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“Never in all of human history has any nation, in so short a span of time, turned its back upon its God as this one.” Pastor D. James Kennedy

HOW DID AMERICA BLOW IT?

This was the most important election, not just in our lifetime but also in the *history of our nation*.

It was a time for choosing between *capitalism and socialism, morality and immorality*.

So what happened?

All the signs seemed to indicate a strong *Romney victory*. The accelerating numbers in the polls and the larger more excited crowds showed much more *enthusiasm for Romney*. But their enthusiasm didn't translate into a majority of votes. The voters didn't reject the failed presidency of Obama, just the opposite! 15 million fewer people actually voted and *Romney got less votes than McCain did 4 years ago*.

It's not the candidates - it's the **voters, the people**.

French historian Alexis de Tocqueville warned that democracies *would collapse* once the majority realizes it can elect leaders who will give them free things. The majority of Americans voted for Obama because of what they *think he will give them*, not on how wisely he will lead the nation. They think of *Obama as Santa Claus*. What else could explain the re-election of a leader who failed miserably to accomplish anything he promised?

Let's admit it! *The people of this country* have changed dramatically.

In 2008, Obama was a novel idea, the first Black President, a chance to erase “white guilt” from our dark past. *But Obama 2012 was altogether different*. The election wasn't so much about Obama as the America people. *They knew who he was*, a radical leftist who was advancing a radical socialist (communist) agenda. We witnessed him turn private industries into government industries, with the complete takeover of the healthcare industry, *while leaving our people to die in Benghazi* -when massive military help was available. Yet a majority of voters, in essence said, “That's fine, we want more.” The election is just a **symptom** of a deeper problem - *a cultural shift away from a Christian nation*.

Hal Lindsey writes, “I can understand a Christian voting for Obama the first time since Obama cleverly disguised his true beliefs. But how can 6.5 million born-again Christians vote *again* for a President who revealed his true convictions? That tells us we are nearing **the end of the prophetic timeline**. Rough times are coming, but they're bringing with them opportunities to see the hand of God at work.”

Francis Schaeffer wrote in *The Great Evangelical Disaster*:

Nowhere in history, *in such a short time*, has a nation turned away from the gospel -its many blessings and freedoms - with such **desperate force** as this one. The Christian influence on the whole of culture has been lost! In Europe it took many decades – but in the USA only a few years to see a **complete shift!** Ours is a post Christian culture! **Do not take this lightly! It is a horrible thing** for a man like myself to look back and see my country and my culture go down the drain in my own lifetime. It is **a horrible thing** that sixty years ago you could move across the country and almost everyone, even non-Christians, would have known what the gospel was.

As a nation, America has *not only turned its back on God* but is **embracing** atheistic Marxism and becoming a Marxist/Communist state. Yes, communist! It's not our *opinion* but a **fact** based on **hard evidence**. **Brenda Elliot**, author of *Fool Me Twice- Obama's Shocking Plans for the Next 4 Years Exposed*, researched thousands of policy papers- **the actual**, extensive plans created by Obama's own top advisers that crafted Obama's first term, to discover the blueprint for his second term. Brenda Elliot uncovered the template for the complete transformation of this nation. (The Next 4 Years #1281)

Obama, the son of an atheist mother and communist father, is diligently following the blueprint used over the past hundred years by his leftist predecessors Lenin, Mao Tse Tung, Castro, and Chevez. The hands of these brutal dictators are covered with the blood of more than a billion men, women and children worldwide... *and the dictator-in-waiting, Barack Obama*, is following an agenda that is lockstep in their footsteps as he remakes this nation into a Soviet-style disaster that will enslave you and your family.

