sherwood, *The Washington Times*, May 2, 2008, p. A23

❑ “Rev. Wright claims Mr. [James] Cone to be a spiritual mentor and a modern-day prophet upon whom the teachings of Rev. Wright and Mr. Obama’s church are based. Mr. Cone wrote: ‘It is important to make a further distinction here among black hatred, black racism, and black Power. Black hatred is the black man’s strong aversion to white society. No black man living in white America can escape it. ...But the charge of black racism cannot be reconciled with the facts. While it is true that blacks do hate whites, black hatred is not racism.’ (*Black Theology and Black Power*, pp.14-16).

“Black liberation theology does not seek unity among the races—especially with whites. In seeking equal standing for blacks, black liberation theology sets blacks against whites and so inflames black resentment against whites that unity is all but out of reach. Technically, it is not racist in that it does not claim blacks are superior. But in practice, when black liberation theology’s pastors speak truth to power, that ‘truth’ is filled with the same arrogance, hate, vengeance, and divisiveness used by some whites to wrongly target blacks. It puts a new twist on ‘separate, but equal.’ Mr. Cone says that all whites are ‘white oppressors’ responsible for black oppression and white racism.”

—Ed Sherwood, *Ibid.*

— UPCOMING EVENTS —

SUMMIT SPEAKERS IN YOUR AREA

Dr. David Noebel

Nov. 7-8, National Apologetics Conference, Charlotte, NC

Jan. 8-18, Summit Australia

March 1-6, 2009, Summit Adult/Educator’s Conference, Glen Eyrie, Colorado Springs, CO

John Stonestreet

Aug. 5, Tucson Teacher Rally, Tucson, AZ

Aug. 6, Mesa Hills Bible Church, Colorado Springs, CO

Aug. 11-12, Mitchell Christian School, Sioux Falls, SD

Aug. 19-20, Teacher/Parent Workshop, SW Christian High School, Chaska, MN

Aug. 21-22, West Suburban Christian School, Waukesha, WI

Aug. 25-26, Wheaton Christian School, Wheaton, IL

Oct. 2-3, ACSI Bible CEU Course, Colorado Springs, CO

Oct. 16-17, ACSI Bible CEU Course, Minneapolis, MN

Nov. 6-7, ACSI Bible CEU Course, Phoenix, AZ

Nov. 8, Adult Worldview Seminar, Christ Community Church, Tucson, AZ

Nov. 17-21, YWAM Discipleship Training, Mazatlan, Mexico

SUMMER PROGRAM DATES

There is still time to attend one of our two week sessions in Colorado. Go to www.summit.org for complete details and to download a student application.

□ “The church where Sen. Barack Obama has worshipped for two decades publicly declares that its ministry is founded on a 1960s book that espouses ‘the destruction of the white enemy.’

“Trinity United Church of Christ’s Web site says its teachings are based on the black liberation theology of James H. Cone and his 1969 book *Black Theology and Black Power*.

“‘What we need is the divine love as expressed in *Black Power*, which is the power of black people to destroy their oppressors here and now by any means at their disposal. Unless God is participating in this holy activity, we must reject his love,’ Mr. Cone wrote in the book.

“Mr. Cone, a professor at the Union Theological Seminary in New York, added that ‘black theology will accept only the love of God which participates in the destruction of the white enemy.’

“Mr. Obama’s campaign, which for weeks has weathered criticism about inflammatory racial language by the Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr. at Trinity, said the candidate ‘vehemently disagrees’ with those tenets.

“‘It’s absurd to suggest that he or anyone should be held responsible for every quote in every book read by a member of their church,’ said Obama spokesman Reid Cherlin.

“‘Barack Obama is not a theologian, and what he learned in church is to love Jesus Christ and work on behalf of his fellow man, regardless of race, class or circumstance. This is a faulty and disingenuous approach to a church, and a flawed way to judge a candidate,’ he said.

“Mr. Obama has been a member of Trinity, on Chicago’s South Side, since finding religion there 20 years ago under Mr. Wright’s mentorship. Mr. Wright married the Obamas and baptized their children, and a sermon of his inspired Mr. Obama to title his book *The Audacity of Hope*.

