

The Churchiest Nation

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If you drive anywhere in America you don't have to go very far before you will see a church building of some kind or another. Sometimes there are different denominations right next door or across the street from each other. There are places that you can see them all lined up right down the interstate highway. Of all the countries in the world, America is probably the churchiest nation on this planet. As of December 12, 2009 there are over 308 million people in the United States and over 300,000 churches here. That boils down to about one church for every one thousand persons.

America is approximately 3,790,000 square miles in territory which means that there is one church for every 12.63 square miles. Yes, we have more churches than we can shake a stick at. And those figures do not include the thousands of unregistered home churches and home Bible studies groups and prayer meetings.

Of the above mentioned population 76% identify themselves as Christian according to Wikipedia. That comes down to slightly over 234,080,000 professing Christians in America.

Now all Christians are supposed to be following the instructions that God gave us through the hand of Paul:

¹ Timothy 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, **first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;**

² **For kings, and for all that are in authority;** that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

³ **For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;**

⁴ **Who will have all men to be saved,** and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

So with all this religiosity the questions beg to be asked: how come we are in a deep recession? Why are we the second most hated nation in the world? (Israel is first) And why do we have in congress so many "representatives" of the people that are so obviously against just about all Christian principles? Why is our president pushing for legislation that is so obviously against just about all Christian principles? Why does our government spend hundreds of millions of our tax dollars to fund abortions both here and all over the world via the United Nations when it is an abomination to God? (See Proverbs 6:16-17) Why do we have so much crime in our nation? Why do we have activist judges that circumvent the U.S. Constitution? Why do so many public officials violate their oath of office? Where is the peace that a just nation is supposed to have?

The answer to these and many more similar questions is simple but involves a history lesson. First we need the history lesson:

We were going off the track even before we became a nation. It started with an idea that seemed like a good one: public standard education. (There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death. Proverbs 14:12 & 16:25) The Boston Latin School opened in 1635, was the first publicly funded secondary school and the oldest educational institution in America. In 1779 Thomas Jefferson unsuccessfully argued for universal taxpayer funded public education. Then in 1837 the Massachusetts legislature funded common schools. By 1865, the end of the Civil War, the rest of the states had adopted some form of public education.

So what is wrong with public standard education? Nothing if you are talking reading, writing, and arithmetic, or whatever fancy terms that they are called today. However our public schools are expected to teach morals and proper behavior too. That; is what religion is supposed to teach.

Deuteronomy 4:1 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do *them*, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.

Vs. 2 **Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it,** that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

Vs. 9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: **but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;**

Vs. 10 *Specially* the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, **and that they may teach their children.**

Vs. 11 And ye came near and stood under the mountain; and the mountain burned with fire unto the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness.

Vs. 12 And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye heard the voice of the words, but saw no similitude; only *ye heard* a voice.

Vs. 13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, **even ten commandments;** and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.

Deuteronomy 6:1 Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do *them* in the land whither ye go to possess it:

Vs. 2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, **thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.**

Vs. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

Vs. 7 **And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.**

Vs. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, (your physical actions) and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes (your mind).

Deuteronomy 11:18 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, (your physical actions) that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

Vs. 19 **And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up (your mind).**

These three quotes are from the book of Deuteronomy which is the Book of the Law of God. God said the same thing three times in the same book as an emphasis and a witness to its importance. This Law of God is behavior oriented; in other words character, or religion. It is not the physical things of language (reading and writing) or the mechanical things (Arithmetic), nor is it science or any other curriculum that would be taught in today's schools. As the quotes indicate this is the job of the parents and the community at large, **not the government**. He said to teach the Law of God to our "sons and our sons' sons," and "that they may teach their children." The government has no sons nor does it have children. That means that the job of teaching God's Law, character or religion to our children, and our sons, and our sons' sons is ours, the parents and grandparents of these children. God gave that responsibility to us and not the civil government.

To continue with our history lesson let's see what happened as a result of putting all of the responsibility of our children's education upon the civil government. On November 24, 1859, even before all of the states had adopted some form of public education, Charles Darwin published his theory on The Origin of the Species which is called by most as evolution. By mid January of 1860 it was published here in America by Asa Gray. He "argued that evolution is the secondary effect, or *modus operandi*, of the first cause, design, and published a pamphlet defending the book in terms of theistic evolution, Natural Selection is not inconsistent with Natural Theology." (*Atlantic Monthly* [Darwin Correspondence Project – Essay: Natural selection & natural theology, <http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/content/view/84/69/>, retrieved 2009-04-11.])

