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“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.” —Romans 1:16

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BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

✚ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

—Romans 1:18–32 (NKJV)

What you say about the present state of mankind is true: indeed, it is even worse than you say.

For they neglect not only the law of Christ but even the Law of Nature as known by the Pagans. For now they do not blush at adultery, treachery, perjury, theft, and the other crimes which I will not say Christian Doctors, but the pagans and the barbarous have themselves denounced.

They err who say “the world is turning pagan again.” Would that it were! The truth is that we are falling into a much worse state.

“Post-Christian man” is not the same as “pre-Christian man.” He is as far removed as virgin is from widow: there is

nothing in common except want of a spouse: but there is a great difference between a spouse-to-come and a spouse lost.

—C.S. Lewis, March 17, 1953

[Peter] Hitchens describes, as only an ex-Communist could, a new specter haunting the West: The specter of belligerent atheism. He points to various campaigns to defame Christian belief, to denounce the religious education of children as child abuse, and to exclude religious ideals from democratic life. “A new and intolerant utopianism,” he writes, “seeks to drive the remaining traces of Christianity from the laws and constitutions of Europe and North America.” It is a resuscitated version of the League of the Militant Godless, the name of a Soviet-era social movement to eradicate religion. The ultimate objective, he says, is man’s radical liberation from his Creator.

The burden of *Rage* is to insist that along this path lies the eclipse of freedom, personal and political, as the new elites consolidate control. And Hitchens’s alternative vision is anchored in history and in personal experience. Surrounded by secular and sophisticated colleagues all his life, he nonetheless couldn’t ignore “the old unsettling messages” of mortality and sin. In the 1990s, on a trip to Burgundy in search of fine wine, he took an artistic detour and found himself gazing at Rogier van der Weyden’s *The Last Judgment*. The depiction of the individuals fleeing the pit of hell—naked, suffering, mournful, terrified—seized him.

“I had a sudden, strong sense of religion being a thing of the present day, not imprisoned under thick layers of time. A large catalogue of misdeeds, ranging from the embarrassing to the appalling, replayed themselves rapidly in my head. I had absolutely no doubt that I was among the damned, if there were any damned.”

Peter Hitchens’s lucid memoir of a prodigal son reminds us that these are not thoughts which, once allowed to enter the human mind, naturally serve the Devil’s purpose. Indeed, as C.S. Lewis suggested, such ideas can become a means of divine grace, for they help awaken a man’s reason, as well as his conscience. “And once it is awake,” asks Screwtape, “who can foresee the result?”

—*The Weekly Standard*, August 9, 2010, p. 36–37

Editor’s Note: Peter Hitchens is the author of *The Rage Against God: How Atheism Led Me to Faith*. Peter’s brother is, in fact, the atheist Christopher Hitchens who is presently battling cancer and fighting for his life. While he told Anderson Cooper on CNN he would never convert, I’d like to see the Summit family pray for his recovery and conversion. Death has a power to coagulate the mind and heart; and Jesus Christ, who conquered death, might appeal to the lost prodigal.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

a word from Dr. Noebel

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Summit's 2010 youth programs are history, but their glow will remain for some time—hopefully even into eternity. Summit Colorado, Tennessee, and Wisconsin could all be placed in the “wonderful” column with no contradiction. Wonderful students, staff, faculty and, of course, supporters. Your editor could neither wish nor dream of anything more—so I'll let eternity reveal its secrets in due time.

One of our favorite faculty members is Dr. Mike Adams (U. of North Carolina—Wilmington campus). As he was leaving Manitou Springs, Colorado to return to his campus he penned an article for Townhall.com which I know will bless our *Journal* readers entitled “If You Want to Lead You have to Read.”

David A. “Doc” Noebel, President of Summit Ministries, is famous for his pithy observations—most of which are referred to as “Docisms.” My favorite is when Doc tells students “If you want to lead you have to read.” Doc specifically challenges young people to read a book a week. Since most teenagers read a book's worth of text messages a week, I think that's a reasonable challenge.

I was reminded of the importance of reading (and leading) when I received the following email from a reader named Mark Warren just a couple of weeks ago:

Hi, Mike. I'm sure you might not remember me. A couple of years ago, we had an e-mail dialogue going about how an intellectual can be a Christian. I asked you how it was that you could be a Christian.

You recommended that I read two books—*Tornado in a Junkyard* & *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*. I read them both—twice. As a non-theistic person for almost 40 years, I had always said that if someone could prove it to me, I'd believe it.

I just wanted you to know that I am now a Christian. No kidding. I made the decision on June 13th, and boy was my family surprised.