“There is no evidence to date in any of Mr. Obama’s public comments or speeches that he espouses the radical features of the black liberation theology practiced at his church.

“Critics say Trinity’s message verges on separatist philosophy and at the very least advocates exclusively for blacks.

“‘The liberation theology and the black-values system to which his membership ascribe is a clear commitment to the social and spiritual enhancement of only the black race,’ the Rev. Corey J. Hodges, who is black, wrote last year in the *Salt Lake Tribune*. ‘Even more troubling is Wright’s use of the pulpit to perpetuate racial division.’

“For years, Mr. Wright delivered sermons and endorsed articles in the church bulletin that called the United States and Israel racist regimes.

“The bulletin’s ‘pastor’s page’ included essays that said Israel and South Africa ‘worked on an ethnic bomb that kills blacks and Arabs,’ compared Israel to Nazi Germany and quoted leaders of the terrorist group Hamas calling Israel a ‘deformed modern apartheid state.’

“In a bulletin last year, Mr. Wright lashed out at the news media for scrutinizing the church, blaming ‘racist United States of America’ and ‘white arrogance’ for distracting the country from more important issues, such as the Iraq war and Hurricane Katrina victims.

“The church declined to comment for this article, but the Rev. Otis Moss III, the church’s junior pastor, who took over for Mr.

Wright, wrote in the bulletin in October that media conglomerates ‘operate with contempt and disdain for the black community, women, and people of the African Diaspora.’

“Conrad Worrill, a leader of the Chicago-based National Black United Front, said attention directed at Trinity United demonstrates that racist attitudes persist in the United States.

“‘Even if [Mr. Obama] did support some of the tenets of some of the ideas embedded in that theology, I still don’t think it has anything to do with his vision and his candidacy,’ said Mr. Worrill, whose organization promotes black political and cultural education and activism.

“‘I think most black people would agree that what Jeremiah Wright said is the truth....What we see playing out on the public stage is how black people still see America and the world and how white people cannot see the truth. It has nothing to do with Barack Obama.’”

—S.A. Miller, *The Washington Times*, April 1, 2008, p. 8

□ Editor’s Note: The Rev. Jeremiah Wright’s spiritual mentor is James H. Cone of the Union Theological Seminary, New York. His books *For My People: Black Theology and the Black Church*, *My Soul Looks Back*, *Black Theology: A Documentary History*, and *A Black Theology of Liberation* were all published by Orbis Books, the publishing arm of the Maryknoll Fathers—the most radical, leftwing Roman Catholic order. Maryknoll makes the Jesuits appear conservative by comparison.

□ “The modern American origins of contemporary black liberation theology can be traced to July 31, 1966, when an ad hoc group of 51 black pastors, calling themselves the National Committee of Negro Churchmen (NCNC), bought a full page ad in the New York Times to publish their ‘Black Power Statement,’ which proposed a more aggressive approach to combating racism using the Bible for inspiration.

“James Cone and Dwight Hopkins are considered the leading theologians of this system of belief, although now there are many scholars who have contributed a great deal to the field. It was Cone who in 1969 published the seminal work that systemized black liberation theology, *Black Theology and Black Power* (1969). In the book, Cone asserted that not only was black power not alien to the Gospel, it was, in fact, the Gospel message for all of 20th century America.

“James Cone defines the theology as thus:

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From the President's Desk

Dr. David A. Noebel

In May I asked you to help us by recommending Summit's two-week leadership conferences to high school seniors or college students you know. Now it's July, and we're halfway through with only a few more sessions available. But it's not too late to send a worthy student or two our way. Like the Marines, we're always looking for key young men and women with leadership potential. The ones we're looking for, however, want to prepare themselves to meet the unique challenges of our times and are not ashamed of Christ and His Gospel.

And these are indeed trying times! But the Bible tells us not only to understand the times, but also to know what to do. With the virus of atheism rampantly infecting our university campuses, Christian young people need more than a Sunday school lesson to recognize it and immunize themselves against it. Summit Ministries is here to help! We want Christian young people—our future leaders—to obtain the best education imaginable and be prepared to take their stand for Christ un intimidated by the likes of Dawkins, Hitchens, Singer, and Harris.

