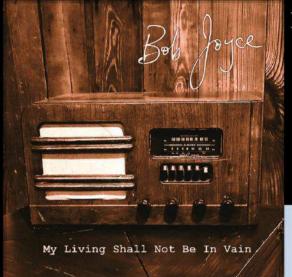




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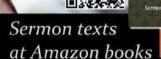
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Our Fire Fighters

by Margie

How many times we often hear that familiar sound
Of a fire engine rushing by
But do we also know firefighters are there
Anxious to help and willing to try.

They're not sure of the danger they'll face
Or how long the flames will go on
But they will stand strong for hours
Til every spark is gone









Has a book ever been written about these courageous fighters
Or have we just simply forgotten them in our history
Yet, they still continue to save lives
With their faithful bravery

Through strong fumes and intense heat
And a structure about to fall
Those men will enter to save trapped victims
Knowing that's their call

And on that special day when God will give rewards
For the wonderful things that people have done
The Fire Fighters reward will say
"You have fought those flames, and your bravery won"

You're our heroes!





EDITOR'S LETTER

"Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil."

- Genesis 49:27 KJV

According to the United States National Archives, George Washington put his hand on the Bible during his Inauguration and gave his Oath of Office with the pages open to Genesis 49.

Who knows if it was done on purpose or if it was random. And who knows if this Scripture had any special meaning to George Washington.

Of all the sons of Jacob featured in Genesis 49, not all are worthy of imitation. In fact, in that chapter, a couple of the sons were cursed by their father. However, if you read about the 12 sons of Jacob, you will know that he had two favorites.

One was Joseph. And the lesser known one was his brother, Benjamin.

I love what Jacob said about Benjamin in the Scripture above. Benjamin's blessing was that he would prosper in the day, and then, he would also prosper in the night.

You see, when the days are bright, and the sun is at our back, there is no doubt it is easy to prosper. But the difficult part is what to do when it's night.

I don't think we are in our best days. I don't think Christians today are in our best hour. While I don't think we are in the "Great Tribulation," what I do know is that being a Christian is not the easiest thing right now. In many ways, I feel that people who want to adhere to their Biblical beliefs have been painted as extremists.

I see this from BOTH sides, as I see the perspective of our friends on the left as well. They might say, "No. YOU are not the ones getting persecuted. They are OUR rights that the conservatives want to take away."

From my perspective, I have seen the rights of Christians slowly being eroded and not the other way around. I think America is getting more liberal, not less. I think we are currently in darkness and NOT in light.

What has been the foundation of our Christian faith has been turned into an issue of hate. What was a proclamation of faith has now been turned into proselytizing. Yet, the left espouses their views, and if anyone doesn't agree with their viewpoints, then somehow that person is a bigot.

In our darkness, may we be like Benjamin. May we prosper in darkness and enjoy the fruits of our labors, knowing that soon the light will shine.

In time, the light will shine again. And at that time, we will remember that we are:

"One Nation, Under God."

Gene Ho

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contents

4 Our Firefighters by Margie

8 Editor's Letter

12 God Equips Those He Calls *by Pastor Bob Joyce*

20 Is US Foreign Policy Fueling a Global War on Christianity? by Alex Newman

28 Is September 11 the Real Date of Jesus Christ's Birth? *by Paul Kane*

33 The Psychology and Manipulation of Political Propaganda *by Jon David*

36 How a Web Page Designer Helped Maintain the First Amendment by Mary Frost

42 Nigeria - A Burial Ground for Christians by Lawrence Zongo

48 Did John Kennedy Jr. Hide a Message on the Inaugural Cover of George? by Rachel Writeside Blonde





Protecting Religious Freedom: A Look at Donald Trump's Executive Orders *by Mary Frost*

How Political Parties Cheat the Vote with Gerrymandering by Jon David

Is Biden-omics Building a Narrative of Deception? by Zack Moore

Is Christianity Systematically Being Removed from Society? by Donna Gwin

Who's Got Their "Six" (Backs)? by Renee' for the Republic, the Star Spangled Chick

The Californication of Texas by Zack Moore

Journey of Faith: Exploring the Holy Land *by Michele Marin*

Are you Successful? by Andre Popa

The Secret to Timeless Beauty Embracing Beauty at Every Age by Michele Marin

102 Fall Fashion



GOD EQUIPSTHOSE HE CALLS

by Pastor Bob Joyce

o you remember when Jesus approached a group of fishermen and called them to be His disciples? (You can read about it in Luke 5:1-11).