Thank you so much for leading me to those books. It was what I needed to be able to understand some of the conflicting things I'd learned over the years. —Mark

When Mark first wrote to me he expressed surprise that my (in his view) otherwise logical and well-informed opinions could mesh with Christianity. We went back and forth for several rounds. I asserted vigorously that it was because of reason and evidence (scientific and historical) that I converted to Christianity. I also shared my view that

one could not know and understand the evidence and not convert to Christianity.

I kept asserting that the Christian worldview is the inevitable destination of every thinking man who is open to reason and evidence. But Mark wasn't buying it. So I told him to read a couple of books and get back in touch with me.

When I finally heard from Mark after two years I expected that we were going to resume our debate. But the battle was already won in his heart and in his mind. All that was left to do was to rejoice.

As I sat in my cabin at the base of Pikes Peak and read that email I was struck by an amazing coincidence. I had not heard from Mark in the two years since I had recommended that he read those two books—one of which was co-authored by Frank Turek. At the very moment I was preparing to respond, I heard a knock on my door. It was none other

than Frank Turek who had come by my cabin (unexpectedly) to invite me to step out for a cup of coffee.

I had not seen Frank in almost three months. He had just flown in to give three speeches at Summit Ministries. I knew I would see him the next day but not that night. Not at that very moment. Mark was thrilled when I wrote back and told him who had just come to see me.

I guess it could all be a coincidence. And I guess a monkey could sit down at a keyboard and type the words to “The Merchant of Venice.” Stranger things have happened. Like the spontaneous generation of DNA molecules. Sorry, but that little monkey just stepped on my sarcasm key.

The year that I made an intellectual decision to follow Christ was a good year indeed. The works of intellectuals like Norm Geisler (specifically *Christian Apologetics*) and J.P. Moreland (specifically *Scaling the Secular City*) were indispensable. When I read their books I had no idea that I would be joining them on the faculty of Summit Ministries in less than a decade. It is still too much for me to comprehend.

I'm glad I spent that year reading and forming a strong intellectual basis for my beliefs. If you do the same, you'll benefit, too. And so will others when you help show them the pathway that leads toward the Truth.

—Mike Adams

“If You Want to Lead You Have to Read”



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ECONOMICS

\$ Socialism only works in two places: Heaven where they don't need it and hell where they already have it.
—Ronald Reagan

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I am for doing good to the poor, but I differ in opinion of the means. I think the best way of doing good to the poor, is not making them easy in poverty, but leading or driving them out of it. In my youth I traveled much, and I observed in different countries, that the more public provisions were made for the poor, the less they provided for themselves, and of course became poorer. And, on the contrary, the less was done for them, the more they did for themselves, and became richer.
—Benjamin Franklin, November 1766

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The impact Summit has had on me even over the past fifteen odd days, is already incredible. The effort the staff and the faculty put into trying to impart knowledge to us was to me off the wall. Even at my own school, which is fairly academically well known I have never seen zeal that equates to what was put into the teachings and community at Summit. You did an awesome job as the leader and I really hope session eight goes well. I shall definitely try to stay in touch with you and visit you sometime at your convenience over at Oxford. Thanks for everything, and pray for me to use as much as I can of what we have learned the past several weeks.


P.S. Thought Doc and you might get a kick out of this. Steven, Jordan and I were all sitting on the same row on the flight to Atlanta (Greg was right behind us) Steven and I were reading books we purchased at Summit. We had about three hours of solid worldview conversations with the three adult males sitting around us. The conversations we started revolved around firstly Islam and the crisis right now in Iran, then went on to economics and politics in general. Two of the adults said they would go and watch "Obsession," and all three said they would look up Mike Adams. One of the gentlemen was shocked Ted Turner produced that movie "South of the Border" when I told him about it, and said he no longer supported Turner. Just thought you should know.
—Summit Grad, Colorado, 2010

Repeal that [welfare] law, and you will soon see a change in their manners. St. Monday and St. Tuesday, will soon cease to be holidays. "Six days shalt thou labor," though one of the old commandments long treated as out of date, will again be looked upon as a respectable precept; industry will increase, and with it plenty among the lower people; their circumstances will mend, and more will be done for their happiness by insuring them to provide for themselves, than could be done by dividing all your estates among them.
—Benjamin Franklin, May 9, 1753

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But what do we mean by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American war? The Revolution was effected before the war commenced. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people, a change in their religious sentiments, of their duties and obligations. . . . This radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments, and affections of the people was the real American Revolution.
—John Adams, February 13, 1818

POLITICS

 "Why would anyone take the risk of starting (or growing) a business when the government is going to take a total of 70% of the upside and leave you holding the bag if it doesn't work out? Why would anyone be surprised more businesses than ever are moving jobs overseas and taking the best and brightest of this country with them? If you want the rest of America to look like Detroit, just keep on trying to tax and spend our way out of this recession.

