



June 8, 2012

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## Feature Article -

We Organised a Special Committee with "Baby Baptisers" and Called It Fundamentalism  
*by Pastor Bob Kirkland*



On October 7, 1955, I received Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. I began my Christian walk involved in what we call evangelicalism; however, due to the erosion of Bible doctrine and Bible principles in the evangelical movement I moved my support to the fundamental independent Baptist movement in the 1960s.

**In the past four decades, there have been many changes in our "Fundamental Independent Baptist Movement."**

As a result of those changes, a church member at FHBC recently asked me to define a "fundamentalist." I preached a series of messages on the subject and will share some of those thoughts in this article. **I want to**

**strongly express the fact that this article is not meant to be an attack by an enemy.** I have constantly used the word **"we"** in this article. I do not write as one who is standing outside of our group slinging mud, or as one who is suggesting we dump fundamentalism for an easier lifestyle. I am very strongly saying **we** need to realize that **we** are in trouble. Our "fundamental movement" was founded on the faulty foundation of human reasoning from day one.

On several occasions in the Scriptures, we find the disciples “reasoning among themselves.” They were trying to understand and make judgments by the process of logic, and their reasoning was always faulty. The only safe way to reason about anything is to follow the example of Paul who “reasoned” with his listeners, “out of the Scriptures.” (Act 17:2) In the early 1900s, liberalism and modernism were coming in like a flood. Concerned Christian leaders *reasoned together* concerning how to combat the problem. The outcome of their *reasoning* was a series of articles known as *The Fundamentals*. The preface to *The Fundamentals*, written by R.A. Torrey reads, “*The oversight of the selection of articles to be included in The Fundamentals was given to a special committee of men who were known to be sound in the faith*” (Emphasis mine)

### A Faulty Foundation

“If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?” (Psalm 11:3)

#### *We Organized A “Special Committee” With Baby Baptizers And Called It...*

Our “*special committee*,” armed with the *logical humanistic reasoning* that “*big is better*” decided to bypass God’s plan for local churches and formed a “committee.” of Anglicans, Presbyterians, Methodists, Congregationalists, Baptists and other denominations. Some sprinkled babies and called it baptism, some did not. Our “*special committee*” included C. I. Scofield, who was divorced in 1883, remarried three months later, and was ordained as pastor in a Congregational church the same year.



Our “*special committee*” who according to R.A. Torrey were all “known to be sound in the faith,” obviously did not consider the Scriptures commanding a pastor be “*the husband of one wife*” or *baptism* as being “*fundamental*.”

**The Niagara Bible Conference**, held annually from 1876 to 1897 contributed to the rise and spread of other large Bible conferences. Speakers began promoting Bible Schools and other para-church ministries. The Niagara meetings inspired scores of Christian businessmen to become generous donors to *Bible colleges*, *publications* and other ministries outside of the authority of God’s local church. The Conference also resulted in a fourteen point creed otherwise known as the “*Niagara Creed*.”

### No Reference To The Local Church

Nothing is mentioned in their creed about the *local church* or *baptism* as these two Bible doctrines could not be a part of their new para-church movement. For the first time in two thousand years, God’s pastors and God’s local churches were pushed aside and our new *movement* became the spearhead of *fundamentalism*.

#### *Point Number Ten In Our New Creed Promotes The Universal Church And Interdenominational Unity*

Point #10 reads, “*We believe that the Church is composed of all who are united by the Holy Spirit to the risen and ascended Son of God, that by the same Spirit we are all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, and thus being members one of another, we are responsible to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, rising above all sectarian prejudices and denominational bigotry, and loving one another with a pure heart fervently.*”

## Prejudices And Bigotry?

Was it for the sake of denominational unity that R.A. Torrey, A.C. Dixon, W. B. Riley, Lewis Sperry Shafer, C.I. Scofield and others agreed to a creed that reduced Bible doctrine to a prejudice? (*"An opinion, not based on reason."*) Was it for the sake of denominational unity that they approved a creed that says those who were true to the doctrine of *baptism by immersion* and the *local church* were promoting "*bigotry*?" (*"Intolerant toward those who hold different opinions."*) **We sacrificed doctrine for the sake of unity and called it "fundamentalism."** Our special committee sent what they considered to be "the fundamentals" of the Word of God to about 300,000 ministers, missionaries and other workers in different parts of the world.



## Motives And Methods

We should be very careful about judging the motives of anyone; however, we are clearly commanded in the Word of God to judge methods. Jesus said we are to *"...judge righteous judgment."* (John 7:24) The only safe way to *"judge righteous judgment"* is to judge according to the sure foundation of Scripture. The fact that the committee was put together with a group of leaders with many different doctrinal beliefs, indicates the reasoning was humanistic rather than Scriptural. Had they reasoned together using the Word of God as their foundation, they never would have formed such a group of men with many different opinions concerning Bible doctrine. The fact is, if they had checked the Scriptures they never would have bypassed God's pastors and God's local church in forming a *"special committee"* in the first place. Nowhere will anyone find a Scripture that would indicate that God wants a *"committee"* to do His work. First Timothy 3:15 plainly says *"...the pillar and ground of the truth"* is *"...the house of God, which is the church of the living God."* Their faulty reasoning originated in their thinking that *big is better*. They thought they needed a *big organization* with some *big named people* and they set aside Bible truth to accomplish our goal. We determined our doctrinal differences are *"...preconceived opinions not based on reason"* and agreed that *"we are responsible to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, rising above all sectarian prejudices and denominational bigotry."* We had the gall to call it fundamentalism.