Whether or not Mr. Gray's argument was consistent with the Holy Scriptures is the subject of another study. What matters here is that most people, especially most of science soon adopted the other side. Science went deep the other way and said "there was no design in nature; everything happened by the accident of just adaptation to surrounding circumstances." That leaves God out of the picture or at least relegates Him to a distant, uninterested, non-participant. So naturally the next progression followed by these of science: "There probably isn't any God."

Of course, once this thought set in, people started behaving like there was no God. By the turn of the century upper academia (colleges and universities) was teaching as fact Mr. Darwin's theory. This anti-God sentiment became a part of the students of upper academia who eventually became the teachers of secondary and primary education. They of course, passed their views on about God as fact.

Some "religious" groups could see an anti-God sentiment going on and started to lobby congress for change. In their self righteousness they thought that alcoholic beverages were at fault for America's downfall and finally got the 18th amendment to the constitution passed in

1919 (ratified in 1920), prohibition. The result was the roaring 20's and the organization of crime throughout the land. Drinking of alcohol just went underground and was thus controlled by unsavory characters.

At the same time, after WWI, the people went on a consumer on credit binge. The stock market soared and people bought and speculated about all manner of stocks; much of which they did on credit. But the bottom literally fell out on Tuesday, October 29, 1929 when all the prices fell continually for an entire month. The Great Depression was on.

This lull in America's prosperity lasted for 7 years; from 1930 to 1937. At about the same time as America's economic prosperity was put on the shelf the very "Mother Nature" that had been so maligned by Mr. Darwin's theory, threw the western farm belt into a drought. The result was the dust bowl years covering approximately the same number of years. The worst was what is called "Black Sunday" which occurred on April 14, 1935 when winds were clocked at 60 miles per hour over a very dry Colorado, and the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles. The effect of this was that dust from this storm settled as far away as New York.

The drought also caused a reduction in crop production. For example in 1930 Nebraska received 22 inches of rain and had a corn yield of 25 bushels per acre. In 1934 this same state only received 14.5 inches of rain resulting in only 6.2 bushels per acre. (Wessels Living History Farm, York, Nebraska) Many farmers lost their farms to the banks. It didn't matter because they couldn't raise any crops on them because most of the top soil had blown away and there was little rain. They were pretty well worthless dust collectors. As a result of this many banks that hadn't failed as result market crash failed because they now owned worthless farms.

The people in the cities didn't fare too well either. Most manufacturing had ceased and unemployment was everywhere. So they couldn't afford to buy the crops. The government and the charities formed "bread lines" and "soup kitchens" just to feed the people that couldn't buy any food.

But this was no accident or reaction of "nature" to some galactic cause:

Leviticus 26:23 And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me;

Vs. 24 Then will **I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.**

Vs. 25 And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall avenge the quarrel of *my* covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities, I will send the pestilence among you; and ye shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.

Vs. 26 And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver *you* your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied.

The "seven times" of verse 24 means seven years. God was warning us because we had rejected Him not only in our science and academia but we had rejected Him by failing to "teach our children" His Laws and Statutes and Judgments.

It is amazing to consider the fact that this chastisement ended about the same time that we had to start to gear up for WWII. Throughout the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl years Americans cried out to God and He heard them.

2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

The result was that we won WWII; but not without great sacrifice.

But like all human behavior, after the second war Americans started back on their consumer binge again. This time legislated “safeguards” were in place to “prevent” another crash of the stock market. Those that had lived through the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl, and WWII tried to provide for themselves the means to not have to live like that again. The great baby boom was on; and despite the fact that the cold war with its nuclear bomb threat and fallout shelters was also here, nothing could stop Americans from trying to fill that void inside with the things of this world that rust destroys and thieves steal. The phrase became “He who dies with the most toys wins.”

And this all happened while the people still attended their churches and sang their hymns of praise to God. And then right after church they would go to a restaurant, or gas station, or even the grocery store in violation of the instructions that God gives in the Fourth Commandment:

Exodus 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Vs. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

Vs. 10 But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the LORD thy God: **in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:**

Vs. 11 For *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Deuteronomy 5:12 Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.

Vs. 13 Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:

Vs. 14 But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the LORD thy God: **in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou.**

Vs. 15 And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and *that* the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

(The question of which day is the correct Sabbath is the subject of another study). When you are in a store or restaurant of any kind the employees of that establishment are your hired

servants for the time that you are there. They are doing work for you in violation of these verses. And this is how God views it:

Isaiah 29:13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near *me* with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, **but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:**

Vs. 14 Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, *even* a marvellous work and a wonder: **for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.**

Vs. 15 **Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?**

Vs. 16 **Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay:** for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?

The people have not been diligent to study the Law of God and teach the precepts of it to their children. So they have therefore removed their hearts far away from God while they give Him lip service. Yet, in their hearts they think that they are righteous. Oh, how deceived they are.