I'm concerned about these problems for one reason: There's almost no chance any of the proper policies can be passed by Congress. No one is going to vote for sensible policies because more than half of all Americans no longer pay any federal taxes on a net basis. The mob is now living at the expense of the Treasury. . . . America is becoming a new type of fascist state, where government employees, unions, and everyone else on the dole constitutes the largest voting block. It's not communism because the government doesn't directly control the means of production. But true private property doesn't exist in America anymore. If you don't pay taxes on it, you don't own it. And if the government decides you're not using your property the right way, it'll take it away from you. I don't know what to call this kind of regime . . . but I know well where it will lead."

—Porter Stansberry, August 22, 2010

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The chilly little welfare state to our north, Canada, is running relatively tiny deficits, having engaged only in relatively

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sober stimulus measures. To no one's great surprise, Canada's freedom from heavy government debt and its comparatively liberal economic environment (the Heritage Foundation now ranks its economy as more free than that of the United States) have enabled a much stronger recovery—to the extent that Canada, which has about one-tenth as many people as the United States, added 10,000 more jobs in June: 93,200 to our 83,000. Canada has recovered 97 percent of the jobs lost in the recent economic turmoil. Say what you like about aping the European welfare states, the Canadians do a better job of it than do Obama, Pelosi, and Reid.

—*National Review*, August 16, 2010, p. 11

For that matter, neither Denmark nor Sweden is as “socialist” as many people imagine, thanks to significant liberalization over the past three decades. Denmark is virtually tied with America in the 2010 Index of Economic Freedom (compiled by the Heritage Foundation and the *Wall Street Journal*), and its labor markets are the most flexible in Europe. After being rocked by a financial meltdown during the early 1990s, Sweden implemented a series of market-friendly structural changes, including bold pension reforms. The Index of Economic Freedom reports that both countries offer great business freedom, trade freedom, monetary freedom, investment freedom, financial freedom, and property-rights protection, as well as lower levels of corruption than does America, whose score has gone down partly because of government bailouts and interventions, and the lack of “transparency and accountability” in those actions.

World Economic Forum (WEF) data tell a similar story. As part of its annual Executive Opinion Survey, the WEF asks global business leaders to grade their country's performance in a variety of areas. In the 2009 survey, America ranks far behind Denmark and Sweden in the following categories (among others): “property rights” (Denmark second, Sweden fifth, America 30th); “public trust of politicians” (Denmark second, Sweden sixth, America 43rd); “favoritism in decisions of government officials” (Sweden first, Denmark third, America 48th); “wastefulness of government spending” (Denmark 14th, Sweden 17th, America 68th); “burden of government regulation” (Sweden 19th, Denmark 27th, America 53rd); “transparency of government policymaking” (Sweden second, Denmark fourth, America 31st); and “regulation of securities exchanges” (Sweden first, Denmark seventh, America 47th).

In short, while the public sector consumes a larger slice of GDP in

Scandinavia than it does in the U.S., the Danish and Swedish governments appear to operate more efficiently than their American counterpart. As the U.S. seeks to rejuvenate its economy while moving toward fiscal consolidation and addressing future demographic challenges, there are many lessons it can draw from Western Europe. But the virtue of big government is not among them.

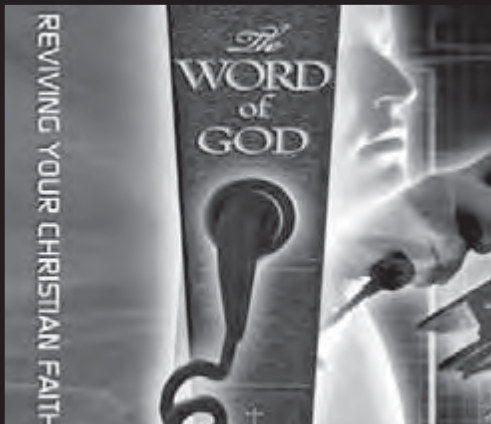
—Duncan Currie, *National Review*, August 30, 2010, p. 24

[Massachusetts governor Deval] Patrick's plan was for Massachusetts to cover a \$1.3 billion budget shortfall by selling three gambling licenses at \$200 million apiece, and then taxing the take at 27 percent. The idea was popular in the abstract until voters began to educate themselves on the economics of it. When you factor in the damage of competing businesses (from restaurants to theaters to sports stadiums), the cost of infrastructure and law enforcement, and the steep toll of gambling addiction and its treatment, gambling takes much more out of an economy than it puts in—about three times as much, according to the economist Earl Grinols.