Last month I recommended books by Aikman, Berlinski, Day, and Lennox that effectively expose the weaknesses in atheistic arguments against God. In addition to their works, I want to alert you to Albert Mohler's brand new book entitled *Atheism Remix* that likewise answers the charges of Dawkins, Hitchens, et al. Thankfully, there is no lack of solid material available to prepare young people to handle the atheists' arguments—as long as they know where to find it. Again, this is what Summit Ministries is all about.

Let me mention a couple of other first-rate educational opportunities I don't want you to miss. First, be sure you and your teenagers see Ben Stein's film "Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed." This film is driving the Secular Humanists absolutely

"out of their reasoning abilities," which is amusing to see for a change. I told Paul Kurtz, editor of *Free Inquiry* magazine, that now he may have greater empathy for how we feel when Al Gore's film on [the nonexistence of] global warming is required material in public classrooms. (Of course, "global warming" is now called "climate change" since there's been no warming for ten years, and its nonexistence is predicted for another ten.)

The second opportunity I don't want you to miss is a Christian apologetics conference to be held November 7-8, 2008, in Charlotte, NC, at the Hickory Grove Baptist Church. Speakers include Chuck Colson, Josh McDowell, James Dobson, Norman Geisler, Erwin Lutzer, Del Tackett, as well as your humble editor. I encourage all Summit *Journal* readers to attend this conference hosted by Southern Evangelical Seminary, Focus on the Family, and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. You may obtain more information by calling 1-888-208-2400 or 1-336-676-1962.

I've quoted Hugh Hewitt before, but since he echoes Summit's challenge to Christian young people, I'll quote him again: "The reality for all Christians is the obligation to equip themselves for their greatest impact and to seek every opportunity to increase that impact." We firmly believe that a two-week Summit leadership conference is exactly the experience that will equip Christian teens to meet this obligation. We are privileged to have had Hugh Hewitt as one of our Summit professors during Sessions 1, 2, and 3 this summer.

Finally, please continue to pray for the right students to attend our upcoming Summit Semester (a three-month-long crash course preparing Christian young people for college) and Summit Oxford (a semester-long program in England for Christian young people currently in college or who have graduated).

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"Black theology refuses to accept a God who is not identified totally with the goals of the black community. If God is not for us and against white people, then he is a murderer, and we had better kill him. The task of black theology is to kill Gods who do not belong to the black community. ... Black theology will accept only the love of God which participates in the destruction of the white enemy. What we need is the divine love as expressed in Black Power, which is the power of black people to destroy their oppressors here and now by any means at their disposal. Unless God is participating in this holy activity, we must reject his love."

—Black Liberation Theology, Wikipedia (posted April '08)

☐ "One way to reduce illegal immigration might be to translate some of our far left publications into Spanish and give everyone

in Mexico subscriptions. After they read how terrible this country is, many may want to stay away."

—Thomas Sowell, April 21, 2008

☐ "You would never guess it listening to Sens. Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton talk, but Americans are among the happiest people on Earth.

"We are also one of only two nations in human history to make 'happiness' an explicit core of our national agenda, as economist Arthur C. Brooks points out in his new book *Gross National Happiness*. Americans did it in 1776, with a Declaration of Independence that made three rights self evident gifts from the Creator: 'Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.'

"It took 194 years for the only other nation ever to prioritize

happiness as a goal, the tiny Buddhist monarchical dictatorship of Bhutan.

“But what makes people happy? Mr. Brooks, a professor at Syracuse University, chews through the data. Twin studies suggest about half of our ‘baseline happiness’ is genetic. That leaves us with a glass half-full of things people can do or believe that will make them feel better about their lives.

“For Mr. Brooks, one of the great surprises was the enormous ‘happiness gap’ between political liberals and political conservatives that has persisted over the last 35 years. Self designated conservatives are twice as likely as liberals to say they are ‘very happy’ (44 percent to 25 percent), and only half as likely to say they are ‘not too happy’ (9 percent versus 18 percent). Conservatives are also only half as likely as liberals to say that ‘at times, I think I am no good at all.’