I can just imagine Jesus walking along the shores of Galilee. The fishermen were mending their nets and getting ready to go out on the water again, and none were aware of the lifechanging events that were about to happen.

None of the men recognized Jesus, of course. But He knew them. Jesus knew each man before he was born. And now, it was time for them to fulfill the purposes for which Jesus created them. One by one, Jesus called each man by name, and they left their nets and boats. They left their fathers and mothers—all they ever knew—to follow Jesus.

Something wonderful must have taken place inside their souls. Somehow, each man knew he must follow Jesus, and they never looked back. This stranger filled their hearts and minds and gave them a greater purpose. Catching fish and going out on the lake didn't seem like enough anymore. All they wanted was to follow Jesus.

The Same Spirit

Have you ever met a person who was so familiar you felt like you knew him your whole life? I know I have. There's something about some people that just feel like family. You can't explain it—you just know.

The disciples must have felt something similar when they met Jesus—a spiritual kinship. Somehow, they knew in their hearts—whatever He wants is what I want. They must have thought, I'm not sure who this man is, but I want to hear and see more.

It was the Holy Spirit that drew the disciples to Jesus. And that same Spirit lives in each of us (Romans 8:11). Just as the disciples were



drawn to Jesus, people in the world will be drawn to us. It doesn't take any special work of ministry. The Spirit of Christ is revealed to the world as we "live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28). Strangers will look at God working in our lives and say, *I don't know what it is, but there's something about that person, and I want to hear more*.

Not everyone will be drawn to the Spirit, of course. Some will turn away. But, as John told us, "As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:12-13).

Through Christ, the Spirit of God is revealed to mankind in a new way. It feels kindred—not harsh, dreadful, or legalistic—but a friendship between God and man that "sticks closer than a brother" (Proverbs 18:24).

Called According to a Purpose

Sometimes the call of Christ can seem too good to be true. We think, *God*, *surely you don't want me!* Maybe you committed terrible sins in the past, and you're not sure God will ever forgive you. Maybe you feel intimidated by reading the Bible or understanding spiritual ideas.

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All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

2-Timothy 3:16,17

But God is the creator of all things, and He created you. Not only that, but He equipped you for your calling. (2 Timothy 3:17). Jesus Christ is a giving and compassionate Lord. He provides everything you need to accomplish His will, even when you don't think it's enough.

You see, Jesus chose to reveal Himself to ordinary men. He didn't go to the Pharisees and Sadducees in Jerusalem. He went down to the coast of Galilee to the fishermen, and He handpicked each one to follow Him.

The disciples weren't highly educated scholars or men of society. They didn't maintain high stations. They were just plain, common, ordinary folks like you and me. Jesus bypassed kings' palaces and instead chose to live among the poor and downtrodden. (Luke 4:18).

It's not that the Lord can't or won't choose people in high places. I thank God that He does. Praise God for praying Christians who work in government and wealthy people who support great causes. They need our prayers to stand strong on God's word and not be led astray by the globalists and godless elites.

But Jesus doesn't choose people based on their station in life. Through His grace, each person is "called according to God's purpose" (Romans 8:28), which was determined from the beginning of time. Jesus taught this lesson to Peter the night they went fishing and came back with nothing. Jesus knew everything about Peter. He knew how many fish he caught

the day before and his struggle in the night.

When Jesus told the fishermen to let down their nets into the deep water, Peter scoffed. He said, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing." (Luke 5:5). In other words, Jesus, I've been fishing all my life. I think I know when the fish are biting and when they're not. We use the best baits, hooks, and nets, and there isn't anything out there.

Can you imagine that? Jesus is the one that *made* those fish. He made the *sea* they were fishing in. Jesus must have laughed on the inside, thinking about the reaction He was about to get from Peter.

Despite Peter's better judgment, he relented, "Nevertheless, at Your word, I will let down the net." We know what happened after that—the net was loaded with fish! There were so many fish the net began to break, and the boat started to sink! (Luke 5:5-7).

Peter didn't have to be a "good enough" fisherman. He didn't have to worry about his failures. In Jesus' presence, Peter had everything he needed to catch fish. More than that—he had all he needed to be a "fisher of men" (Luke 5:10).