—Christopher Caldwell, *The Weekly Standard*, August 16, 2010, p. 17

In the shakeup following her takeover as the president of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Mary Kay Henry has elevated Eliseo Medina to be her second-in-command. It's a significant move for America's most politically active union and foreshadows where some of the \$50 million the group plans to spend this year will go.

As Harold Myerson explains in a profile, Medina is the foremost advocate for immigrant rights in the organized labor movement. He is credited with leading the voter registration drive in Hispanic precincts of California that helped shift the state's political balance from red to blue over the



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past decade. He is currently trying to sign up 120,000 new Hispanic voters in Arizona to turn the political tide there.

While Medina (honorary chairman of the Democratic Socialists of America) must still be approved by the union's board, he is already out on a bus tour seeking immigrant voters. And though Medina has complained about President Obama's sluggishness on seeking "comprehensive" immigration reform, Medina's registration efforts and Hispanic outreach was key to Obama's 2008 victories in Nevada and other western states.

Medina's elevation is a big sign that the union sees its membership future and political power among immigrant workers and getting them into the Democratic Party. Expect many of the union's millions to go to changing the makeup of voter registration rolls in battleground states.

—Chris Stirewalt, FoxNews.com, August 20, 2010

Editor's Note: The Democratic Socialists of America is the American branch of the Socialist International organization—a virtual Communist organization founded by Karl Marx. But then this should come as no surprise since John Sweeney, former president of the AFL-CIO and a member of the Democratic Socialists of America "has removed the bar on known communists holding office in his union." As Brenda J. Elliott notes: "The Communist Party is slowly growing, recolonizing the unions, and is strengthening ties to Cuba and China. Democratic Socialists of America is working with both organizations in the unions, in the peace

We just returned from the graduation celebration from the first Wisconsin Summit at The Green Lake Conference Center. It was very special for us to attend for a number of reasons. Four of our daughters and one son have attended the Summit session, two in Colorado and three in Tennessee, and have been greatly impacted by the information shared and the challenge to serve the Lord in their vocations. We were blessed to be able to send our oldest granddaughter to this session with the help of a scholarship provided by Summit.

The reality that your faithfulness and ministry is now reaching the third generation (although we as parents have not attended, we've read the books and the newsletters) of the L family. The good and gracious Lord has given us stewardship over the thirteen children, and currently twenty nine grandchildren, and to ponder the influence they will have with the training and information their parents, the local church, and you provide is exciting. Please be encouraged!!

—Pastor Richard L, Green Bay, WI

movement and through the Democratic Party's more than 80 strong Congressional Progressive Caucus members." For those interested in the latest Communist moves into America's highest governmental offices see *You Can Still Trust the Communists (to Be Communists)*. The book has been recently released and may be obtained from Summit Ministries for \$17.95. Call 719.685.9103 or visit the Summit's website at summit.org.

Jennifer Keeton, 24, doesn't believe that homosexuality is biological; she thinks it is a lifestyle choice. Augusta State University, where she is pursuing a master's degree in counseling, has ordered her to enter a remedial program or face expulsion. The Georgia school sent her a notice questioning her ability to be a "multiculturally competent counselor."

In the program, she would be required to attend several gay sensitivity training courses and participate in activities like Augusta's gay pride parade for "exposure and interactions with gay populations." While the school opposes the view that homosexuality is a choice, it has encouraged her to read material that defines gender as a choice. She would be required to submit a monthly two-page reflection on how the program has influenced her beliefs, so the school can "decide the appropriateness of her continuation in the counseling program."

Keeton, backed by the Alliance Defense Fund, has filed suit against the school for violating her First Amendment rights.

—World magazine, August 14, 2010, 8

HISTORY

OTTAWA: Liberal Foreign Affairs Critic, the Hon. Bob Rae, passed a unanimous Resolution in Parliament today to commemorate the victims of Europe's totalitarian regimes.

"Millions of Canadians of Eastern and Central European descent whose families have been directly affected by either Nazi or Communist crimes have made unique and significant, cultural, economic, social, and other contributions to help build the Canada we know today," said Mr. Rae. "We must unequivocally condemn the crimes against humanity committed by totalitarian Nazi and Communist regimes and offer the victims of these crimes and their family members sympathy, understanding, and recognition for their suffering."

"Every victim of any totalitarian regime has the same human dignity and deserves justice, remembrance, and recognition by the Parliament and the government of Canada."