Lincoln predicted that **an enemy** country outside our borders would *never* defeat this nation. But if we are defeated, it will come from **within** our borders,

At what point should we expect the approach of danger? Should we expect some transatlantic giant to step across the ocean and crush us with a blow? **Never**. All the armies of Europe and Asia combined could never by force take a drink from the Ohio. Then at what point should danger be expected? If it ever reaches us, it must **spring up among us** - it could never spring up from abroad. If destruction be our lot, then we ourselves must be its authors, and its finishers. As a nation of free men, we must live on through all time, or **die by suicide**. Abraham Lincoln, 1836

The communist master plan is being implemented *in this nation* just as it was in country after country throughout history that fell to communist tyrants. It has been slow and deliberate but will accelerate, as Obama doesn't *need to stand before voters ever again*. The stealth plan has been *not to awaken the lulled population* - until it's too late. *It may be too late*. We may have passed that point with the re-election of this administration.

Under ObamaCare, which was shoved down America's throat by the Democrats, you will no longer be able to make your own medical choices but **government bureaucrats will make them for you** as all health care will be controlled and rationed by **federal bureaucrats not doctors**. The **master plan** included re-programming the ideas and beliefs of the *brightest youth through their university education* who then rise to highest levels in the media. That's why the media covered up for Obama's dismal failure as President. This is exactly what **Wayne Root**, Obama's classmate at *Columbia*, said in our program *Socialist Schools #1282+83*. Why doesn't the media expose Obama? The media elite believes the same ideology as Obama. Obama and the media elite had the same communist professors - Cloward & Piven. Wayne Root knows where his classmates in the media and the President are taking this nation. They are working as the *propaganda machine for transforming this nation* into a **communist** state. Why should that surprise you when you realize his professors were self-proclaimed *communists*. If you want to know what this nation will be like in a few short years get the program entitled *Socialist Schools #1282+83*.

Here's a preview. Under the *U.N. Programme Against Small Arms* your 2nd Amendment right to own a firearm **will end**. Obama won't even need the U.S. Senate to ratify his radical agenda! WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States reversed policy saying it would back talks on international treaties to regulate arms sales. The Obama administration intends to **force gun control** and a complete ban on all weapons for US citizens through the signing of international treaties. Using the US State Department to bypass the normal legislative process, these international treaties will subject US citizens to gun laws created by foreign governments before US citizens even understand what has happened.

Obama will tell the public that he doesn't intend to pursue any legislation that will lead to new gun control laws, while cloaked in secrecy, through international treaties, with no publicized gun control debates in the media or votes in Congress. We will wake up one morning and find that the US has signed a treaty that requires US citizens to deliver their firearms or face imprisonment. This is neither a joke nor a false warning. As sure as government health care will be forced on us by the Obama administration, so will gun control. We are being led like a lamb to the slaughter of a Communist dictatorship.

Most Americans don't understand how Marxists transform a nation from free to communist. Where do American socialists come from? **We are training them in our public schools and universities**. The President has waged war on capitalism, the Constitution and Christianity, and he is the choice of the majority of young people.

- "George Orwell's stark image of the future, 'a boot stamping on a human face;' **perfectly describes** the American government's evolving relationship with its people." John Whitehead 8/24/12
- "The collapse of a civilization isn't just the replacement of rulers or institutions with new ones. It is the **destruction** of a **whole way of life** and the painful and pathetic *rebuilding amid the ruins*." Thomas Sowell
- The Democrats have succeeded in creating an imperial presidency where Congress is merely a nuisance and can be ignored.
- Obama will not be constrained by the rule of law, nor Supreme Court rulings or the Constitution! Obama will be unchallenged. The nation is not dealing with a person of character and integrity **but** someone of single-minded purpose to **force his radical agenda** on the American people through the power he has usurped.

What has happened to the *American dream? Is it becoming a nightmare?* The things that are unfolding before

us are forcing us to question the meaning and purpose for this nation. The Founding Fathers did not seek freedom **from** religion but freedom **in** religion. Teaching about religion must be demanded and provided for the children, if this civilization is to survive. Let us make this God's own country by living like God's own people.

Socialist Schools pt 1 + 2 #1282-3

Marxism is a *proven* failure, so why is it being promoted in **our** universities? Professors indoctrinate impressionable students into a Marxist mindset, and they become the leaders in media, government and education. **Wayne Root**, President Obama's classmate at Columbia, says, "**Communist** professors taught students to *curse capitalism*, demonize "greedy" business owners and redistribute their wealth. There is a silent *revolution* taking place and most Americans *don't recognize it.*" As Root says, "**It's the perfect Marxists scheme**, all devised by my college classmate Obama using our professors plan."