## The Committee And The "True Church" Virus

One of the contributors on our special committee was Anglican Bishop John Charles Ryle. He wrote an article in *The Fundamentals* on what he called the "True Church." **He supported his position with absolutely no Scripture.** What else could he do? No Scripture can be found to support his position. He began his discussion with the question *"Do you belong to the one true Church?"* All sincere Christians who are members of a Bible believing church should have a serious problem with that question. First, because there is no scriptural basis for asking that question. There is a scriptural basis for asking a question such as, *"...are you a true Christian?"* or *"...are you a loyal Christian?"* However, there are no Scriptures we can go to in regards to a question about *"...one true church."* Second, the question plainly suggests that your local church, no matter what it believes, is not a *"...true church."* The dictionary meaning of the word true is to be *"...in accordance with fact or reality, genuine, accurately conforming to a standard or*

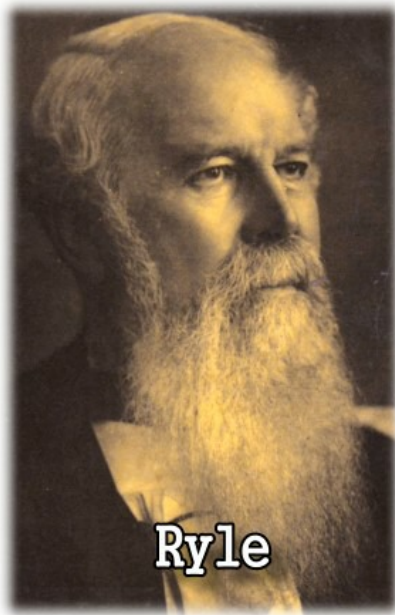
*expectation."* The dictionary meaning of untrue is to be *"...not in accordance with fact or reality; false or incorrect, not faithful."* Ryle said, *"The one true Church is composed of all believers in the Lord Jesus. Its*



**members are entirely agreed on all the weightier matters of religion, for they are all taught by one Spirit."** J.C. Ryle

### The Weightier Matters?

Were the Anglicans and the Presbyterians and the Baptists "...of one mind" concerning baptism? **Obviously not!** Keeping the unity of the group was apparently more important than the Bible doctrine of baptism. In spite of the fact that baptism is one third of the command of Christ in Matthew 28:19, where Christ commanded us to "*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*"



### Immersion Is Not A Mode of Baptism - Immersion is Baptism!

In spite of the fact that immersion is not a *mode* of baptism, immersion is baptism, our new "*special committee*" did not consider it one of the "*weightier matters.*" Ryle went so far as to say we are all taught this wicked compromise of the Scriptures by the "*Spirit.*"

Why didn't Torrey, Dixon, Riley, Chafer, Scofield or any other of our "*giants of the faith*" protest? Apparently *unity* in the movement was more important than Bible doctrine. Of the sixty-four subjects dealt with in *The Fundamentals*, baptism is not one of them.

### "The Doctrines That Must Be Emphasized"

Leander Whitcomb Munhal, a Methodist evangelist wrote in *The Fundamentals* about, "*The Doctrines That Must Be Emphasized.*" He did not mention baptism.

### Agree to Disagree on Bible Doctrine?

Where do we find a chapter and verse for that nonsense? Our committee should never have "...agreed to disagree" on Bible doctrines. Our Godgiven mandate is to "*Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*" (Second Timothy 4:2).

The word "*preach*" in this text means to "*herald.*" A herald would come into town saying, "*Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Thus saith the King.*" If the herald left part of the message out because he thought it might cause disunity, he would have been disloyal to his king. When our founders of fundamentalism left part of the message out, they were compromisers and they were disloyal to the King of kings. The men who compromised concerning any Bible doctrine should have been treated as Peter was when Paul "*...withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.*" (Galatians 2:11)

### When Peter's Actions Did Not Agree With The Truth of The Word of God, Paul Did What The Holy Spirit Directed Him To Do.

Paul did not look the other way to save their unity. Truth demands that even "*pillars*" like Peter (Galatians 2:9) need to be confronted when they promote false doctrine. We read in verse thirteen, Peter's actions caused others to "...dissembled (acted hypocritically) likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation." (Dissimulation is translated "*hypocrisy*" five times in our King James Bible)

## Paul Did Not Cause Disunity. Peter Had Already Done That.

In verse fourteen, Paul rebuked Peter "...before them all," and in so doing Paul did not cause disunity. Our fundamental movement began with a compromising committee of interdenominational leaders who determined what was a fundamental doctrine and what was not. (Something they had no scriptural right to do) The compromise that is prevalent in our movement began over a 100 years ago on day one of our movement.

## God-given Authority

Authority is "*the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience.*" Christ has the authority to do all of those things. In Matthew 28:18 He said, "*All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*" In the next verse we read Christ gave **pastors** the authority to be the leaders in God's local churches. We know the setting here was the local church because the authority included the right to baptize. (No para-church leader has dared to baptize anyone in their college or newspaper office. Not yet anyway!) Christ also gave **pastors** the authority to teach. Once the pastor has baptized them, he is given the authority to teach them "*...to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.*"

Para-church movements have made God's local churches less impressive or valuable than *colleges, newspapers, magazines, and our movement*. The God-given position of the *pastor* has also been pushed to a roll of less importance with our humanistic titles of *presidents, professors, administrators, directors, editors* and such like, that lead in our big para-church movements. **Pastors** are commanded to teach God's people "*...all things.*" **Pastors** are commanded to teach "*...faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*" (Second Timothy 2:2) This responsibility was not given to *editors or college professors* it was given to *pastors*. A *college, mission board, newspaper, seminar* or any other ministry **that is organized outside of the local church is not part of a church, it is part of a movement**. (Any and all ministries must be under the authority of the local church if it is going to be in line with the Word of God.)

## A Malignant Doctrine

The foundation for all of our para-church organizations is found in Bishop John Charles Ryle's position concerning his so called "*one true church,*" (sometimes referred to as a "universal church"). This malignant doctrine has been the main catalyst for all programs operating outside of the local church. In our fundamental movement *anyone, anywhere*, is now free to start *any ministry* he wants. We are free to *do that which is right in our own eyes*, because we have no local church authority to watch over our new *movements* and no Scripture to dictate the structure of our para-church ministries.