Twenty years after the fall of the totalitarian Communist regimes in Europe, knowledge among Canadians about these regimes, which terrorized their fellow citizens in Central and Eastern Europe for more than 40 years, is still

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alarmingly superficial and inadequate.

This annual day of remembrance is to be held on August 23rd, to mark the anniversary of the signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact between the Nazi and Soviet Communist regimes.

“Called Black Ribbon Day, the establishment of this Day of Remembrance on August 23rd, will show Canadians and those around the world, that Canada will not stand for crimes against humanity and we will be counted among those who stand up for victims of systematic and ruthless abuse.

“Canadians must not allow these crimes to go misunderstood and unrecognized.”

Borys Wrzesnewskyj, Special Advisor on Emerging Democracies to Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, went on to explain the personal impact of this motion.

“My parents were refugees who arrived on Canada’s shores having survived the hatred, genocides, and wars unleashed by two of humanity’s greatest tyrants,” he said. “Stalin, responsible for the famine and genocide of Ukrainians, the Holodomor; and Hitler, who unleashed the Holocaust, divided Europe and cost the lives of close to 100 million souls.

“Let us all remember this dark part of history to ensure that the world will never stand by in the face of crimes against humanity—so that Europe’s people can never again be divided.”

—International Black Ribbon Day, August 23, 2010

ETHICS

It was evident since last year that Judge Vaughn Walker, of the U.S. District Court in San Francisco, was on a self-imposed mission to establish a federal constitutional right to same-sex marriage, and thereby to overturn California’s Proposition 8, a constitutional amendment passed by the people of the state in 2008. From his decision to have a “trial” of the “facts” in the case rather than proceed straightaway to legal arguments about the constitutional issues (a highly unusual choice that surprised even the plaintiffs’ attorneys), to his attempt to stage the trial as a nationally televised extravaganza (thankfully brought to a halt by the Supreme Court), to his unconcealed bias in favor of the plaintiffs in virtually every aspect of the proceedings, Judge Walker had long been preparing us for a bald-faced usurpation of political power.

What Walker did not prepare us for, however, was the jaw-dropping experience of reading his sophomorically reasoned opinion. Of the 135 pages of the opinion proper, only the last 27 contain anything resembling a legal argument; the rest is divided between a summary of the trial proceedings and the judge’s “findings of fact.” His determinations of law seem but an afterthought—conclusory, almost casually



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thin, raising more questions than they answer.

On what grounds does Judge Walker hold that the considered moral judgment of the whole history of human civilization—that only men and women are capable of marrying each other—is nothing but a “private moral view” that provides no conceivable “rational basis” for legislation? Who can extract an answer from his muddled reasoning? Judge Walker’s wholesale smearing of the majority of Californians as irrational bigots blindly clinging to mere tradition suggests that he has run out of arguments and has nothing left but his reflexes.

But the deeper game Judge Walker is playing unfolds in the many pages of “fact finding” that make up the large middle of his ruling. There, through highly prejudicial language that bears little relation to any fact, the judge has smuggled in his own moral beliefs—placing them in precisely the part of his opinion that would normally be owed a large measure of deference in the appellate courts, which are meant to accept the lower court’s factual findings and rule only on questions of law.

To take one example: It is hardly an incontrovertible fact that “Proposition 8 places the force of law behind stigmas against gays and lesbians.” But there it is in the opinion, as finding No. 58. With “facts” like these, and appellate judges disinclined to question them, Judge Walker plainly hopes to propel this case toward a victory for same-sex marriage, regardless of how transparently weak his legal conclusions are.

But the judges who ultimately take up this appeal—the justices of the Supreme Court, not of the eccentric Ninth Circuit—should not be buffaloes by Judge Walker’s invented “facts.” Still less should they confirm the specious legal conclusions he has extracted from them.

—National Review, August 30, 2010, p.14

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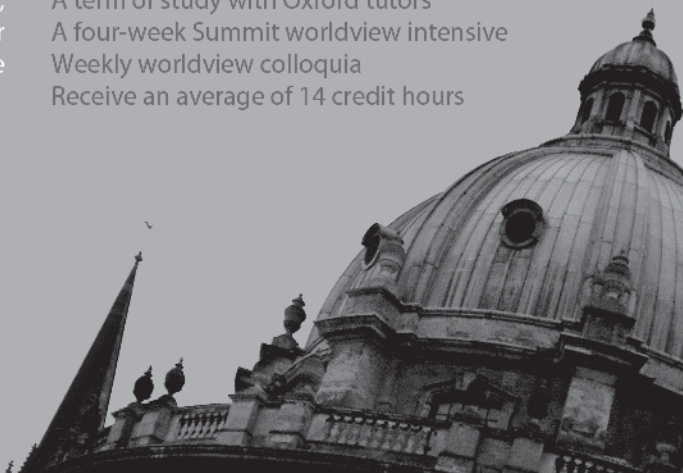
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ISLAM