“Of course, conservatives are more likely to be religious and to be married, both important contributors to happiness. Religious liberals, for example, are happier than secular liberals, but neither group is nearly as happy as people who say that they are both religious and conservative. Fifty percent of religious conservatives are very happy, and just 5 percent are not too happy.

“But even if you correct for difference of religion, marriage, income, age, education and race, the conservative is 10 percentage points more likely than the liberal to report being very happy.

“Why? Mr. Brooks emphasizes that those who support abortion on demand are 9 percentage points less likely to be very happy than those who think abortion is at least sometimes wrong. ‘Premarital sex, drug use, you name it—the moral traditionalists have it all over the moral modernists when it comes to happiness,’ concludes Mr. Brooks.

“Two things (and this is my reading of Mr. Brooks’ data) make people happy: freedom and community. People are happier when they feel their actions and choices matter—to themselves and to other people.

“Conservatives are more likely to feel connected to projects larger than themselves, such as God, family, religion, and morality. Of course many liberals, especially religious liberals, share this sense of connection to larger goals and feel efficacious in bringing them about. (Hence there are about 17 million very happy liberals in this country, Mr. Brooks estimates).

“Hell is not other people. Hell is that horrible place where nothing you do can matter anymore.”

—Maggie Gallagher, *The Washington Times*, May 13, 2008, p. A17

❑ “People who want more government income redistribution programs often sell their agenda with the lament, ‘The poor are getting poorer and the rich are getting richer,’ but how about some evidence and you decide? I think the rich are getting richer, and so are the poor.

“According to the most recent census, about 35 million Americans live in poverty. Heritage Foundation scholar Robert Rector, using several government reports, gives us some insights about these people in his paper: ‘Understanding Poverty and Economic Inequality in the United States’ 1/8<http://www.heritage.org/Research/Welfare/bg1796.cfm3/8>.

“In 1971, only about 32 percent of all Americans enjoyed air

conditioning in their homes. By 2001, 76 percent of poor people had air conditioning. In 1971, only 43 percent of Americans owned a color television; 97 percent of poor people owned at least one in 2001. In 1971, microwave ovens were in 1 percent of American homes; 73 percent of poor people had one in 2001. Forty-six percent of poor households own their homes. Only about 6 percent of poor households are overcrowded. The average poor American has more living space than the average nonpoor individual living in Paris, London, Vienna, Athens and other European cities.

“Nearly three-quarters of poor households own a car; 30 percent own two or more cars. Seventy-eight percent of the poor have a VCR or DVD player; 62 percent have cable or satellite TV reception; and one-third have an automatic dishwasher.

“For the most part, long-term poverty today is self-inflicted. To see this, let’s examine some numbers from the Census Bureau’s 2004 Current Population Survey. One segment of the black population suffers only a 9.9 percent poverty rate, and only 13.7 percent of their under-5-year-olds are poor. There’s another segment of the black population that suffers a 39.5 percent poverty rate, and 58.1 percent of its under-5-year-olds are poor.

“Among whites, one population segment suffers a 6 percent poverty rate, and only 9.9 percent of its under-5-year-olds are poor. Another segment of the white population has a 26.4 percent poverty rate, and 52 percent of its under-5-year-olds are poor.

“What do you think distinguishes the high- and low- poverty populations? The only statistical distinction between both the black and white populations is marriage. There is far less poverty in married couple families, where presumably at least one of the spouses is employed. Fully 85 percent of black children living in poverty reside in a female-headed household.

“Poverty is not static for people willing to work. A University of Michigan study shows only 5 percent of those in the bottom fifth of the income distribution in 1975 remained there in 1991. What happened to them? They moved up to the top three-fifths of the income distribution—middle class or higher. Moreover, 3 in 10 of the lowest income earners in 1975 moved all the way into the top fifth of income earners by 1991. Those who were poor in 1975 had an inflation-adjusted average income gain of \$27,745 by 1991. Those workers who were in the top fifth of income earners in 1975 were better off in 1991 by an average of only \$4,354. The bottom line is: The richer are getting richer and the poorer are getting richer.