Organizations can be built on the false foundation of the so-called *universal church* and methods can be founded on whatever our favourite fundamentalist teaches. "*...judge righteous judgment.*" (John 7:24) The only safe way to "*judge righteous judgment*" is to judge according to the sure foundation of Scripture

## Fundamentalism Is Man-Centered

Our new movement started as a mancentered organization. Like Israel of old, who rejected the simple life of Tribes and Judges, crying rather for a king and a kingdom, our founders of fundamentalism rejected God's simple local church plan and God's pastors, and focused on our new kings and our new kingdom.

(To the readers - I have omitted a section of Bro. Kirkland's article here because of the immoral content of FaceBook pages he exposes. I agree totally with his conclusions and encourage ever adult to read what he wrote (see below.) Because we have some children who read Heads Up, I have not included this material. Parents, please go to the link below and read every word. And then explain it to your children. - Ed.)

## In Conclusion

I want to strongly express again, that this article is not meant to be an attack by an enemy. I am not attempting to stir up contention. Proverbs 13:10 says, "Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom."

### *Peter's Response Would Determine If There Was To Be Contention Between Peter And Paul*

When Paul, under the direction of the Holy Spirit exposed Peter for his error, Paul did not cause contention. Peter's response would determine if there was to be any contention.

### *Peter's Response Was One of Humility.*

At the council at Jerusalem recorded in Acts chapter fifteen Peter defended Paul in their discussion concerning the very thing Paul had publicly confronted him about.

In Peter's final recorded words he referred to Paul as "...our beloved brother Paul" and he made reference to "...the wisdom given unto him." (Second Peter 3:15) Again, "Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom." (Proverbs 13:10) Our movement is plagued with compromise and has been since day one. We need to get back to **God's Word** and **God's way**. "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God..." (First Peter 4:17)

Excerpted from *Pastor Bob Kirkland's* article on Fundamentalism at:

[http://web.mac.com/lcm7/Site/Articles\\_New\\_files/THE%20FUNDAMENTALS%20pdf3.pdf](http://web.mac.com/lcm7/Site/Articles_New_files/THE%20FUNDAMENTALS%20pdf3.pdf)

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## Deacon True Sez -

The best way to keep your kids at home is to give the home a pleasant atmosphere, hide their car keys, and of course, you could let the air out of their tires.

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### **2 Corinthians 11:2-4**

**"...I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him."**



## Blinded Minds -

(People look at me strangely when I warn them about following Mark Driscoll, Brian McLaren, Rob Bell, or any of the other Emergent pastors. Below is an example of where they are leading their followers - Ed)

<http://www.crossing-church.com/> – Eric Dykstra is the Pastor of The Crossing which is advertised as the "Church For People

Who Don't "Do" Church". The church's web site has an intro video "What to Expect When Visiting the Crossing". This is narrated by the marketing director, Britney Ahlmann. In the narration she talks about the fact that the "band is loud and energetic and the band will rock your face off every weekend". Britney even tells the visitor they have "earplugs" in case the music is too loud. She also warns the visitor not to be surprised if they hear songs by "Metallica" and "Foo Fighters".

The verse that comes to mind after viewing the Crossing's web site is; 1 John 2:15 *"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ED7RgXwp7Ts&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ED7RgXwp7Ts&feature=player_embedded)

## Eric Dykstra-Jesus Was a Construction Worker Dude Who Later Went Camping to Learn to Preach

Continuing on the subject of Eric Dykstra and The Crossing it is amazing what and who draws a crowd in today's secular and religious world. In this video Eric Dykstra is "preaching" on the humanity of the Lord Jesus. Dykstra's speech can be called nothing but "blasphemous". In fact my wife could not watch it due to the coarse and irreverent language Dykstra used.

It certainly doesn't take the irreverent descriptions given by Dykstra to know from Scripture that God the Son truly became a man. Just read Philippians 2:8 *"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."* 1Timothy 2:5 *"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."* 1Timothy 3:16 *"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh..."*

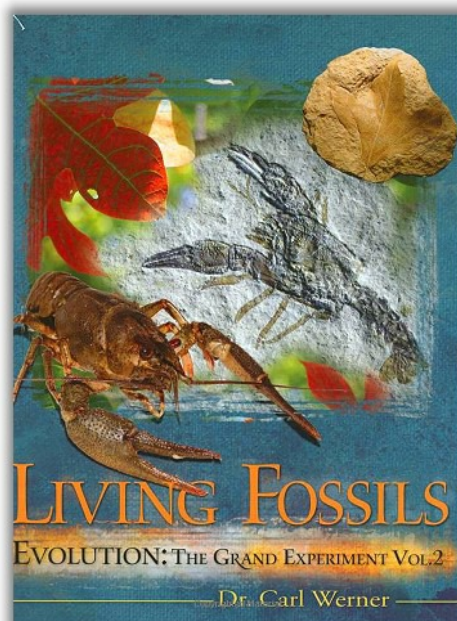
contributed by *Pastor David Bennett*

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## Science - The Suppression of the Facts

Natural history museums have systematically withheld the most important fossils from their dinosaur displays. Were you aware that modern animals such as parrots, owls and ducks were found with dinosaurs? How about opossums and hedgehogs?

When you take your 10-year-old son or daughter to a museum, your child will probably never see these animals in the dinosaur displays even though paleontologists have known this information for years. The Smithsonian Museum, the Carnegie





Museum and the American Museum of Natural History have withheld the most important modern bird and mammal fossils from their public dinosaur displays, and may have misled children by implying that dinosaur times were more strange and unusual than they really were.

A survey of museums from around the world reveals that these larger museums are not alone. Not one natural history museum out of sixty visited displayed modern birds in their dinosaur dioramas, even though these animals were found at dinosaur dig sites.

### But what does all this mean?

Opponents of evolution are bothered that museums have not shared this information with the public. They suggest these living fossils are evidence that evolution did not occur. By not displaying the modern types of animals found with dinosaurs, natural history museums give a false impression that animals changed more than they really did. Evolution scientists believe some animals simply did not evolve since the dinosaur era and are not bothered by living fossils. Whatever the interpretation, one thing is clear, museums have not communicated to school children that parrots and owls and hundreds of other modern-appearing animals lived alongside dinosaurs such as Triceratops and T. Rex. When was the last time you saw a parrot sitting on the back of a T. Rex or a boa constrictor curled at his feet?

