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## THE BIBLE VIEW

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### Thoughts on Christianity

*Bill Brinkworth*

For over 200 years, the United States has boasted of its Christian roots. Certainly, not everyone was a Christian, but there was respect for those that touted their Christianity. Being a Christian stood for something. It represented honesty, integrity, faithfulness, and godliness. The character of an obedient Christian was much desired.

Here are some of the supporting opinions of Christianity in the past:

- Patrick Henry: “It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians, not by religions, but by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”
- “The Founders wanted to guarantee freedom of religion, not freedom from religion.” ([Legislating Morality](#). Co-author Frank Turek, p. 80, 1998.)
- Horace Greeley: “It is impossible to enslave mentally and socially a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom.”

- The Judiciary Committee: “The great, vital, and conservative element in our system (the thing that holds our system together) is the belief of our people in the pure doctrines and divine truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.” (The Judiciary Committee of the U.S. 1854.)
- Benjamin Franklin: “If men are so wicked with religion, what would they be if without it?” (Franklin confronting religious critic Thomas Paine.)

The favorable interest in Christianity is fading fast. Here are a few opinions and observations that illustrate the disastrous trend:

- Adolph Hitler, (German dictator & Nazi fascist): “The heaviest blow that ever struck humanity was the coming of Christianity. Bolshevism is Christianity’s illegitimate child. Both are inventions of the Jew.”
- Rush Limbaugh: “There is an all-out assault now on the Christian community in this country.” (TV program. June 9, 1994.)
- “Bill Clinton said the middle-class folks in Topeka who contribute to The 700 Club or Focus on the Family are radicals whose beliefs pose a mortal danger to this nation!” (Who’s Afraid of the Religious Right? p. 12. 1996.)
- Senator Jesse Helms: “Within my own lifetime, I have seen the most ferocious assaults on Christian faith and morals; first on the part of the intellectual community, and then on the part of the government ... the federal government has not even tried to conceal

its hostility to religion.” (Who Will Rule the Future? by Paul McGuire.)

- Tim LaHaye: “Liberal humanists now seem to dominate the fields of art, journalism, and communication, which are powerful and uniquely able to spread anti-Christian thought.”
- Tim LaHaye: “Most media leaders are liberal, and much of their programming reflects anti-Christian sentiment.”
- Tim LaHaye: “Rock musicians are consistent in their disdain and irreverent treatment of Jesus Christ.”
- “The feminist movement in Western culture is engaged in the slow execution of Christ and Jahweh.” (Naomi Goldenberg, Jewish feminist.)
- Peter Jones: “Gary L. Bauer, ‘In Front of the Children,’ Family Research Council Washington Watch (May 1993), reports that at the April 23-25 Homosexual March on Washington, the marchers called for the persecution of Christians by chanting, ‘Bring on the lions.’”
- Rick Scarborough: “In one generation of silent neglect, we have allowed the revisionists of our history to rewrite our past and deny that we have a Christian heritage.” (Enough is Enough, p. 43.1996.)
- Rick Scarborough: “Bashing the Religious Right has become an acceptable political sport.” (Enough is Enough, p. 55)
- Rick Scarborough: “In America, about the only thing censored today is Christianity, the same Christianity that was the driving force behind the building of this great nation.” (Enough is Enough, p. 78.)

- F. LaGard Smith: “The ACLU is not just religiously neutral, but staunchly anti-religious. Particularly, anti-Christian.” ( ACLU: The Devil’s Advocate, p. 150, 1996.)
- F. LaGard Smith: “If there is anything that the ACLU hates more than censorship, it is any form of public religious expression.” ( ACLU: The Devil’s Advocate, p. 154)
- Supreme Court: “If portions of the New Testament were read without explanation, they could be and ... had been psychologically harmful to the child.” (The Supreme Court. *Abington v. Schempp*. 374 U.S. 203, 1963.)
- “Over-population is the cause of drive-by shootings and other social ills, but the root of the problem is Christianity, which posits that people are more important than sea otters and elephants.” (Ted Turner, TV mogul & activist. p. 26. *National Review*. June 8, 1992.)
- Dan Quayle: “What the media wants and what the media demands of Christians is very simply this: your silence.” (Former Vice President, *U.S. Wall Street Journal*.)
- Hillary Clinton: “Deep-seated cultural codes, religious beliefs, and structural biases have to be changed for the sake of giving women access to abortion.” (In a 2015 speech to Women in the World Summit.)
- During the pandemic of 2020, many politicians insisted on the closure of religious meetings as they deemed them “nonessential.”