The “Cordoba Initiative” would erect a \$100 million mosque and Islamic center near Ground Zero, where nearly 3,000 Americans were killed on 9/11. Feisal Abdul Rauf, the project’s face, says it’s about interfaith tolerance. Cordoba, though, was the caliphate that marked its 711 A.D. conquest of Spain by converting an ancient church into a huge mosque complex. Rauf, who urges America to become more sharia-compliant, wrote a 2004 book called *What’s Right with Islam Is What’s Right with America*—except overseas, where it was provocatively titled *A Call to Prayer from the World Trade Center Rubble: Islamic Dawa in the Heart of America Post-9/11*. Sometimes called “stealth jihad,” dawa is the aggressive promotion of Islam by which influential Islamists promise to “conquer America.” Rauf’s book was reissued by two American arms of the Muslim Brotherhood: the Islamic Society of North America and the International Institute of Islamic Thought. The Brotherhood was at the center of the government’s recent prosecution of a charitable front, the Holy Land Foundation, for sending millions of dollars to Hamas. It identified ISNA (which housed and directly funded Holy Land) and IIIT as participants in its “grand jihad” aimed at “destroying the Western civilization from within and sabotaging its miserable house.” The Ground Zero mosque is a very bad idea.

—*National Review*, August 16, 2010, p. 8

Iman Feisal Abdul Rauf, the Islamic cleric associated with the Ground Zero mosque project, is not quite what he seems. And neither is the project.

Rauf presents himself as a moderate. There is reason for doubt. “The issue of terrorism is a very complex question,” he says. In other words, it’s complicated. And so is his relationship with Islamic extremists. He has published a book in cooperation with two affiliates of the Muslim Brotherhood, an openly terroristic organization, and he minimizes terrorist atrocities. He calls the United States an “accessory” to 9/11.

And yet there was New York mayor Michael Bloomberg, celebrating Rauf and what he stands for, and having the chutzpah to lecture critics of the mosque project about respecting the prerogatives of the owners of the site. Now we know what it takes to get Mike Bloomberg to discover property rights; at least something good has come out of this mess. And that’s not all: The Anti-Defamation League, which too often has acted as the cat’s-paw of the Left, has taken a commendable stand against the project.

This dispute has been presented as a question of whether an Islamic center and mosque should be built in proximity to the scene of the worst act of Islamic terrorism—and the worst act of political violence—ever committed on U.S.

soil. But at least as germane to the dispute is the question of whether these particular parties ought to be doing so. The fact that an apologist for terrorists and an associate of terrorist-allied organizations is proceeding with this provocation is indecent. We have thousands of mosques in the United States, and who knows how many Islamic cultural centers in New York City. We do not need this one, in this place, built by these people. We’re all stocked up on Hamas apologists, thanks very much.

Our frustration with this state of affairs is multiplied by the fact that Ground Zero remains a gaping wound in the middle of lower Manhattan, rather than having been rebuilt to match the World Trade Center’s former glory. If Mayor Bloomberg is really so anxious to expedite the building of new projects in the financial district, perhaps he’d like to help do something about that, first.

—*National Review*, August 30, 2010, p. 12, 14

With all of the hubbub surrounding President Obama’s apparent endorsement of the Ground Zero mega mosque and community center complex at last week’s White House Ramadan dinner, none of the cable talk shows that I have watched have bothered to examine the guest list. I think that is a mistake because the guest list gives some insight into what Obama really believes.

Amongst all of the ambassadors and other dignitaries, two “community” leaders with a radical Islamic agenda stand out.

The first was Dr. Ingrid Mattson, president of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA).

ISNA was named as an unindicted co-conspirator of the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, an Islamic “charity” which was convicted in 2008 by a federal jury for giving more than \$12 million to the Palestinian terrorist organization Hamas.

One month after 9/11, Dr. Mattson described the extremist Wahhabism ideology that inspired the 9/11 terrorists this way: “It is the name of a reform movement that began 200 years ago to rid Islamic societies of cultural practices and rigid interpretation that had acquired over the centuries. It really was analogous to the European Protestant Reformation.”

In a September 2002 interview with PBS, Mattson stated that she did not see “any difference” between Christian leaders criticizing Islam or al Qaeda on the one hand, and Osama bin Laden citing “Islamic theology to justify violence against Americans” on the other.