<http://www.prlog.org/11845940-natural-history-museums-misled-school-children.html>

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## Successor of Stuxnet? -

(recent reports of cyber warfare include this from the Sydney Morning Herald - I am beginning to wonder if we may soon see the demise of the personal computer and the internet? - Ed)

Security experts have discovered a highly complex computer virus in Iran and the Middle East that they believe was deployed at least five years ago to engage in state-sponsored espionage.

Evidence suggest that the virus, dubbed Flame, may have been built on behalf of the same nation that commissioned the Stuxnet worm that attacked Iran's nuclear program in 2010, according to Kaspersky Lab, the Russian cyber security software maker that claimed responsibility for discovering the virus.

Kaspersky researchers said they have yet to determine whether Flame had a specific mission like Stuxnet, and declined to say who they think built it.

Iran has accused the United States and Israel of deploying Stuxnet.

Cyber security experts said the discovery provides new evidence to the public to show what experts privy to classified information have long known: that nations have been using pieces of malicious computer code as weapons to promote their security interests for several years.





"This is one of many, many campaigns that happen all the time and never make it into the public domain," said Alexander Klimburg, a cyber security expert at the Austrian Institute for International Affairs. A cyber security agency in Iran said on its website on Monday that Flame bore a "close relation" to Stuxnet, the notorious computer worm that attacked that country's nuclear program in 2010 and is the first publicly known example of a cyber weapon.

Iran's National Computer Emergency Response Team also said Flame might be linked to recent cyber attacks that officials in Tehran have said were responsible for massive data losses on some Iranian computer systems.

Kaspersky Lab said it discovered Flame after a UN telecommunications agency asked it to analyse data on malicious software across the Middle East in search of the data-wiping virus reported by Iran.

## Stuxnet Connection

Experts at Kaspersky Lab and Hungary's Laboratory of Cryptography and System Security who have spent weeks studying Flame said they have yet to find any evidence that it can attack infrastructure, delete data or inflict other physical damage.

Yet they said they are in the early stages of their investigations and that they may discover other purposes beyond data theft. It took researchers months to determine the key mysteries behind Stuxnet, including the purpose of modules used to attack a uranium enrichment facility at Natanz, Iran.

"Their initial research suggests that this was probably written by the authors of Stuxnet for covert intelligence collection," said John Bumgarner, a cyber warfare expert with the non-profit US Cyber Consequences Unit think tank.



Flame appears poised to go down in history as the third major cyber weapon uncovered after Stuxnet and its data-stealing cousin Duqu, named after the Star Wars villain.

The Moscow-based company is controlled by Russian malware researcher Eugene Kaspersky. It gained notoriety in cyber weapons research after solving several mysteries surrounding Stuxnet and Duqu.

Their research shows the largest number of infected machines are in Iran, followed by the Israel/Palestine region, then Sudan and Syria.

The virus contains about 20 times as much code as Stuxnet, which caused centrifuges to fail at the Iranian enrichment facility it attacked. It has about 100 times as much code as a typical virus designed to steal financial information, said Kaspersky Lab senior researcher Roel Schouwenberg.

## Gathering Data

Flame can gather data files, remotely change settings on computers, turn on PC microphones to record conversations, take screen shots and log instant messaging chats. Kaspersky Lab said Flame and Stuxnet appear to infect machines by exploiting the same flaw in the Windows operating system and that both viruses employ a similar way of spreading.

That means the teams that built Stuxnet and Duqu might have had access to the same technology as the team that built Flame, Schouwenberg said.

He said that a nation state would have the capability to build such a sophisticated tool, but declined to comment on which countries might do so.

The question of who built flame is sure to become a hot topic in the security community as well as the diplomatic world.

There is some controversy over who was behind Stuxnet and Duqu.

Some experts suspect the United States and Israel, a view that was laid out in a January 2011 New York Times report that said it came from a joint program begun about 2004 to undermine what they say are Iran's efforts to build a bomb. That article said the program was originally authorised by US President George W. Bush, and then accelerated by his successor, Barack Obama.

A US Defence Department spokesman, David Oten, declined to comment on Flame on Monday, saying it may take "some time" because of the US Memorial Day holiday.

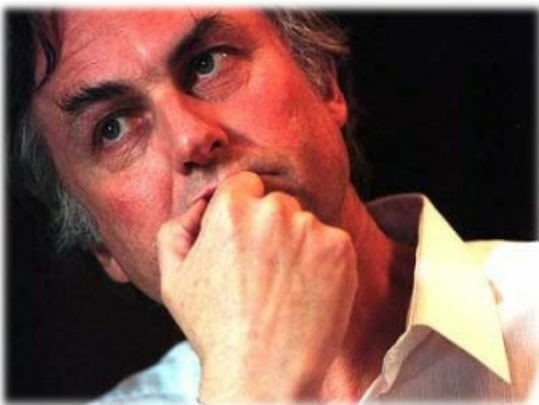
The CIA, the State Department, the National Security Agency, and the US Cyber Command declined to comment.

Hungarian researcher Boldizsar Bencsath, whose Laboratory of Cryptography and Systems Security first discovered Duqu, said his analysis shows that Flame may have been active for at least five years and perhaps eight years or more.

"The scary thing for me is: if this is what they were capable of five years ago, I can only think what they are developing now," Mohan Koo, managing director of British-based Dtex Systems cyber security company.