All Things Are Possible

Peter scoffed when Jesus told him where to get the fish. He was a professional fisherman, after all, but he hadn't been fishing with Jesus! The Lord provided fish for Peter, and He can provide everything you and I need, as well. In His presence, we find everything we need to succeed—peace, love, joy, strength. It's all there.

These are free gifts offered to us by the Holy Spirit, found only through knowing God and enjoying His presence. There's no amount of work or struggle of the will that will gain them. No matter how hard we try to work on our own, we will inevitably fail. It's only by the grace and love of God that we're able to fulfill our calling.

Jesus said, "With God, all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26). There is nothing He can't do! I'll never understand why we humans try to accomplish the works of God in our own power, especially when all we have to do is get behind Jesus and follow Him wherever He goes.

Jesus is the master, and what did He ask of His disciples? Only one thing—follow me. He wants us to follow Him, too. He wants our fellowship, and He wants us to say, like Peter, "Nevertheless, at Your word, I will let down the net."—in other words, whatever you say, Lord, I'll do, no matter how confusing it sounds.

When the disciples first met Jesus, they didn't know exactly who He was. And they surely

didn't know what it meant to follow Him. They just knew—deep in their souls—He was someone they could trust. And through these lowly fishermen, Jesus brought something to the world that had never been seen before.

The Spirit of Christ can use us, in the same way, today to change the world. All we have to do is spend our time following in the footsteps and enjoying the presence of Jesus.



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Is U.S. Foreign Policy Fueling a Global War on Christianity?

By Alex Newman



When the U.S. government invaded Iraq in 2003, there was a thriving Christian community numbering in the millions that had survived for almost 2000 years. Estimates suggest the population of Christians has plummeted by over 80 percent since the U.S. government brought "democracy" there. The nation has always been known for its rich biblical history stretching back to Abraham, Daniel, Ezekiel, and Jonah. But today, the Christian Church in Iraq has been decimated, with the tiny remnant struggling to hang on for dear life amid persecution, church bombings, and terrorism.

The situation was similar in Syria. And Libya. Both nations had prosperous and well-established Christian communities that survived almost 2,000 years, only to be decimated in the wake of U.S. government "intervention." In fact, all over the Middle East and beyond, U.S. government meddling has contributed to or even directly unleashed ruthless persecution and genocide against Christians. Unfortunately, that continues today, as Biden-backed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky arrests monks and priests while seizing churches.

Some of the regimes around the world that most ruthlessly persecute Christians — those ruling Communist China, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, and North Korea, as a handful of obvious examples — have been aided and abetted for decades by U.S. policy. From massive U.S. taxpayer-funded foreign aid and military support to deliberately betraying anti-communist U.S. allies, the U.S. government continues to fuel and facilitate the barbarous persecution of Christians by those regimes.



Perhaps it should not be surprising, considering the escalating government hostility against Christians domestically. Consider the unhinged insistence by the Obama administration that a group of nuns known as Little Sisters of the Poor pay for abortion drugs even though it was a flagrant violation of their religion. It took almost a decade for the nuns to finally prevail at the U.S. Supreme Court. Numerous churches, meanwhile, were targeted by authorities for staying open during Covid, even as abortion clinics, liquor stores, and marijuana shops remained open. And that is just the tip of the iceberg.

A closer look at Iraq

In Iraq, the U.S. government was directly responsible for unleashing the persecution and, ultimately, genocide against Christians. The Bush administration was repeatedly warned about what would happen to the ancient Christian community there by its advisors. Even in the press, warnings about what would happen to Christians in Iraq in the event of a U.S. invasion were issued loudly and clearly by analysts who understood the situation.

Shortly before U.S. forces arrived, political scientist Glen Chancy sounded the alarm. "This may come as a shock to many Americans, whose image of Saddam has been framed by comparisons to Adolf Hitler, but the prevalent fear among Assyrians [Christians], both in Iraq and abroad, is that what comes next after an American invasion will be worse," he wrote. "Should the [Christian] Assyrians be so concerned about being liberated by U.S. military power? If history is our guide, they shouldn't be afraid. They should be terrified."