And apparently, President Obama is following Mattson’s advice in purging the phrase “Islamic terrorism” from his administration’s lexicon. Is it any wonder that she was on Obama’s guest list for the Ramadan dinner?

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The second radical Islamic White House dinner guest was Salam Al-Marayati, a co-founder and director of the Muslim Public Affairs Council. This is an individual who likes to speak about building bridges and inter-faith dialogue, but only as a cover for his more radical views. What Islamists such as Al-Marayati like to do is invert the meaning of American ideals and history to suit sharia (Islamic law) and the Islamic narrative of the oppressed victim. For example, he said that: "When Patrick Henry said, 'Give me liberty or give me death,' that statement epitomized jihad [Islamic holy war]."

Al-Marayati has also excused Palestinian terrorism and condemned Israeli acts of self-defense. Back in 1996, for example, a Palestinian named Muhammad Hamida shouted *Allahu Akbar* (Allah is Great) as he drove his car intentionally into a crowded bus stop in Jerusalem, killing one Israeli and injuring 23 others. He was shot dead before he could wreak any further mayhem.

Who did Al-Marayati choose to condemn? Not the terrorist, but rather the person or persons who ended his rampage, whom Al-Marayati demanded be extradited to the United States for trial in an American court on terrorism charges!

This so-called "moderate" was so bad that in 1999 then-House Democratic Leader Richard Gephardt of Missouri decided to withdraw his nomination of Salam Al-Marayati to the 10-member National Commission on Terrorism that was being formed.

It gets even worse. Al-Marayati's Muslim Public Affairs Council has issued policy papers which argue for the removal of Hezbollah and Hamas from U.S. terrorist designations.

And on the very day of the horrific 9/11 attacks, on a Los Angeles radio program Al-Marayati said, "If we're going to look at suspects, we should look to the groups that benefit the most from these kinds of incidents, and I think we should put the state of Israel on the suspect list because I think this diverts attention from what's happening in the Palestinian territories so that they can go on with their aggression and occupation and apartheid policies."

Now, this same Salam Al-Marayati is a guest in President Obama's White House along with his fellow radical Islamist Dr. Ingrid Mattson.

You can learn a lot about someone by the company he keeps—or, in President Obama's case, the people he invites to dinner at the White House.

—Joseph Klein, FrontPage Online
August 19, 2010

ETHICS

In the scandal involving the theft and release of classified military information that could cost the lives of U.S. military personnel, the *British Telegraph* newspaper is reporting that the American soldier at the center of the scandal was

"openly homosexual" and apparently held a grudge against the U.S. because of the military's anti-gay policy.

In another bizarre twist, reliable reports suggest that Private First Class Bradley Manning, the U.S. Army Intelligence analyst accused of leaking the classified information to the WikiLeaks.org website, was not only a homosexual but was considering a sex change. Manning was arrested at the end of May and is being detained by U.S. authorities.

The *Telegraph* features photographs of Manning, who could face more than 50 years in prison for treasonous conduct, holding up a sign with rainbow colors demanding "equality on the battlefield" and participating in a gay pride parade.

It is apparent that Manning, based on published reports, was a public homosexual activist for at least over a year. During this time he apparently came up with the idea of downloading and releasing the classified information to WikiLeaks as a way to get back at the United States military over its policy regarding homosexuality.

Telegraph writers Heidi Blake, John Bingham, and Gordon Rayner write that Manning had "appeared to sink into depression after a relationship break-up" and became increasingly bitter with his treatment by the Army.

It may be the case that Manning was anxious about the failure of Congress to pass the repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" anti-gay military policy.

President Obama had promised during the 2008 campaign to repeal the policy and in office has championed the "rights" of homosexual and "transgendered" people to high-level federal positions.

The riveting *Telegraph* account of Manning's growing rage and anger raises serious questions of how the soldier was able to flaunt his homosexuality despite the fact that the Pentagon still officially has a policy in place of excluding open homosexuals from military service.

In a clear indication that the law was being ignored by the Obama Administration, the evidence demonstrates that Manning was continuing to serve after openly flaunting his homosexuality, including on Facebook.

—Cliff Kincaid, August 1, 2010



In responding to those who are calling The Home Depot, company representatives are telling American Family Association supporters that AFA is lying.

Here is proof we are telling the truth AND the facts accurately. Clicking the thumbnail picture will take you to the large, online version of the photo.

The Home Depot says AFA is lying. The Home Depot is telling people it is neutral in the homosexual culture war. This picture was taken inside an Ohio Home Depot store in June 2010. Promoting the homosexual lifestyle with cor-

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porate-produced signs is far from neutral. It is activism.