“Poverty in the United States, in an absolute sense, has virtually disappeared. Today, there’s nothing remotely resembling the poverty of yesteryear. However, if poverty is defined in the relative sense, the lowest fifth of income-earners, ‘poverty’ will always be with us. No matter how poverty is defined, if I were an unborn spirit, condemned to a life of poverty, but allowed to choose the nation I wanted to be poor in, I would choose the United States. Our poor must be the envy of the world’s poor.”

—Walter E. Williams, *The Washington Times*, November 8, 2007, p. A19

❑ “*The Politically Incorrect Guide to the Bible* (Regnery, a Human Events sister company) takes a no-nonsense approach to combating some biblical criticism and arguing that the best selling book of all time indeed embraces and promotes the conservative

perspective of human rights and limited government.

“Author Robert J. Hutchinson advocates the historical and archaeological accuracy of the Bible through documentation and records kept throughout the years. Taking on controversial issues such as abortion, homosexuality, and creationism versus evolution, Hutchinson counters anti-Bible arguments with quotations from scripture placed in historical, geographical, and spiritual context.

“Skeptics often confuse biblical stories to be literal interpretations when they are meant to be read in a metaphorical sense or as pieces to a larger puzzle. In an interview with Conservative Book Club Editor Elizabeth Kantor, Hutchinson addressed the story of Noah’s Ark. He explained that, though the Bible says the “whole earth” was flooded, the Hebrew word for ‘whole’ is ‘kol’, and according to Hebrew language, this could simply mean a ‘whole region’ of the earth was flooded and not the entire earth. [A read of Immanuel Velikovsky’s *Earth In Upheaval* might, however, change Hutchinson’s mind!]

“Most of the alleged contradictions or alleged “errors” in the Bible really are bogus,’ Hutchinson said, explaining further that often ‘the language being used is that of ordinary life, not the technical language of science.’

“Hutchinson notes that people rarely question the existence or reliability of other historical figures and texts like Socrates or Caesar because they are not the basis for a religion. But by disproving Jesus Christ or a foundational event like the Exodus, it would ‘undermine the basis for Judeo-Christian civilization and all it represents.’

“‘Christianity and Judaism remain the last bulwark against the sort of pagan totalitarianism championed by some liberals,’ Hutchinson said. ‘The Bible believes in an all-powerful God, not an all-powerful government.’

“Hutchinson said he wanted to write the book for ‘ordinary people’ in order to ‘show them that the ideals and beliefs they hold sacred really do ultimately come from the Bible.’

“Americans value a free society that upholds personal choice. The Bible—which was on the Founders’ minds as they created our government—has much to say on the concept that government should be chosen wisely and trusted minimally. Hutchinson titles a chapter of the book after a bible verse, which says, ‘Put not your trust in princes...’ (Psalm 146:3). Hutchinson also includes an analytical glance at the percentage of Christian population in countries worldwide compared to that country’s rating for political rights and civil liberties. According to the Freedom House study, those with the highest Christian populations (Australia, United States, etc.) are those with the most freedoms and liberties.

“Hutchinson said in writing the book he hoped to counter the myth that the Bible is an enemy of science, human rights, and freedom. ‘The ideas found in the Bible, and nowhere else, paved the way for the development of science, the recognition of human rights, and the championing of liberty.’”

—*Human Events*, November 12, 2007, p. 17

❑ “I’m a member of the 1960s generation. We didn’t have any wisdom.

“We were the moron generation. We were the generation that believed we could stop the Vietnam War by growing our hair long and dressing like circus clowns. We believed drugs would change everything—which they did, for John Belushi. We believed in

free love. Yes, the love was free, but we paid a high price for the sex.

“My generation spoiled everything for you. It has always been the special prerogative of young people to look and act weird and shock grown-ups. But my generation exhausted the Earth’s resources of the weird. Weird clothes—we wore them. Weird beards—we grew them. Weird words and phrases—we said them. So, when it came your turn to be original and look and act weird, all you had left was to tattoo your faces and pierce your tongues. Ouch. That must have hurt. I apologize.”