Read more: <http://www.smh.com.au/it-pro/security-it/there-was-stuxnet-duqu-now-flame-is-spreading-20120529-1zfub.html#ixzz1woUkK3NH>

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### Silly Man, Richard Dawkins! -

(I received this article from Jeff Royal a week or two ago, and laughed out loud. Don't anyone tell Mr. In-Your-Face Dawkins that the Bible is a sword that pierces the hearts of its readers and exposes their sins and points them to Christ. He thinks students will discover that the Bible is not a good moral guide. Silly man! God's word is not only the BEST moral guide ever written, but it also reveals that every man is a sinner (including atheists!) and in need of the only Saviour able to save to the uttermost. - Ed)

<http://www.christianpost.com/news/atheist-richard-dawkins-supports-bibles-in-schools-75290/>

## Atheist Richard Dawkins Supports Bibles in Schools

Mon, May. 21, 2012 Posted: 03:30 PM EDT

World-renowned atheist Richard Dawkins says he supports the mission of England's Department for Education to make sure every public school in the nation has a copy of the 1611 translation of the King James Bible.

"A native speaker of English who has never read a word of the King James Bible is verging on the barbarian," said Dawkins in a column he wrote for The Guardian.

The author and evolutionary biologist even went as far as to say he would have donated to the cause had he been given the opportunity to do so.

The books are being distributed to the schools in celebration of the translation's 400th anniversary. The plan is being spearheaded by education secretary Michael Gove, who wrote the letter that is being included with each of the Bibles. While some have enthusiastically supported Gove's goal, others say it is unfair to people who hold to beliefs other than Christianity.

"This is not simply another piece of literature, it is the holy scripture of one particular religion," Terry Sanderson, president of the National Secular Society, said in a statement. "Is it really the job of the Government to be promoting one particular religion in schools that are increasingly multi-faith?"

But Dawkins is backing the distribution plan, albeit with an "ulterior motive."

"I have an ulterior motive for wishing to contribute to Gove's scheme," he wrote. "People who do not know the Bible well have been gulled into thinking it is a good guide to morality ... I have even heard the cynically misanthropic opinion that, without the Bible as a moral compass, people would have no restraint against murder, theft and mayhem. The surest way to disabuse yourself of this pernicious falsehood is to read the Bible itself."

He shared a study conducted by The Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason and Science in which only 35 percent of self-identified British Christians accurately identified Matthew as the first book of the New Testament. Among those surveyed, 39 percent said they "don't know" which book is comes first.

He noted that many of the bloody events and wars in English history were the result of religious clashes, and argued that if people would read the Bible they would not see it as a moral guide.

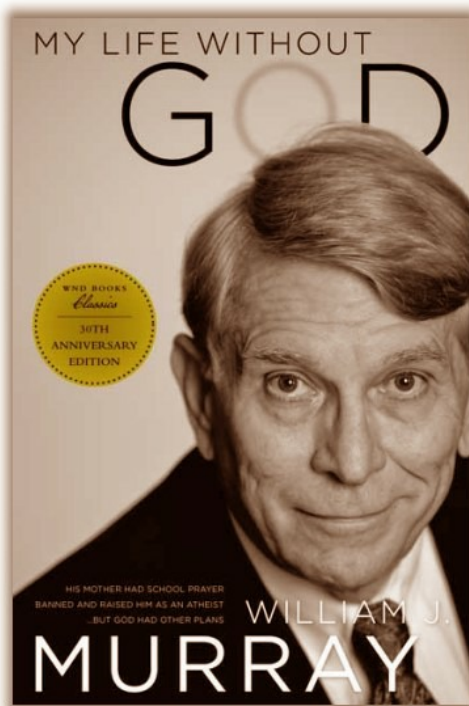
The estimated cost of providing a total of nearly 24,000 Bibles to all of the nation's state-funded primary and secondary schools is £375,000 (approximately \$592,000), and the project was funded by charitable donations. The Department for Education says the Bible's impact on history and today's culture alike makes it a worthwhile addition to any public school's collection.

"The story of the King James Bible can help children – of all faiths and none – better understand its place in our nation's identity and history, and appreciate its influence on our language, literature, democracy and culture," the department stated last week.

Distribution of the Bible's began on May 14, and all the schools should receive them by the end of this month.

*Jeff Schapiro*

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## Former Atheist Apologizes for His Part in Removing Prayer from Schools -

(Friday Church News Notes, May 25, 2012, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org), [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).)

In 1960, Madalyn Murray O'Hair filed a lawsuit against the public school system of Baltimore on behalf of her young son, William, to stop Bible reading. In 1963 the case went before the U.S. Supreme Court which ruled Bible reading to be unconstitutional in public schools. This was one year after the same court had ruled against prayer. Twenty years later, William wrote the following letter to the editor of the Baltimore Sun, May 10, 1980: "First, I would like to apologize to the people of the City of Baltimore for whatever part I played in the removal of Bible reading and praying from the public schools of that city. I now realize the value of this great tradition and the importance it has played in the past in keeping America a moral and lawful country. I can now see the damage this removal has caused to our nation in the form of loss of faith and moral decline. Being

raised as an atheist in the home of Madalyn O'Hair, I was not aware of faith or even the existence of God. As I now look back over 33 years of life wasted without faith in God, I pray only that I can, with His help, right some of the wrong and evil I have caused through my lack of faith. Our nation, our people, now face a trying time in this world of chaos. It is only with a return to our traditional values and our faith in God that we will be able to survive as a people" (*William Murray, My Life Without God*, 2012 edition, chapter 19).

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## Where Do I Turn? -



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## The Invisible Church -

I used to hear people say they believed in "The Invisible Church." Haven't heard much about it in years and years. Maybe they can't find it any more. Then last week I stumbled across a newspaper article titled "Invisible art exhibition to 'set imaginations alight' " All the art was invisible (and people pay money to see nothing?) Among the exhibits are the following:

Jeppe Heine's *Invisible Labyrinth*, an invisible maze through which visitors are directed by instructions issued via headphones, and a movie by Jay Chung which he spent two years shooting with no film in his camera. There are two works by American conceptual artist Tom Friedman: 1000 Hours of Staring, a blank piece of paper which Mr Friedman made into art by looking at it repeatedly over a five-year period. One item which visitors will be able to see is a police report filed by Italian officers after Maurizio Cattelan reported that an invisible sculpture had been stolen from his car in Milan, having apparently taken the case seriously.  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/art/9275545/Invisible-art-exhibition-to-set-imaginations-alight.html>



But back to the Invisible Church. It was another term used to describe The Universal Church. Historians (if they dared to write about the IC/UC) would need to tell all their dreamy readers about the IC/UC's non-existent theology, its members who were there in spirit (but never in body), its visionary missionary programs, its ungiven offerings, its silent sermons, its unsung hymns, its ethereal cathedrals, its non-evangelistic soulwinning, and its ghostly bishops.