The Next 4 Years pt 2 #1279

Americans have no idea what awaits us in Obama's second term. This nation will be so transformed it won't be recognizable. **Brenda Elliot**, author of *Fool Me Twice- Obama's Shocking Plans for the Next 4 Years Exposed*, researched thousands of policy papers and legislative proposals by the same Marxists that crafted Obama's first term, to discover the blueprint for his second term; to disarm and transform our military, to combat "climate change", silence talk radio, initiate government works programs and mandating businesses give employees 3 months paid leave in the *Family Leave Act*.

Homeland Security graduates first Corps of Obama's Brown Shirts –The federal government calls them FEMA Corps, but they conjure up memories of the **Hitler Youth** of the 1930's. Over the past two years, Obama has signed Executive Orders suspending *all civil and Constitutional rights* and turning management under **Martial Law** to FEMA. What is the US federal government preparing for? And why does it feel it needs *an army of brainwashed youth, millions of guns, thousands of armored fighting vehicles and literally billions of rounds of ammunition*, just to provide **relief** to the American people during a natural disaster? Unlike most local disaster response teams who are volunteers and only show up when there's a disaster, the FEMA Corps will be a paid, **full time, standing army** of government youth. Any historian will tell you it sounds more like the arming of the Hitler Youth than an army of first responders *fighting forest fires* and hurricanes.

The re-election of Obama is like the **Titanic backing up and hitting the iceberg again**. Before the end of Obama's second term, the federal debt alone will hit **\$20 trillion**. That ought to have been the central fact of this election – that Americans are broke.

Americans will see disruptions that will make the civil war look "civil".

Chaos produced Hitler. What will chaos in the USA produce?

The Great American Civil War, took 4 years that cost 600,000 lives, more than **all our other wars combined**. If that 600,000 lives lost were in proportion to today's population, it would be **5 million dead Americans!** Stop! Think about that number! 5 million! So is another civil war in the making? This president has torn America apart in a way never seen before. We have another **secession movement** with tens of thousands who have signed the petition on the White House website. Residents in Texas, even liberal New York, Louisiana and residents in at least 39 *additional* states have filed similar requests to peaceably break from the union. The groundswell for secession from the United States shows that people are starting to wake up, and the Washington establishment doesn't like it. The signatures for all 40 states now total at least 533,000.

The petitions calling for secession reads, "As the Founding Fathers made clear in the Declaration of Independence in 1776: 'When it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another... that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and institute new Government.'"

Chaplain Austin Miles writes, "I see all these states coming together to secede from the U.S. There is one state missing.... California, which may be all that's left to become the *ObamaNation*. He and Hollywood should **do well together.**"

In **The Great Depression**, Oct 29, 1929 - the DOW lost 40%, hundreds of billions of dollars vanished into thin air. By 1932, the DOW had fallen to just 41.22 points – a loss of 89% from its high in 1929. By 1933 half of all banks were bankrupt and 1/3 of all workers were unemployed. Americans were terrified! It seemed hopeless. The suicide rate was the highest in our history. The DOW didn't reach the 1929 level until 1954.

So where are we now?

Are we living in the END TIMES?

What are the signs of the LAST DAYS? Certainly fulfilled prophecy indicates it. Israel being born in a day, is the fulfillment of Jesus prophecy in Matt 24:32, "Learn the lesson from the fig tree (symbol for Israel): as soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near." Jesus is saying that when you see ancient Israel re-born (May of 1948) you will know *Christ's return is near*.

What's the difference between the rapture and our Lord's Second Coming to Earth?

