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# "We are in a War"

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September 25, 2004

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*as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. [2 PETER 3:16] [NAS]*

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Not only are we at war in Iraq, we are at war here in the homeland. It's a different kind of war. It's a spiritual war against morals and the existence of God. We are under attack from culture and society for our Christian Heritage. God, Jesus and the Bible are not politically correct anymore. Just mention anything about our Christian Heritage, God, Jesus or the Bible and you may get sued and taken to court or persecuted. The culture has went from tolerating Jesus to hating Him and are willing to do anything to get Him out of our lives and society. As they would believe and say, they want to put Jesus in His proper place, not as creator of the universe. Let me review with you some of the lawsuits and other situations that are happening to down-grade and put Jesus out of our life.

## **Atheists Succeed in Forcing City to Remove Historic 200-Year-Old Cross:**

A handful of atheists in Ventura, California, and a radical lawyer from San Francisco have force the city to sell a cross that has been on display for more than 200 years.

The cross was erected in 1782 and the area around the cross is a registered state landmark.

The small group of atheists was known as the "Freethinkers of Ventura." The attorney threatened to sue the city if it did not remove the cross immediately.

It was noted that the city was fearful that it would have to spend up to \$1 million to defend itself from the lawsuit and would probably have lost at the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. This is the same far-left court that ruled that the saying of "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance is unconstitutional.

There's little in California's history that zealous secularists won't have to erase, all because an intolerant few can't stand the sight of a symbol that's not their own. With the assault on heritage also comes an assault on faith, with religion being the only part of the public record that's barred from public display.<sup>1</sup>

My Note - (This is in California (land of the fruits and nuts) and the other thing they have put a price on displaying Jesus Christ. It's not what is right or wrong today, it's what will it cost?)

### **Ten Commandments Display is Under Attack by ACLU:**

The ACLU has filed a lawsuit against the city of Elkhart, Indiana, for displaying the Ten Commandments along with other historical documents such as the Mayflower Compact, Bill of Rights, and the Declaration of Independence.

The ACLU filed the lawsuit on behalf of William Books who claimed that he would be "forced to come into direct and unwelcome contact with the Ten Commandments" if he entered the Elkhart County Administration Building.<sup>2</sup>

My Note – (Let Mr. Books not go into the County Building if he is offended.)

### **ACLU Sues to Stop Boy Scouts from Meeting in Public Schools:**

The ACLU is suing Chicago Public Schools because of its activities with the Boy Scouts. Why? Because the Boy Scouts' oath mentions God and, therefore, according to the ACLU, the Boy Scouts should not be allowed to use school property for meetings (or be allowed to use public parks for hiking and camping).<sup>3</sup>

### **ACLU Wages War on Moral Norms:**

The ACLU has sued a Jackson Heights, New York landlord because he refused to allow men wearing dresses to use women's restrooms.

The ACLU is also defending the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) for free in a Boston case involving Jeffrey Curley, a boy who was murdered by members in 1997.<sup>4</sup>

The ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) is one of the enemies of the Christian Faith, God and Jesus Christ. They want even the mention of the name of

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<sup>1</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 2.

<sup>2</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 2.

<sup>3</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 4.

<sup>4</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 4.

God and Jesus taken out of any and all things in this great United States. We have a Christian Heritage and God and Jesus is an important and great part of that heritage. I only call the ACLU by name in an effort to let you know who the enemy is. We have to know who the enemy is, so that we can fight them in the courts and the prayer rooms.

### **ACLU VS. L.A. County & The Cross:**

Under the threat of being sued by the ACLU over the small cross that appears on the official county seal, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has voted to remove the cross from the seal, which also includes a pagan goddess. Robert Muise, an attorney for the Thomas More Law Center had volunteered to represent the County pro bono since supervisors had used the cost of the suit as a reason to cave in to the pressure, but the offer was rejected.<sup>5</sup>

My Note – (It was okay for the pagan goddess to stay on the county seal.)

### **ACLU Not Only After God, But All His Angels and Saints:**

Just when you think you have hit bottom in the war the ACLU is waging against Christians, the bottom drops ever further into the darkness. Now, constitutional experts are citing city names such as Los Angeles and San Francisco as possible violations of the so-called separation of church and state. Los Angeles, of course, refers to the City of Angels and San Francisco is a reference to Saint Francis. A constitutional law expert told the Los Angeles Daily News the arguments are already being made to force towns to change their names in order to achieve “religious neutrality.”<sup>6</sup>

### **ACLU Watch:**

Never mind violent crime and other problems in our society, the lawyers of the American Civil Liberties Union know that somewhere out there someone is praying and that’s got to be stopped!<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 3, August 2004.

<sup>6</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 2, August 2004.

<sup>7</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 4.

## ACLU, the American Civil Liberties Union

There you have it folks, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is one of our worst enemies. They have the monies, the attorneys, and the secular world on their side. But let us all remember this, “we have God on our side.” Jesus said, *“and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* [MATTHEW 28:20b] [NAS] And what else does He have that will assure us, Jesus said; *“These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”* [JOHN 16:33] [NAS]

Just as a reminder, our home is not here on this present earth, but in God’s eternal kingdom. We are aliens to this world and we know who will win in the end. Let there be no mistake about it, Jesus Christ is the winner, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. It’s all about Him.