What a glorious truth it is to know that we have a Saviour. He is the Infinite God become the Infant Man! What a wonder that he gave up His life for sinners upon the tree and became a curse for us, and then rose again bodily. How marvelous that he saves these poor old sinners and sanctifies them and makes us the members of real, visible, tangible local churches with visible meeting places and where can be heard bold preaching of the gospel of our salvation, and the joyful voices of Christians singing real hymns written by redeemed sinners, and people who give real offerings gladly to support real pastors and bless real missionaries.

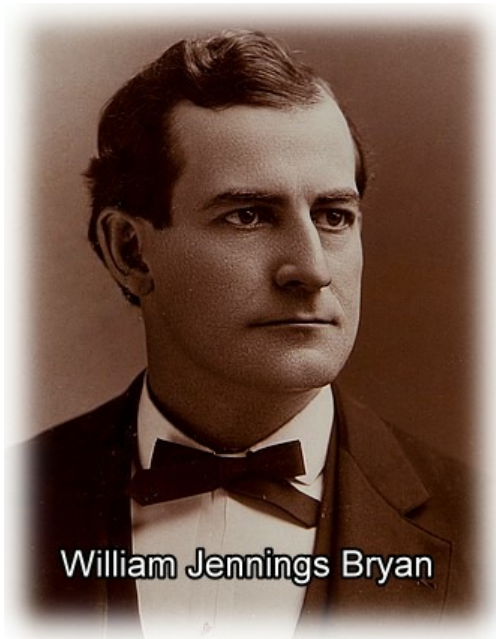
Some artists may be content with invisible art, and some "Christians" may be content with invisible churches, but not me! I want real churches with real people. That's the kind the Lord Jesus is building!

*Buddy Smith*

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### 1 Corinthians 1:19-20

**"For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?"**



William Jennings Bryan

## A Christian Who Stayed True To His Principles -

William Jennings Bryan was an active Christian and avid anti-evolutionist who helped prosecute the Scopes trial in Dayton, TN in 1925. He was also Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson.

As Secretary of State it was his responsibility to propose a toast to Admiral Togo who had won a major victory over the Russians during the Russo-Japanese War. However, Bryan refused to drink any kind of alcoholic beverage and some were fearful of a political storm if he insulted the Admiral.

When Bryan rose to make his toast, he said, "Admiral Togo has won a great victory on the water, and I will therefore toast him in water. When Admiral Togo wins a victory on champagne, I will toast him in champagne." Wit and humor saved the day and a Christian stayed true to his principles.

It makes me think of R.A. Torrey's reply to a heckler who shouted out a question to him in a meeting. He asked, "Hey Mister, can you walk on water?" Torrey instantly replied, "I can walk on water better than I can walk on whiskey!"

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## Quotes From CCM Musicians -

(From time to time I will include quotes from the lyrics of CCM musicians and from their great stores of wisdom. - ha. Ed.)

"This is my skizzle. For lzzle. Uh-uh Do what? What-what? What? Now when I say, "Where my freaks?" You can say, "Woo-woo." So where my freaks? (Woo-woo) Where my freaks? (Woo-woo) Man, that jive was off the chain." *Toby Mac -Toby's Mac*

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"If you want to know what Christian music will be doing tomorrow, all you need to do is see what the secular guys are doing today."

"I want to play hardball in this business. I want to be on the same level professionally with performers in all areas of music. I love to hear Billy Joel, Kenny Loggins, and the Doobie Brothers. Why not? I aim to bridge the gap between Christian and pop." *Kris Klingensmith of Barnabas*

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2008 Hymns Are Too Old? "The old hymns are just too biblical. Give us a beat to move our feet, not concepts to move our hearts and minds!" *Sandy Simpson*

"Its admirers want to make rock appealing by making it respectable. The thing can't be done. Rock is appealing because it is vulgar... Rock is the quintessence of vulgarity. It is crude, loud, and tasteless." *2008 Vulgar*

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"Growing up in Atlanta the band would alternate freely between church shows and bar shows..." "They go by gangsta names like Phatty and Crouton. They play clubs. Their video features girls in hot pants. They're convinced Jesus can break dance." *2007 38th GMA Annual Dove Awards performer. Christian Music Today*

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## Links in the Media Chain -

- Chinese Sunday School bus? - <http://www.flixy.com/chinese-pole-transport.htm>
- Which country has the most, or the least belief in God? - [http://www.norc.org/PDFs/Beliefs\\_about\\_God\\_Report.pdf](http://www.norc.org/PDFs/Beliefs_about_God_Report.pdf)
- Why watching TV sends you bonkers - <http://www.wimp.com/ustv/>
- The best fishing you'll ever see - [http://www.youtube.com/embed/nA3LtXnNIto?feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/embed/nA3LtXnNIto?feature=player_embedded)

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## Would You Like to Start a Business? -

(In Australia most people feel that we are overtaxed and over regulated. Big Brother's Little Brother has migrated from the USA and settled here and is getting bigger every week. The following article is one that is a composite of several people's experiences in the USA. Julia's experience is coming to your town. And mine! - Ed)

Last week, the Obama Administration released a campaign piece about the life of Julia, showing how Julia benefited from taxpayer largess and oversight by the state at many points in her life. But the campaign piece was incomplete, and missed the part where Julia attempted to start her own business. Long before she started a web business out of her home, she tried to start a retail business.



Julia always liked the outdoors — remember that taxpayers helped her retire from productive work so she could work in a community garden. Well, as she was growing up, Julia loved to camp outdoors. For years she camped at a lovely lakefront public campground until it was forced to close — unfortunately, the government agency that ran the campground had operating costs that were so much higher than the fees charged to visitors that they couldn't afford to keep it open any longer.