During the rapture, the Lord descends from heaven and the believers will be caught up from the earth to meet him in the air. The rapture is unlike the second coming when the Lord comes all the way down to earth. During the rapture, he only comes part way to meet us and take us to heaven. **The rapture is a great comfort since it's a supreme act of God's grace to show us His great love for us as He rescues us from the horrific trauma that's coming on earth during the Great Tribulation. God's wrath was poured out on Christ at the cross, we who received Christ's sacrifice for our sins will be spared God's wrath during the Great Tribulation.**

But the time is coming when all Christians will have to show if they really are God's chosen by choosing between serving the state, *Caesar, or Christ*. On August 1, 2013, all Christian hospitals, charities, schools, and other organizations will have to find the-courage to defy the law or provide for or pay for abortion. This un-Constitutional law, by a President who trampled on our religious freedoms, is *no real law* at all law. In 1963, Martin Luther King wrote From *A Birmingham Jail*,

There comes a time when the cup of endurance **runs over**, and men are no longer willing to be plunged into the abyss of **despair**. *You express a great deal of anxiety over our willingness to break laws.* I would agree with St. Augustine '**an unjust law is no law at all.**' Just as we have a legal and moral responsibility to obey just laws, but we also have a moral responsibility to **disobey unjust laws**. Just as the apostles told their high court in Act 4, we also will have to tell our Caesar, '**We must obey God rather than men.**'

The war over ObamaCare is just a preview of a much bigger confrontation to come. A member of the President's leadership team, **Chai Feldblum**, a lesbian law professor, said, "When religious liberty clashes with homosexuality, *religious liberty must lose.*" Churches will be at risk of losing their tax-exempt status; huge fines and lawsuits will shut down those *refusing to marry gays*. (But a much greater loss would be to disobey Christ!) Millions of parents, business owners, teachers, and chaplains who discriminate against "same-sex marriage" could have serious government consequences including **PRISON**. **Do American Christians have the fortitude to oppose Caesar the same way the early Christian martyrs did?**

The **Manhattan Declaration**, signed by hundreds of thousands of Christians says, "We will not comply with any **edict** to participate in abortions, assisted suicide and euthanasia; nor will we bend to any rule to bless immoral sexual partnerships, treat them as marriages, or refrain from proclaiming the truth, about morality and immorality and marriage and the family. **Under no circumstances will we render to Caesar what is God's.**"

THE DAYS OF HIS PRESENCE #1291

Experiencing the Fullness of Christ As We Enter the Fullness of Time

Francis Frangipane, author of **The Days of His Presence** wrote,

The Day of the Lord will not come until there's a great **apostasy**. 2 Thes 2:3, 'Do not let anyone deceive you. For that day will not come until the **rebellion** occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed...' Large-scale rebellion against godliness and against Biblical morality increased dramatically in the 1960's and has increased so much that a huge percent of people live together and have children without being married. The perversity and blasphemy out of Hollywood is unprecedented. Many call themselves "Christians" but **live like the devil**. Many of us are more concerned about what the Lord does **FOR** us instead of **IN** us. God has not chosen to hide his Glory **from** us, but **IN US!** Jesus needs to deliver us from trying to control HIM! Trying to get him to go along with what we want while refusing to do what He wants. **Jesus will not be manipulated!** He will only be the Lord to those who submit to His Lordship. We must let Christ rule in our lives. He takes great delight in those who serve Him in their daily work. Do your work as unto the Lord. (Col 3:17) Outward

“Christianity” isn’t enough. We must personally know Jesus intimately. Intimacy means “shared secrets.” It’s where the Lord lives in our soul and mind constantly. **We are constantly on His mind.** WE are the JOY SET BEFORE Him. Jesus demonstrated His Supreme Love for us by enduring the suffering, anguish and shame on the cross. His love for us compels Him to come back for us in the rapture. Of all the miracles in the universe, the greatest is His love for His Church.

There are millions of Christians in America. **Why aren’t they making a difference?** In fact, why are so many of these “Christians” participating in the demise of this nation, even *voting for those who oppose Biblical morality?* Maybe they aren’t **salt** but, as Francis Frangipane says, “*Artificially sweetened, salt-free Christians who are going to be down trodden underfoot by man.*” (Mt 5:13) The majority of “Christians” *do not have a Biblical worldview.* So that many “Christian” leaders endorse a President who advocates for homosexual marriage! Now ‘same-sex marriage’ (oxymoron) advocates have won in Maine, Maryland and Washington State. What now? There will be discrimination lawsuits against churches, Christian schools and Christian radio/TV stations.