The Home Depot says AFA is lying about its button and apron policy. They say a policy change in April prohibits employees from wearing any buttons or wearing company aprons outside of the store without company approval. This picture was taken at a gay pride parade in Boston in June 2010, three months after the “policy change.” The apron has emblems from the Human Rights Campaign and other homosexual activist organizations. Notice the company name has been rainbow colored.

The Home Depot says AFA is lying about it passing out company-logo items at gay pride parades. These photos show Home Depot shopping carts filled with foam can coolers, cups, bags, and other items bearing The Home Depot logo. These items were handed out along the Chicago Gay Pride Parade route by Home Depot employees.

The Home Depot says AFA is lying because the company doesn’t sponsor or support gay pride events. This picture clearly shows the Home Depot is an officially recognized sponsor, only one of many the AFA has documentation for.

Note: Your editor has clicked the proper buttons only to see the photos proudly displaying such statements as “the Home Depot celebrates Gay and Lesbian Pride Month;” “The Home Depot celebrates diversity;” “The 24th Annual Southern Maine Pride 2010 Parade and Festival—Sponsored by The Home Depot and Bank of America.” Therefore, I don’t believe the AFA is lying, but I would like to hear from The Home Depot on why deny such an approved movement now days! And what about the other members of the gay family—the GLBTQ crowd! How many customers do you honestly believe would come into your stores if the public really knew you were promoting the lifestyle of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transgender and Queers. My guess? Not many!

Today’s progressives are multiculturalists. They’re inclined to make grand claims about the positive merits of a multicultural, non-judgmental mosaic replacing our old, multiculturalist melting-pot view of America. But when political realities force them to retreat, as Obama has done in the mosque controversy, from a proud multiculturalism to a narrow defense of the right to the free exercise of religion and the right to build on private property, they’re in trouble. The free exercise of religion and respect for private property are not a promising agenda for progressives.

Progressivism is in retreat. Obama’s problem isn’t that people falsely think he’s a Muslim. It’s that the public is correctly concluding he’s a garden-variety multiculturalist progressive. So November’s election won’t just be a repudiation of one non-Muslim president. It will be a repudiation of

a multiculturalist progressive worldview—and of the bitter elites who cling desperately to that worldview and are consumed by antipathy to most Americans, who don’t.

—William Kristol, *The Weekly Standard*,
August 30/September 6, 2010, 8

Decades ago *National Review*’s Joe Sobran called liberals “the hive.” They all swarmed at once, as if on cue. The Journolist scandal is an ethologist’s trove of bee behavior. Ezra Klein, *Washington Post* blogger, ran an listserv of several hundred journalists and academics, many of them overt lefties writing for *The Nation* or *Mother Jones*, but some—Jeffrey Toobin, Joe Klein—with mainstream-media outfits. The list was revealed, and shut down, weeks ago. But Tucker Carlson’s website, *The Daily Caller*, has been doling out threads from 2008, when the goal was to help Obama. What stands out? The unity of purpose, assumed, but also affirmed with ritual chest thumps—“We need to throw chairs now” (Michael Tomasky, *Guardian*). The witless wrath of online rhetoric—“Find a rightwinger’s [?] and smash it through a plate glass window” (Spencer Ackerman, *Washington Independent*). The rare demurral—“I am really tired of defending the indefensible” (Katha Pollitt, *The Nation*). But quotation does not do Journolist justice. Read it all, and weep. Bees? No—flea circus.

—*National Review*, August 16, 2010, p. 4

On June 28th the Senate Judiciary Committee began hearings on Elena Kagan’s Supreme Court nomination. On the same day, the Court announced its decision in *Christian Legal Society v. Martinez*. The coincidence was appropriate, because there was a striking complementarity between that ruling and a major controversy in Kagan’s career.

In *Martinez*, a 5-4 majority upheld the decision of UC-Hastings College of the Law, in San Francisco, to marginalize a group of Christian law students. As it happens several years ago Kagan led a failed effort to marginalize the American military on the campus of Harvard Law School. The fact that Harvard failed where Hastings succeeded may point the way toward a rectification of the wrong that was committed in the *Martinez* case.

Yet this June, the UC-Hastings College of the Law was permitted to deny the campus’s Christian Legal Society (CLS) recognition as a registered student organization, which would have afforded it access to facilities and other resources. The group’s offense? Requiring members and officers to sign a “statement of faith” and abide by traditional Christian morality, which permits sexual relations only between husband and wife.

—Robert P. George, Matthew J. Frank,
National Review, August 16, 2010, 22