But Julia had an idea. After forming a corporation (a surprisingly easy task with lots of private companies competing to help one complete the proper legal steps), Julia approached the public parks agency about the possibility of her leasing the campground and reopening it under private management. She was surprised, though, at the tremendous opposition she encountered in the agency. Despite the fact that she was willing to adhere to operating standards and restrictions set by the public agency, she initially encountered tremendous resistance. She had assumed a parks and recreation agency would welcome the opportunity to reopen a park to the public, but she had underestimated the near universal opposition to private enterprise she found among the agency's employees.

Eventually, though, with a lot of hard work and some help from a local TV station that rallied park users to her cause, the public agency agreed to a one-year pilot of her idea.

So the hard part was behind her, right? Probably not. In fact, Julia expected entrepreneurship to be tough. She was worried about the challenges of hiring good employees, getting financing for new equipment, and marketing her new campground. As it turned out, though, she would have little time for any of these concerns.

Before she could even think about hiring employees, she had to get a federal tax ID number, or FEIN, for her company. This identification number allows her to collect and pay her employee's Social Security and Medicare taxes, as well as withhold and submit the Federal income tax obligations of her employees. In addition to these reports, she also learned that she had to file a separate report each quarter on her employee's earnings in order to file and pay Federal unemployment taxes.

But her state has its own income tax, so she had to register for a separate ID number to report and pay employee state tax withholding, and then had to fill out yet another registration for another ID number to file another regular report to pay state unemployment taxes. Her state also has a public rather than private workers compensation system, so she registered for another number so she could fill out another monthly report to pay state workers compensation premiums.

And of course, since Julia intends to make retail sales, she needed to register with the state (yet another number and report) to collect and pay sales tax — though her state calls it a "privilege" tax rather than a sales tax because, as the state's web site explains, conducting commerce is a privilege that can only be exercised with the state's permission. She is momentarily encouraged when she finds out her state sales tax does not apply to camping, only to eventually find out this is because the state has a completely separate system (yes, another registration number and monthly report) for collecting and paying lodging taxes. So sales in her campground store will be at one tax rate on one report while campsite rentals in the same park will pay a different tax rate on a different report. Which seems overly complicated until she finds out her county also has a separate sales and lodging tax that are added to the state's, and must be reported separately under a different registration number to the County.

Thank goodness she is not in a city, or she could easily have had to file and pay three separate sales taxes and three separate lodging taxes (city, county, state). If she ever decides to rent boats on the lake, she will have to get another state registration to pay a special state boat rental tax, the percentage of which varies based on whether a boat is motorized or human-powered.



Whew. Julia thought she had finally tracked down all her tax registrations, but she was wrong. Her corporation is an S-corporation, so she files and pays her corporate income taxes on her individual return. But it turns out her state also has a franchise tax on corporations she must pay separately, based on her total revenues. In addition, it turns out that each year she must produce a complete list of all her businesses personal property, from lawn mowers to computers to radios to chairs, and submit this list to the County so she can pay property taxes on all these items. Unfortunately, in her state the property tax bill does not end there. When the public agency was running the campground, the county was not allowed to charge another government agency property taxes on the assets. The agency still owns the property — it is just leasing it to Julia so she can operate it — but the county has a mechanism called the Leasehold Excise Tax to make Julia pay the property taxes the agency doesn't have to pay.

So twelve registration numbers and 12 monthly/quarterly/yearly reports later, surely Julia has fulfilled all her obligations to the government. Unfortunately, no, because she has not even begun to address licensing issues. To begin, the County will require that she get an occupancy permit for her campground, which must be renewed annually. This seemed surprisingly easy, until someone from the County noticed she had removed an old rotting wooden deck from the back of her store that had been a safety issue and an eyesore. It turns out she was in violation of County law because she did not get a removal permit first. She was required to get a permit retroactively, which eventually required payments to seven different County agencies and at one point required, for a reason she never understood, the collection and testing of a soil sample.

Because she will be selling packaged foods in her store (e.g. chips and pop-tarts), she also has to get a health department license and inspection. She had originally intended to keep some fresh-brewed coffee for customers in the store, but it turned out that required a higher-level health license and eight hours training in food handling. She might have been willing to pursue it, but the inspector told her that to make coffee, she would need to install a three-basin stainless steel wash-up sink plus a separate mop sink in her store, and she decided that coffee would have to wait.

Once through the general health licensing process, she then needed to obtain licenses for individual products. She wanted to sell aspirin, so she had to get a state over-the counter drug sale license. She knew that customers would want cigarettes, so she had to obtain a tobacco sales license. One day as she was setting up, a state inspector noticed she had a carton of eggs in her cooler, and notified her she needed a state license to sell eggs (as Dave Barry would say, I am not making this up). And then there was the problem of beer.

She knew that selling beer would require an alcohol license. In addition to requiring a long, tedious application, getting such a license required that she be finger-printed at the local Sheriff's office, that she measure the distance in feet to the nearest three stores that sold alcohol and the nearest school and church, and that she attend eight hours of special alcohol sales training. The whole application process took many months — at one point her application was kicked back to her because she included a computer CAD drawing of the store when the instructions require the drawing be made by hand (I repeat, I am not making this up). She finally thought she was home-free, when she found her state requires a public hearing as a final step to determine if the market really needs another liquor retailer. At that hearing, several large, powerful local liquor businesses testified that the market was already saturated and that they already had plenty of competition, thank you very much, and her application was denied.

By the time Julia called it quits, she still had multiple applications pending. She hadn't yet figured out how to create the stormwater runoff management plan needed for her stormwater permit. She hadn't been able to satisfy the state air resources board in permitting her small above-ground fuel tank. And she was still going back and forth with the state department of water resources for her drinking water sampling and testing plan.