—P. J. O’Rourke, *News and Views*, May 6, 2008

❑ “Using tiny brushes and chisels, workers picking at a big greenish-black rock in the basement of North Dakota’s state museum are meticulously uncovering something amazing: a nearly complete dinosaur, skin and all.

“Unlike almost every other dinosaur fossil ever found, the Edmontosaurus named Dakota, a duckbilled dinosaur unearthed in southeastern North Dakota in 2004, is covered by fossilized skin that is hard as iron. It’s among just a few mummified dinosaurs in the world, say the researchers who are slowly freeing it from a 65-million-year-old rock tomb.

“‘This is the closest many people will ever get to seeing what large parts of a dinosaur actually looked like, in the flesh,’ said Phillip Manning, a paleontologist at the University of Manchester in England, a member of the international team researching Dakota.

“This is not the usual disjointed sentence or fragment of a word that the fossil records offer up as evidence of past life. This is a full chapter.

“Animal tissue typically decomposes quickly after death. Researchers say Dakota must have been buried rapidly and in just the right environment for the texture of the skin to be preserved.

“‘The process of decay was overtaken by that of fossilization, preserving many of the soft-tissue structures,’ Mr. Manning said.

“Tyler Lyson, a 25-year-old doctoral paleontology student at Yale University, discovered the dinosaur on his uncle’s ranch in the Badlands in 1999. Weeks after he started to unearth the fossil in 2004, he knew he had found something special.

“‘Usually all we have is bones,’ Mr. Lyson said. ‘In this special case, we’re not just after the bones; we’re after the whole carcass.’

“Stephen Begin, a Michigan consultant on the project, said this is the fifth dinosaur mummy ever found that is ‘of any significance.’

“‘It may turn out to be one of the best mummies, because of the quality of the skin that we’re finding and the extent of the skin that’s on the specimen,’ he said.”

—*The Washington Times*, March 19, 2008, p. A8

❑ “Watch out home-schoolers, because an attack is on its way.

“California’s 2nd District Court of Appeals ruled Feb. 28 that California parents without state teaching credentials do not have a right to home school their kids. The ruling has no jurisdiction in Colorado, but it will give fuel, inspiration, hope, energy, and a blueprint to the people who hate home schools.

“The education establishment in California has long been on the attack against families who home school. Back in 2000, as a home-schooled child from Alameda County, California, nearly won the national spelling bee, the Berkeley Unified School District challenged the legality of home schooling, saying home-schooled kids were truant from public schools.

“Attacks and legal challenges have continued ever since, with the Feb. 28 ruling giving home-schoolers their greatest blow yet.

“‘The court has assaulted parental rights again, and this time with a sledgehammer,’ said Dr. James Dobson, founder and chairman of Colorado Springs-based Focus on the Family, in a recent radio broadcast. ‘Listeners in all 50 states should take notice.’

“Children in home schools, the home-school opponents argue, may not be getting adequate educations. They parade out rare home-school horror stories, involving parents who are just too negligent to get their children to school no matter what the law says. They ignore the fact that home-schooling has generally been proven superior to public schooling.

“The National Education Association, a teacher’s union with a well-deserved bad reputation, has spent more than the past decade advocating the abolition of home schools. The union and other home-school foes seem unfazed by the fact home-school students have a veritable monopoly on winning spelling bees and math contests, and consistently score higher in comprehensive testing. A study of 5,402 home-school students in 1997 shocked the academic world, finding that on average they outperformed their public school peers by 30 to 37 percentile points in all subjects. The study was reinforced by another study involving 20,760 home-school students.

“Top universities, such as Stanford, used to reject home-school applicants outright. Today, they’re given admission preference in many cases because universities have found that home-schooled students outperform others.

“So why do public schools, the teachers unions and courts want to impede home schools? Mostly, for money. It’s real simple: schools get public funds based on their average daily attendance. In Colorado, one child taken from a public school for the nurturing environment of a home school takes roughly \$6,000 out of the school system each year. With every spelling bee winner, every successful study of home-school students, the institution of home schooling has grown. With that, and a variety of school choice measures such as open enrollment, public schools have found themselves in competition for students. Some administrators and the NEA don’t like it. They would rather under-perform and count on every child who’s born eventually bringing money their way. They prefer the old monopoly, and they’re asking courts to restore it.