Being a Christian and a Democrat is a contradiction in terms. How can a Christian support abortion, homosexual marriage and euthanasia and call themselves followers of Christ? That’s the opposite of what a Christian is by DEFINITION! That’s supporting what God calls an “abomination.”

In fact, how can a **Democrat** even be a true **American patriot?** As Pastor D. James Kennedy said,

George Washington said, ‘The twin pillars upon which this nation stands are **morality and Religion** (Christianity). Let no man who labors to undermine those pillars of human happiness **dare to claim the title of patriot.**’ Yet the intellectual elite has done their best to destroy **both morality and belief in God.** What hubris that these people have! Such **arrogant pride and intellectual snobbery** to suppose that they have the modern, better answers to human problems *when they have created a veritable chaos* in this country. **The problem is godlessness.** We need to cease being ashamed of our GOD! We need to boldly declare how this nation was founded and what it is intended to be.

Pastor D. James Kennedy also said,

Never **in all of human history** has any nation, in so *short a span of time*, **turned its back upon its God as this one.** No matter where you look, everywhere we find godlessness in America. Officially, from the White House to the courthouse, from the media to the schoolhouse, everywhere you look we find a total de facto **godlessness**, which has brought disastrous and **appalling consequences for a dire future.**

President Ronald Reagan said,

We are a people who believe that love can triumph over hate, creativity over destruction, and HOPE over despair. The most sublime picture in American history is of **George Washington** on his knees in the snow at **Valley Forge.** That image personifies a people who know that it’s *not enough* to depend on our **own courage and goodness** we must also seek help from God, our Father and Preserver. Faith in God is deeply imbedded in our national character. We abandon it at our own peril.

WHY MUST WE HAVE AN ATHEIST NATION?

Ben Stein on CBS Sunday Morning Commentary,

I don’t like getting pushed around for **being a Jew**, and I think people who *believe in God* are tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from, that **America is an explicitly atheist country.** It’s not in the Constitution. I don’t like it being *shoved down my throat.* Where did the idea come from that we should worship celebrities and NOT **God?** *Where did the America we knew go?* Someone said you better not read the Bible in school. The Bible says thou shalt not kill; thou shalt not steal, and love your neighbor as yourself. And we said okay. Now we’re asking why our **children have no conscience**, why they don’t know **right from wrong**, and why it doesn’t bother them to kill strangers, classmates, and themselves. It has a great deal to do with ‘WE REAP WHAT WE SOW.’

Funny how simple it is for people to trash God and then wonder why the world’s going to hell. Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, *but question what the Bible says.* Funny how lewd, crude, vulgar and obscene articles pass freely in public, but public discussion of God is suppressed in school and work place. *Funny how we can be more worried about what other people think of us than what **God thinks of us.***

The God of Hope #1286

We are living in a spiritual, civil **war for the soul of our nation** yet many of God’s warriors **sit** idly by. Why? They seem **immobilized by feeling hopeless.** Many of God’s warriors are greatly disturbed with what’s happening in our nation. What they see are just the symptoms of a larger problem – a cultural shift from a

Christian nation to an atheist nation. Is it any wonder that one in ten young people have lost hope and believe life just isn't worth living when they've been taught to believe life is meaningless? God is not part of their thinking. With unemployment soaring to new levels, many people have lost hope.

"A pessimist sees **difficulty** in every **opportunity**, while an **optimist** sees opportunity in every **difficulty**."- Churchill
(Read that again, *out loud*.)