Julia gave up her dream of working outdoors, and spent the rest of her life closeted in a room staring at a computer screen. It wasn't what she really wanted to do, but web design not require a license (yet) and she could avoid the hassles involved with having employees. The public never got its park back, and the campground still sits closed, the facilities falling apart from neglect. But a few months after Julia gave up, a park agency employee wrote a scathing editorial in the local paper, citing Julia's failure as a great example of how private enterprise has failed and the need for public agencies to do more.

Julia's experience is a composite, but is based entirely on my personal, real experiences. Every tax, registration, report, inspection, and license mentioned is a real one my company has had to obtain at some point in our expansion to new states. The only difference is in the story of the liquor license, where after my local competitors initially blocked the license I had the wherewithal to fight and eventually get it issued.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/warrenmeyer/2012/05/10/when-julia-tried-to-start-a-business/>

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## Interesting Quotes -

- "640K ought to be enough for anybody." -- *Bill Gates, 1981*
- "Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible." -- *Lord Kelvin, president, Royal Society, 1895.*
- "Drill for oil? You mean drill into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy." -- *Drillers who Edwin L. Drake tried to enlist to his project to drill for oil in 1859.*
- "Stocks have reached what looks like a permanently high plateau." -- *Irving Fisher, Professor of Economics, Yale University , 1929.*
- "Everything that can be invented has been invented," -- *Charles H. Duell, Commissioner, US Office of Patents, 1899.*
- "I don't know what use any one could find for a machine that would make copies of documents. It certainly couldn't be a feasible business by itself." -- *the head of IBM, refusing to back the idea, forcing the inventor to found Xerox.*

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## Therapy For The Funny Bone - For the Mechanically Inclined

**DRILL PRESS:** A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and then flies across the room, denting the freshly-painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

**WIRE WHEEL:** Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench at the speed of light . Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, 'Ouch!'

**SKIL SAW:** A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

**PLIERS:**Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

**BELT SANDER:** An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

**VICE-GRIPS:** Generally used after pliers fail to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**OXYACETYLENE TORCH:** Used almost entirely for setting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you are trying to remove a bearing race.

**TABLE SAW:** A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

**HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:** Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**BAND SAW:** A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminum sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

**TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST:** A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

**PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:** Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

**STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER:** A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms.

**NAIL BAR:** A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part. Also converts an extracted nail into an eyeball- removing missile.

**HOSE CUTTER:** A tool used to make hoses too short.

**HAMMER:** Originally designed as a weapon of war, now used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive part adjacent to the object you are trying to hit. It is especially valuable at being able to find the EXACT location of the thumb or index finger on the other hand.

**UTILITY KNIFE:** Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.

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## Roll Call In A School in England -

The teacher takes the roll call:

"Mustafa El Ekh Zeri?" "Here."

"Achmed El Kabul?" "Here."

"Fatima Al Chadoury?" "Here."

"Abdul Alu Ohlmi?" "Here."

"Mohammed Ibn Achrha?" "Here."

"Mi Cha El Mey Er"

Silence in the classroom.

"Mi Cha El Mey Er"

Continued silence as everyone looked around the room. She repeated,

"Is there any child here called Mi Cha El Mey Er?"

A boy puts his hand up and says, "Sorry teacher. I think that's me. It's pronounced Michael Meyer."

## Poem for hay fever sufferers -

I snoze a sneeze into the air  
It fell to earth I know not where  
But dirty were the looks of those  
In whose vicinity I snoze

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## How The Entitlement Generation Sees The Churches -

When devastating hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast , even houses of worship were not spared.

A local television station interviewed a woman from New Orleans and asked how the loss of churches in the area had affected their lives.

Without hesitation, the woman replied, "I don't know 'bout all them other folks, but we ain't gone to churches in years. We always gets our fried chicken from KFC."

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## Eddy-Torial -

My sweetheart and I just celebrated our 46th wedding anniversary last Sunday, the 3rd of June. We are happier than two dogs with four tails between us. The end of this year will make 50 years I've been in love with Susan. It's about time I wrote her mother again and thanked her for raising Susan to be the best wife I could ever have wished for.

Poor old Solomon had seven hundred wives and three hundred concubines, and was dissatisfied with the lot (Eccl. 7:26-28.) I suspect from reading the Song of Solomon that he had seen a virtuous woman once, the Shulamite, but she was married to someone else. Too bad, old chap, but you looked in all the wrong places. If you wanted to find a godly wife, the palaces of pagan, idolatrous Gentile kings were the wrong





places to find a virtuous woman. You needed to look in the temple. Boaz found one in his barley field.

I found mine at church. As has always been the case, time immemorial, all us teenagers sat together near the back of the auditorium. My future brother in law, Wayne Williams was sitting on my left, and just before the service started, he nudged me and when I looked at him he nodded toward the door of the church. And there they were, Wayne's future wife Tonita, and my future wife Susan with their parents and little brothers. (Thanks Wayne, for pointing her out to me. I am forever in your debt!) Their dad had been listening to our preacher, A.V. Henderson, on the radio when he had to work on Sundays, and decided to bring the family to our church to hear him preach one Sunday night. Hallelujah!!!! Wayne and I both rejoice in the providence of God. I don't know how much good that radio program ever did anybody else, but it provided godly wives for us two flatlander Texans.

Neither Susan or I were saved when we met. We began courting about six months before I was saved. About a month after I was saved God called me to preach. On the way to her house after church that night, I said, "We need to talk," and we pulled up and stopped in front of the drug store. I said to Susan, "God has called me to preach. You may not want to be a preacher's wife. If not, it will be best if we don't go out together any more." To my everlasting joy, she replied, "I've known for some years that God wants me to be a pastor's wife."

Four children and eighteen grandchildren and seven churches and a million miles (it seems) down the road, we would have to say that serving God is the greatest adventure anybody could ever experience.

Sometimes I wish I could live as long as Methuselah lived, if I could be married to Susan for almost a thousand years.

Thank you, Lord, for a godly wife!

*Bro. Buddy Smith.*

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Welcome to the Website of Grace Baptist Church - Malanda, North Queensland, Australia



On the Atherton Tablelands in Tropical North Queensland - Australia

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