“And there’s another issue at play. Statistics hate home schooling for all the reasons religious organizations admire it. Religious organizations like home schooling because it enables parents to teach their children about God, all day every day. They can teach children about the joys of living life to its fullest, in an independent way with the skills to independently learn and adapt. Children can be taught to grow their own food and make their own clothes. Statistics prefer that our children learn from the state—hearing collectivist notions of entitlement, dependence on the collective and, worst of all, equal outcomes—an ugly distortion of equal op-

portunity.

“The California ruling is an attack on children, an attack on families and a threat to liberty itself. And watch out, because the attack is going to spread.”

—Colorado Springs *Gazette*, March 16, 2008, p. A30

□ “Another global warming skeptic has dared speak up. Meteorologist John Coleman, founder of the Weather Channel, calls global warming ‘the greatest scam in history.’

“‘Environmental extremists, notable politicians among them ... create this wild ‘scientific’ scenario of the civilization threatening environmental consequences from Global Warming unless we adhere to their radical agenda. ... I have read dozens of scientific papers. I have talked with numerous scientists. ... There is no runaway climate change. The impact of humans on climate is not catastrophic. Our planet is not in peril. ... In time, a decade or two, the outrageous scam will be obvious.’

“I’ve argued that even if global warming is something to worry about, it’s dangerous to look to government to fix the climate. Government is a blunt instrument, riddled with self-serving politics and special-interest pandering. To expect it to do something as complicated as calibrate regulations and taxes to fine-tune the climate—without making many people poorer and a few cronies richer—is naive.

“But that doesn’t mean we can do nothing. We have a powerful generator of solutions if we let it work: the free market.

“The market has solved environmental problems many times in the past. Before the automobile, America’s cities suffered from a terrible pollutant. It bred disease and emitted noxious odors. It was horse manure.

“As economist Nobel laureate Robert Fogel said, ‘There were 200,000 horses in New York City at the beginning of the 20th century defecating everywhere. ... When you walked around ... you were breathing pulverized horse manure.’ From such air and water pollution, people contracted cholera, typhoid, and other deadly diseases.

“When the internal-combustion engine came along, the air and ground became much cleaner. Environmentalists romanticize the days before the car, but who wants to go back to that filth and disease?

“How might the free market—which relies on consent, not coercion—be better than government at addressing global warming? Policy analyst Gene Callahan points out that government is a big part of the problem because it encourages overuse of fossil fuels. For example, use of highways is not subject to market pricing, so it appears to be free. The resulting traffic jams are bad for the environment.

“We’d use less coal if the government didn’t create regulatory obstructions to nuclear power.”

—John Stossel, *Human Events*, December 10, 2007, p. 12

□ “All that’s left is carbon. Imagine a box my hands are defining about 9 inches square. Let’s say there are a 100,000 molecules of atmosphere. *Thirty-eight of those are carbon dioxide.* Even after all the fossil fuel we burn, there are only 38. When you and I breathe, we breathe out carbon dioxide. It’s not a pollutant, but a natural component.



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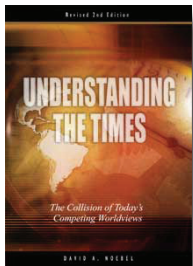
“Our crops and our forests are thriving because of increased carbon dioxide. But when fossil fuels burn to power cars or plants, they emit carbon dioxide, and that’s supposedly a very bad thing according to the global-warming crowd.

“The environmentalists are making this whole ‘carbon as the enemy of mankind thing,’ as they try to orchestrate the elimination of fossil fuels. Well, fossil fuels have powered our civilization—are powering civilization.

“Environmentalists have built this whole fictitious case that this carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which has doubled in the last 50 years because of these emissions, is what is driving global warming.

“Without carbon to blame, the global-warming advocates don’t have anything left—their whole case is destroyed scientifically. But they still have the media and the government” [and a few Southern Baptists].

—John Coleman, *The New American*, March 31, 2008, p. 20



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