"If you say your circumstances are hopeless, you're slamming the door in the face of God." Terry Law

Terry Law, author of *The Hope Habit – Finding God's Goodness When Life is Hard*, says,

A **pessimist** sees difficulty in every opportunity, while an **optimist** sees opportunity in every **difficulty**. When **pessimism** becomes a habit it's called *fatalism*. That's when you develop an *expectation* of **bad** news. **Pessimism** is Satan's tool for *discouraging* people. Biblical hope has the **power of God** to *train you* to live with greater **faith and hope**. Faith and hope are *dependant* on each other. Neither can exist without the other. They work together. **Hope** tempers **fear** so we can choose to **think and not panic**.

Hope is the ballast that keeps us steady. **Hope** enables a baby to walk after fall after fall. **Hope** gets us out of bed every morning. **Despair** keeps us in bed with the covers pulled over our heads. Hope is as vital to life as oxygen. A truly Biblical worldview is characterized by hope. **Can a Christian live without hope?** Can a billionaire live in the gutter? *The owner of a restaurant can choose to starve. It's possible but absurd.*

Your *mind* is **Satan's target** to develop *habits of negative thinking* that leads to **hopelessness**. But just a tiny *spark* of hope breaks that cycle and releases **endorphins**, which promote *healing and hope*. Fear and discouragement are from the **enemy**, but faith and hope come from God. **Despair means giving up on God.**

- Despair believes "**lies**" are "**true**".
- The God of HOPE promises *to fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the living power of the Holy Spirit.* (Rom 15:13)
- God says, "I know the plans I have for **you**; plans for **good** not for calamity; to give you a **future and hope.**" (Jer 29:11)
- God says to you, "I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?" (Jer 32:26)

If you can't change your circumstances, change the way YOU respond to them.

Ps 9:17 "The wicked shall be **turned into hell** and **ALL** the nations that forget God."

It can be really depressing to *watch our culture descend* into **hell** but **you** don't need to let it *depress* you. If you do, *you won't be any good* to anyone, right? If we honestly believe that God can change individuals then He can transform nations, right? What if God is using **judgment** on this America, to convert many unbelievers? If we really believe Romans 8:28 that says, "And **we know** that all things work together for good for those who love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Then we will have the *peace of God*. Because we know that whatever God will do, it *will ultimately be for our good* and His glory. It may be the only way he can save the most hard-hearted anti-Christians. If you don't have the *joy of the Lord what do you have* to get you through the tough times? If the JOY OF THE LORD isn't your strength, **then what is?** How are **you** any different from non-believers if you don't have the joy of the Lord? Look at how powerful that joy is. "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy *set before Him* endured the cross." (Heb 12:2) **How** was **Jesus** able to endure the worst pain and suffering than anyone has ever suffered? It was His **JOY** set before Him. He looked beyond the suffering to see myriads of souls saved and with Him in *eternal joy*. Look at the power of that JOY! Whatever you have to face, the JOY of the Lord will get you through it.

Henry Ford said, "Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again only more intelligently."

Consider this:

- In 1962, four young musicians auditioned at Decca Records. After listening to them, Decca executives dismissed them saying, "We don't like their sound. Groups of guitars are on the way out." **The Beatles** left without a contract. Every Christmas, the executives would take those audition tapes out of the vault and listen to them again, and weep over their missed chance to sign up the worlds best-selling band.
- In 1954, **Elvis Presley** was fired by the manager of the Grand Old Opry, who told Elvis, "You ain't goin' nowhere son. You ought to go back to drivin' a truck."
- **Alexander Graham Bell**, after inventing the telephone, was told by President Rutherford Hayes, "That's an amazing invention, but, **who would ever want** to use one of them?"

- A Munich schoolmaster said to **Albert Einstein** when he was just 10, "*You will never amount to very much*" and failed him, yet he went on to become the most famous scientist of the twentieth century.
- In 1903, astronomer Simon Newcomb said, "Flight by **machines** heavier than **air** is impractical and **utterly impossible**." Eighteen months later, the Wright Brothers flew the first **airplane**.
- **Thomas Edison**, the greatest inventor of all time, struggled with a **serious learning disability**. In fact, after only three months in school, **Edison** returned home in tears because his teacher had called him **stupid** and put him in the back of the class. But Edison's **mother** taught him **at home** and encouraged him.
- **Edison** tried over 5,000 materials before inventing the light bulb. Someone said he **failed 5,000 times**. He said, "No I've found 5,000 materials that don't work--and I'm **all the closer** to the one that does."
- Westinghouse was called a fool for daring to stop a train **with air**, but today his **air brakes** are used worldwide.
- Walt **Disney** was fired by a newspaper editor because he had "no good ideas."
- In the early 1800's, professor Dionis Lardner warned, "High speed rail **travel** is not possible because passengers would be unable to breathe and **die from lack of oxygen**. He also said **no large steam ship** could ever cross the **Atlantic** because it would require more **coal** than it could carry. Two years later, a large steam ship crossed the Atlantic.