The Bible tells us today that evil has been going on ever since the “Fall of Man.” Where does the power of the world lie today? We are told in 1 John 5:19; *We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.* [1 JOHN 5:19] [NAS] Who does the world listen to? Look at 1 John 4:5; *They are from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them.* [1 JOHN 4:5] [NAS] How will the world view us? 1 John 3:13 gives us a glimpse; *Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you.* [1 JOHN 3:13] [NAS] Then James tells us that we cannot be disciples of Jesus and be of the world. You cannot walk the fence, you cannot have one foot in this world and one foot with God. God makes it clear in the book of James that you can’t have it both ways. James says; *You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.* [JAMES 4:4] [NAS] James tells us of that dividing line, you either love, honor and are loyal to Jesus or you are not. If you are a friend to the world you are an enemy to God. It’s one way or the other. But we Christians have hope; yes, hope in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, because we know who will overcome the world. Look again at 1 John; *Who is the one who*

*overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?* [1JOHN 5:5] [NAS]

**Canada, what is up usually comes down. (to the United States)**

**Religious Freedom under Attack by Homosexuals and Liberals in Canada:**

- ✚ Scott Brockie, an Evangelical Christian printer, was fined \$5,000 by the Ontario Human Rights Commission in 1999 because he refused to print letterhead and envelopes for the Canadian Gay & Lesbian Archives. An adjudicator also found Brockie was free to express his religious beliefs in his home or Christian community but ordered him to provide printing services “to lesbians and gays and to organizations in existence for their benefit.”
- ✚ Hugh Owens expressed his opposition to homosexuality in an advertisement in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix which depicted two men holding hands and a list of Bible verses. On June 15, 2001, the Saskatchewan Human Rights Board of Inquiry ruled he had violated the equality rights of three homosexual men. Owens and the offending newspaper each were ordered to pay each of the homosexuals \$1,500 in damages and refrain from ever again publishing the advertisement.
- ✚ In 2002, an Ontario lower court ordered a Catholic high school to admit one of its students, Mark Hall, to the school prom with his boyfriend. The school’s principal had refused to admit homosexual and lesbian couples to the prom. The judge heard testimony about the status of Catholic teaching on homosexuality and ruled it was not the only view of the matter. He ruled for the homosexual student and, even though they danced the last dance two years ago, the case is still working its way through the appeal process in the court system.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Christian Seniors Association – The Faith & Freedom Report – page 2, August 2004.

## What is happening in other parts of the world.

### Trends to Destruction:

Stockholm, July 05, 2004 – Ake Green, the pastor of a Swedish Pentecostal church in Kalmar, Sweden, has been sentenced to one month in prison by a Swedish court, for inciting hatred against homosexuals. Green was prosecuted in January for “hate speech against homosexuals” for a sermon he preached last summer citing Biblical references to homosexuality.

During the sermon in 2003, Green described homosexuality as “abnormal, a horrible cancerous tumor in the body of society”.

Sweden passed an equivalent to Canada’s Bill C-250 last year – a “hate crimes” law that forbids criticism of homosexuality. The prosecutor in the case justifies the arrest of Pastor Green saying: “One may have whatever religion one wishes, but this is an attack on all fronts against homosexuals. Collecting Bible cites on this topic as he (Pastor Green) does makes this hate speech.”<sup>9</sup>

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It’s getting where we can’t preach what the Bible says anymore, it seems that man’s laws are above and better than God’s Laws. Man, all of a sudden is smarter than God. Paul wrote to Timothy warning him about this so called “knowledge of man.” What did Paul say to Timothy; 1 TIMOTHY 6:20 *O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called "knowledge" 21 which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. Grace be with you.* So many of us acquire so much worldly knowledge that no longer does the Bible, Jesus and God mean anything to us! Worldly wisdom is foolishness to God as Paul tells us in Corinthians; *For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, "He is THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS";* [1 CORINTHIANS 3:19] [NAS] Then Paul tells us how much smarter God is compared to man; *Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.* [1 CORINTHIANS 1:25] [NAS] No

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<sup>9</sup> LifeSiteNews.com, in “The Berean Call.”

matter how smart and knowledgeable we think we are, man is nothing compared to God.

It is very well possible that we will see the time here in the United States that a pastor, lay person or Christian church member will be indicted for hate crimes even when the Bible tells us that it is a sin. Mark reminds us of this, He says; *thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that.*" [MARK 7:13] [NAS]

Paul tells in Corinthians who will not inherit the kingdom of God. What does he say; *Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.*

[1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-10] [NAS]

Why is it any surprise in today's politically correct secular society that the world is hating Jesus? The rulers and Pharisees of the day when Jesus walked this earth in human form hated Him also. They even wanted to kill Him and eventually did. Jesus is the dividing line, always has been and always will be. Every where he traveled on this earth, he parted and separated people. They took sides either for or against Him. Matthew tells us what we have to do if we want to be a disciple of Jesus.