This is what happens when the education of the children about God's Law is left to the civil government. Remember the infamous words of Thomas Jefferson about a wall of separation between church and state. Well, the state refuses to teach our children about God's law.

Then along came television. Parents started to rely on the T.V. to keep their children occupied and to educate them. This was placing the education into the hands of an unregenerate group of New York and Hollywood executives whose sole interest was money. They made money by selling advertising to manufacturers of products and services that soon learned that they could get the parents to buy something by first selling the idea to the children. Advertising has been geared that way ever since. Even today, you won't find too many commercials that are not focused on the young other than life and health insurance.

As this was all starting up, so also came challenges to what had been the status quo for almost a century. In 1947 and 1948 two rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court in "Everson v. Board of Education and McCollum v. Board of Education" some of the close ties between Christianity and public education were eroded away.

Then in 1962 & 1963 prayer and Scripture reading were tossed out of public schools by our now 9 member legislature. It no longer mattered what the vast majority wanted; it seemed as though our democracy had become a Kritocracy: a government ruled by judges.

In 1968 our new congress of 9 ruled that an Arkansas statute that prohibited the teaching of evolution was unconstitutional. In other words, the schools must, by the absolute authority of the supreme court, teach theory as fact. That is how it was viewed.

Then in 1973 the 9 legislature decided that human life only began at birth with Roe vs. Wade. This is a legislative function that should have been decided by congress, which is where the 9 should have referred this case.

Then emboldened by their success, in 1980 the 9 ordered the removal of the 10 Commandments from all public schools. The ruling stated that the Kentucky statute requiring the posting of a copy of the Ten Commandments, purchased with private contributions, has no secular legislative purpose, and therefore is unconstitutional as violating the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

Needless to say their ruling was in grievous error: the 10 Commandments teach morals, which is a secular purpose which had been relegated to public educational institutions. Every one of these rulings was a violation of the justices' oath of office and thus a treasonous act. But by now you should be able to see just who is behind all of this: Satan. (Please read the first chapter of the Book of Job to find out just what the relationship is between Satan and God is)

The United States of America is the single most blessed nation that man has ever known. Jesus said that: ". . . For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required . . ." (Luke 12:48) We have failed to keep His commandments. Furthermore we have been giving Him lip-service by not teaching our children and our children's children His Laws all the while we sing our hymns in total hypocrisy.

Leviticus chapter 26 (verses 23-26 quoted above) is a progression of chastisement from just warning to total loss of all. So here is what the next verses say about what is our immediate fate:

Leviticus 26:27 And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me;

Vs. 28 Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

Vs. 29 And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat.

Vs. 30 And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your images, and cast your carcases upon the carcases of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you.

Vs. 31 **And I will make your cities waste**, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours.

Vs. 32 **And I will bring the land into desolation:** and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it.

Vs. 33 And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.

There are two words that we need to look at:

FURY: 2534. *khay-maw'*; from 3179; *heat*; fig. *anger, poison* (from its *fever*):— anger, bottles, hot displeasure, **furious** (-ly, -ry), heat, indignation, poison, **rage, wrath (-ful)**.

DESOLATE: 8074. *shaw-mame'*; a prim. root; to *stun* (or intr. *grow numb*), i.e. **devastate** or (fig.) *stupefy* (both usually in a pass. sense):— make amazed, be astonished, (be an) astonish (-ment), (be, bring into, unto, lay, lie,

make) desolate (-ion, places), be destitute, destroy (self), (**lay, lie, make**) **waste**, wonder.

If there is such a thing, the word “fury” means that God is going to loose His temper. The word “desolate” means that both our cities and our land (countryside) will be made uninhabitable. This is exactly what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah; they lie at the bottom of the Dead Sea where no life goes on.

It is not hard to imagine how: America has many faults; as in earthquake faults. Under Yellowstone National Park scientist have discovered a super volcano that is long overdue to erupt. Couple that with the long line of regular volcanoes in the Northern Cascades. Now ask yourself just what does a volcano produce? Among other things it produces fire and sulfur (brimstone). If all of these volcanoes were to go off and all of those faults were to shake at once; America would be shook apart and then buried under mountains of ash: uninhabitable.

That is quite an end for The Churchiest Nation. God has said it over and over again “I am a jealous God.” (See Exodus 20:5, 34:14, Deuteronomy 4:24, 5:9, 6:15, Joshua 24:19 and others) Since we have been given so much He has expected so much more than other nations from us. Yea, we built more church buildings than any other nation but that does not equate to righteousness.

Ezekiel 11:17 Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.

Vs. 18 And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence.

Vs. 19 And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:

Vs. 20 That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

“Oh God please take out our hearts of stone and replace them with a heart of flesh bound to you.”

Sources

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