Dreams accomplish wonderful things.

- ✓ **Edison** dreamed and the light came on. ✓ Wilber and Orville **Wright** dreamed and man flew.
- ✓ **Mozart** dreamed and beautiful music filled the air. ✓ Henry **Ford** dreamed and cars rolled out of the assembly line.
- ✓ **Lincoln** dreamed and the slaves were set free. ✓ **Columbus** dreamed and America was discovered.
- ✓ The **Pilgrims** dreamed and a new nation was born. ✓ Wilberforce dreamed and slavery was abolished.

Sometimes it seems that when God wants to make the highest and best use of a man, he puts him through the **hottest fire**. Someone asked a **goldsmith how long** he kept the gold in the fire. He said, "Until I can **see my face** in it." In God's marvelous and mysterious ways, He keeps shaping us until He can **see Himself in our lives**. The process is long, arduous, complex, and painful. But it's **worth it**.

Most of the Psalms were born in difficulty. Most of the Epistles were written in prisons. Paul the great apostle was put in a dungeon so low that it could only be reached by **rope or ladder** let down through a **hole in the lowest cell**. The air was foul; he had to lie on rough sharp stones. Many other Christians *were torn alive* by lions in the arena while others were put on crosses and lit on fire to *be burned for light for Nero's garden parties*. Most of the greatest thoughts of the greatest thinkers of all time had to pass through *the fire*.

SACRIFICE AND COURAGE IN FACE OF PERIL

Failure is not defeat unless you stop trying.

Imagine the **fear the British people** must have felt as the **Nazi War machine** turned their guns toward England. Their despair and dread filled them with fear that Hitler was unstoppable. That resisting him would be futile. When people are overwhelmed by **hopelessness**, they're only a few steps away from being overwhelmed by enemy forces - or surrender. The most critical factor in England's survival was the incredible **courage** and unwavering defiance of Winston Churchill toward the Nazis no matter how hopeless the cause of England appeared. **Winston Churchill was the embodiment of resistance**. His determination, his fearlessness, with no option of surrender - infused the heart of the nation with courage.

While many Englishmen were shouting, "Surrender!" as bombs devastated entire city blocks, bridges fell and sirens shrieked night after night, Churchill said, **"Wars are not won by evacuations."** **"Surrender is not an option** if you plan to **win a war**." And when Hitler's bunker was being pounded into the earth in April of 1945, Churchill's defiance and vision found their final fulfillment. So we also must **not give way to despair**. We must **not lose our will to fight**. We are the resistance. We must have vision to take back every American power base from the hands of wicked men and women, for the Glory of God. If we resist, we can prevail. If we despair and cease fighting, we will surely lose the battle. Remember the words of Churchill, "Never give up! Never, Never give up! Never give up!" (Did you get the message?)

Love Not the World #1287

Cuban refugee turned successful business owner, **Aurelio Barreto**, is the founder of *C28 Christian Stores*, and author of *Not of This World*. Although he started with nothing, he became a multimillionaire but was not fulfilled until he had a *personal relationship* with Christ. He lost millions of dollars but learned to trust Christ through it all, saying, "If I lost everything but still had Christ, I would have it all."