- “Former Vice President Joe Biden just announced that he wants Christians to be put on a terror watch list if they commit the crime of opposing the LGBTQ agenda.” (Washington Sentinel 5/23/2020)

This country has changed drastically in the last century. Part of the blame is Christians do not know what their Bible teaches, are not practicing what it commands, and are not standing up for what the Bible says to do. This country was built on the character and sacrifice of godly people. It is long past time for today’s Christians to stand strongly for righteousness, and re-point this nation to God. He is our only hope!

**“Show me the nation that has crumbled into oblivion and decay that was governed by Christian beliefs!”**

— Billy Sunday, 1922

## **What the Bible Says about Government**

*Bill Brinkworth*

As a Christian, I love righteousness. However, much of what most governments do is against godly principles and is unrighteous. My spirit is grieved by what many leaders are doing by legalizing the murder of the unborn, stepping up acceptance to let older and sick people die because of the money required to attend to them, forcing the country to accept sinful lifestyles, fighting wars for monetary reasons, removing freedoms that were earned by the blood of past patriots, rewarding ungodly behavior, and punishing righteousness. As my grievance list grows, my blood pressure goes up. If I had my way, I would stop the

ungodliness immediately and throw ungodly rulers out of office this instant. God, however, thinks differently.

Romans 13 gives God's perspective on government. We are commanded to be "subject to the higher powers." We are to let them rule. We are also told that God allows them to be in that position (Rom. 13:1) and that if men oppose them, they "shall receive to themselves damnation (Rom. 13:2)." Whoa, I want to get those ungodly politicians far from being able to make any decisions, and God is telling me that I will have to answer to Him if I do so. Gulp! Wait a minute. What do I do? Obey God, naturally.

*"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation." Romans 13:1-2*

Paul tells us in Romans 13 that if we resist the governmental powers over us, we are violating God's law. The law of the land is necessary. It curtails wanton sin. Without a ruling body, everyone would do what they thought was best, and anarchy would rule. All citizens would suffer. There would be no order.

God allows the person that is ruling to do so. Two times the ruler is called a minister of God (Rom. 12:4, 6). Proverbs 8:15 reminds us, *"By me kings reign and princes decree justice."* John 19:11 states, *"... Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above ...."* Like it or not, the power ruling

our country is allowed by God. God could easily remove the ruler if it was His will.

Obviously, not all rulers are just. There are “good and evil” leaders. Rarely are there righteous leaders. When Paul was writing this, he certainly was remembering the evil, destructive ruler that was killing Christians at the time, but the point was God allowed that leader to be in position.

Why would God allow so many godless leaders to lead the people the wrong way? I do not have the answers to that question. I do know that many times the people get closer to God when the government oppresses them or rules unjustly.

In America, the leaders we have are voted in. We, as a people, have chosen them to take control. A weak, elected leader in our country speaks volumes of the people who voted him in. We got what we (not all of us, of course) wanted. Hopefully, a bad leader will drive people to their knees and looking toward God.

Christians need to be outstanding examples in public life. We are often the only example of how a Christian should behave that most of the world will ever see. It is our responsibility to be a good testimony for God by heeding His commands and trusting that He knows best.

We need to support and pray for our leaders. While we have the opportunity (by voting), we need to do all we can to make sure the best, most God-honoring-and-obeying

officials are in office. Honoring the authority allowed over us is honoring God.

**“All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.”** — *Edmund Burke*