*MATTHEW 10:32 "Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven.*

*33 "But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.*

*34 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.*

*35 "For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW;*

*36 and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD.*

37 *"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.*

38 *"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.*

39 *"He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.*

When you remove God from our society and culture, you remove morals, morality, the sense of right and wrong, guidance, purpose, and everything else in a person's life. But the world cannot see this. They adhere to man's laws, instead of God's Laws. God has set into motion certain laws since the beginning of time and they have never changed. Man is not to tamper with these laws, they are the laws of God and forever will be as they were set up thousands of years ago. Satan was tampering with the Word of God to cause the fall of man. Lets check it out in GENESIS 3:1 *Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"*

2 *The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;*

3 *but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"*

4 *The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die!*

5 *"For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

6 *When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.*

7 *Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.*

This is where it all started, in Genesis, and Satan is still tampering with God's laws. But God has kept the "Word of God" pure over all these years for the



Christian that will read it for what it is. The word “God” and especially Jesus, is beginning to be taboo in this secular society.

It has caused the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be watered down. The Word doesn't mean anything anymore. We don't take The Word of God seriously or even fear God as the Bible tells us. *Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.* [PROVERBS 3:7] [NAS]

As one writer put it: “We are raising a generation on the spiritual junk food of religious videos, movies, young entertainment, and comic book paraphrases of the Bible. The Word of God is being rewritten, watered down, illustrated, and dramatized in order to cater to the taste of the carnal mind. That only leads further into the wilderness of doubt and confusion.”<sup>10</sup>

Let's talk about the doubt and confusion this is causing. We, as grown individuals that are deep in the faith should know better than to believe some of these things. How should we examine? *But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good;* [1 THESSALONIANS 5:21] [NAS] You are to hold fast to that which is good and of course do not keep what is evil or doesn't line up with biblical scripture. And then in Acts; *Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.* [ACTS 17:11] [NAS]

But how about the younger generation: Where is their stability, and where is their role models, how are they going to know right from wrong? Statistics tells us that 80% of people that get saved are 18 years old or under. Satan knows this and is attacking the children of this nation. If our children are confused and doubtful about Jesus Christ and His “complete” teachings, there is less chance of them making a commitment to Jesus Christ. Therefore we should read only the Holy Bible. There are many Bible Versions out there that are paraphrased and not a true translation, so be very careful which ones you read.

People are mixing just a little Jesus here and a little Jesus there. They are taking the Bible and picking and choosing what they want of God, it's cafeteria

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<sup>10</sup> Dave Hunt, The Berean Call, September 2004, page 3 on email.

style religion for them. Jesus addressed this cafeteria type religion in Luke :46; *"Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"* [LUKE 6:46] [NAS] Jesus also addressed keeping all the commandments in Matthew 19:17; *And He said to him, "Why are you asking Me about what is good? There is only One who is good; but if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments."* [MATTHEW 19:17] Jesus also told us the words we should live by; *But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"* [MATTHEW 4:4] [NAS] Quoting Deuteronomy 8:3. And then James tells us; *For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.* [JAMES 2:10] [NAS]

Harry A. Ironside may have had it right. He was a preacher during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He lived from 1876 to 1951. Let me quote him below. Remember this is not today; it was over 50 years ago.

“The Church of God has gone into the entertainment business! People must be amused, and as the church needs the people’s money, the church must supply the demand and meet the craving! How else are godless hypocrites to be held together? So the picture show and entertainment....take the place of the gospel address and the solemn worship of God. And, thus, Christ-less souls are lulled to sleep and made to feel “religious” while gratifying every carnal desire under the sanction of the sham called the church! And the end? What an awakening [in eternity]!”

*H. A. Ironside (1876-1951)*

### **Let me leave you with a few thoughts from the Bible.**

Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life and how do we get to the Father?

*Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.* [JOHN 14:6] [NAS]

How do we speak in every day life as we are serving God?

*Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. [1 PETER 4:11] [NAS]*

How are we to handle and treat the Word of God?

*REVELATION 22:18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book;*

*19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.*

1 John on Testing the Spirits?

*1JOHN 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

*2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God;*

*3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.*

*4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.*

*5 They are from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them.*

*6 We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.*

## How are we to combat the evil in this world?

*~The Armor of God*

*EPHESIANS 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.*

*11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.*

*12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

*13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.*

## How about the truth?

*For we can do nothing against the truth, but only for the truth.*

[2 CORINTHIANS 13:8] [NAS]

## AND JUST REMEMBER!

*The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.*

[ISAIAH 40:8] [NAS]

Amen and Amen,



I have gotten information for this article from a number of different sources; internet, Bibles, dictionaries, and study materials from several different authors, etc. I do not take credit for these writings since there are many. In some cases I did not keep up with this information in order to give proper credit. If credit is given for full and direct quotes it will be marked and you should find it at the bottom of the page. My comments and rewriting of the sources are in this article. I therefore cannot take full credit for this study. The full credit would have to go to Jesus Christ, the creator of all things.

*Dewey (Obed) Fox, Servant of our Lord Jesus Christ*