Most people never stop and think about the **beauty and brevity** of life. Helen Keller was blind and deaf at two years of age but learned to really appreciate life anyway. She wrote, "At times, my heart cries out, longing **to see**. But if I can get so much pleasure in mere touch, how much more beauty **must be revealed by sight?**" Yet those *who have eyes* see little of the color, *intricacy*, and *wondrous design* by God. We take it all for granted. What a pity that the **gift of sight** is used only as a **mere convenience** rather than as a means of adding **fullness and joy to life!** "People miss the daily miracle of simply being alive. Like **flies crawling across the roof of the Sistine Chapel**, we're unable to see the **beauty and grandeur at our feet**. Sometimes we must experience **tragedy** before we see life's **majesty**." From Tim Hansel, who lives with severe pain, in his book, *You Gotta Keep Dancin'- In the Midst of Life's Hurts, You Can Choose Joy!*

Merry Christmas part 1 #1288

Why must schools eliminate Christmas yet celebrate Halloween. Both are religious holidays. But what's at stake is not just the elimination of Christmas but the freedom to *proclaim the gospel in public*. **Joe Infranco**, with the *Alliance Defense Fund*, is countering the ACLU to keep Christ in Christmas. **David Limbaugh**, author of *Persecution*, says from the courtroom to the schoolroom to the newsroom, *Christians are being persecuted*. *Intolerance in the name of tolerance* is eliminating all Christian expression.

Merry Christmas part 2 #1289

It's ironic that public schools censor out any music that mentions *Jesus as Lord*, yet the greatest musicians were Christians. Mozart, Beethoven, Bach, Handel... were all dedicated Christians. *Most Christians don't know that!* The world's greatest composers have been de-Christianized. **Dr Patrick Kavanaugh**, author of *Devotions from the World of Music*, gives some fascinating details into the lives of the world's greatest composers and helps your child develop a love for music. Children learn confidence when they receive encouragement! Fanny Crosby wrote more than **8,000 hymns!!!** That's outstanding for any hymn writer, but even more remarkable when you consider **Fanny was blind**. A pastor said, "What a great pity that the Master didn't give you sight when He showered so many other gifts upon you." But she exclaimed, "**If I had but one request, it wouldn't be to have sight, because when I get to heaven the first face that I shall see will be that of my wonderful Savior.**" BEAUTIFUL!

Sacrifices of Our Veterans #1284

How can we raise heroes to defend our freedoms, if young people don't know the price others paid to win them? This captivating account by Korean veteran **Ed Reeves** shows extreme sacrifice. Ed fought for his life in minus 40-degree temperatures, so cold that the bullet holes in his body froze shut and kept him from bleeding to death. Even after almost all the others were killed, **Ed Reeves** clung to his faith and small Gideon Bible, and fought on despite his life-threatening wounds and no ammunition. His miraculous account is spell binding.

The Pilgrim's Journey #1285

Teacher **Connie Ricks** reads from a diary of a 12 year-old girl who came here on the Mayflower, *A Journey to the new World*, and her incredible hardships. **Peter Marshall**, author of *The Light and The Glory*, tells how God saved the Pilgrims from shipwreck, starvation and disease. The Pilgrims weren't gloomy killjoys but people who were colorful and filled with joy. **John Pafford**, author of *How Firm a Foundation*, tells how the Pilgrims founded this country as a Christian commonwealth and valued freedom "under God."

Abraham **Lincoln's Bible**, when taken from its museum case, falls easily to the 34th Psalm. Lincoln's finger smudge is clearly visible next to the line in that Psalm that says, "I sought the Lord and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears." Think how often Lincoln turned to that Psalm during the desperate days of the Civil War. When we trust God we can move beyond the fears that suffocate us, and the anxieties that wear us down. The Apostle John writes, "Perfect love casts out fear." **The deeper our love in Christ the fewer our fears**. The greater our faith in God's love and power, **the less we worry**. "**When** (not if) you pass through the waters, I will be with you, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not burn. You are **precious** and honored because **I love you!** Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

Isaiah 43:2, 4, 5.

Print these words on your wall *or bathroom mirror*: "Trust me, _____ (fill in your name) I have **everything** under control." Signed **Jesus**, Creator of everything.

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Most people walk in and out of your life, but FRIENDS leave footprints in your heart.