While not sugar-coating Hussein's barbarism, Chancy noted that the formerly U.S.-backed dictator protected Christians from Islamist violence, unlike close U.S. government "allies" such as Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. But he clearly warned that despite having survived invasions by Persians, Arabs, Turks, and others, the Christians of Iraq might not survive the American invasion. His warning was prescient —Christians were massacred, raped, enslaved, brutalized, terrorized, and more as jihadists targeted not just American invaders but local Christians, too.

After the invasion, it was obvious that the worst fears of Chancy and many others were proven correct. "To deal with the subject honestly, it must be acknowledged that it almost appears as if President George Walker Bush were waging a global war *against* Christians," he wrote in 2014 after the invasion began. "Had President George W. Bush set out with the intentional goal of destroying the Christian population in Iraq, it is hard to see how he could have been more effective than he has been to date."

Unfortunately, the situation for the remaining Iraqi Christians has only deteriorated since then. Countless Iraqi church leaders have spoken out about how the U.S. invasion decimated their community, but propagandists posing as "mainstream" journalists in the United States and across the Western world largely refused to listen, much less share the facts with their audience.

Under the previous regime, Christians were officially protected. In fact, the Ba'th party that ruled Iraq was founded by Orthodox Christian Michel Aflaq, a proponent of religious liberty. Saddam Hussein, a former U.S. ally, was certainly a brutal dictator, similar to countless other Middle Eastern regimes over the centuries. But under his rule, Christians were free to worship openly, serve in government, and live in peace. Christmas decorations were everywhere in Baghdad. Today, Christians are an endangered species. Following one of the countless church bombings, Archdeacon Temathius Esha, described as the last Christian priest in what was once a thriving center of Christianity just outside Baghdad known as Doura, sounded exasperated. "In Saddam's time, Christians could worship freely," Archdeacon Esha explained, sounding like countless other Christian leaders in Iraq. "But since the war, we have been attacked, robbed, raped, and forced out of both Doura and the country." After surviving 2000 years, the genocide of Christians in Iraq is nearly complete.



Broader Middle East & Africa

The horror unleashed against Christians in Iraq caused countless survivors to flee. Many went to Syria, another nation ruled by a strongman who, despite his totalitarian tendencies, had no tolerance for violence against Christians. Unfortunately for Syrian Christians and the refugees from Iraq, however, the U.S. government decided to foment a civil war in that nation. Perhaps

more alarming, the Obama administration sided with vicious jihadists, many of whom openly declared their allegiance to al Qaeda, ISIS, and other mass-murdering groups determined to convert at gunpoint or exterminate Christians.





The administration knew full well what it was doing. Incredibly, the U.S. government even produced a document *proving* it knew the forces it was backing in Syria were radical jihadists. In a 2012 report, the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency described the Muslim Brotherhood and al-Qaeda as "the major forces driving the insurgency in Syria." The document was seen by top officials, including then—Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Despite blathering about "moderate rebels," the Obama administration knew the uprising it was arming and backing was not moderate at all — it was led by some of the most violent terrorists on the planet.

The DIA report, which highlighted the support to the terrorist insurgents by Western and Sunni governments, also stated that one goal was to create a "Salafist principality" in Eastern Syria. With the emergence of the Islamic State, also known as ISIS, they obviously succeeded. General Mike Flynn, who was leading the DIA at the time, said in an interview on Al Jazeera that the Obama administration made a "willful" decision to support Al Qaeda, despite his warnings. That DIA report and other documentation led President Trump to call Obama and Clinton the "co-founders of ISIS."

The U.S. government's decision to arm, fund, and train mass-murdering jihadists to overthrow Syrian strongman Bashar al Assad led directly to unfathomable horrors against that nation's ancient Christian community. Countless beheadings and crucifixions of Christians were carried out by Obama's "moderate" rebels. Entire Christian villages were wiped off the map. Today, as in Iraq, Christians are clinging to dear life. The only reason they are still there is because Obama and the Sunni Arab tyrants who backed the uprising have failed so far in their bid to remove Assad.

Yet another example is Libya. Under former strongman Moammar Gadhafi, Christians were protected and had the same rights and protections as any other Libyan. In fact, Gadhafi was an implacable foe to Islamic extremists who wanted to persecute Christians. But when the Obama administration decided to foment an uprising and partner with Islamic jihadists — including many leaders who were openly and proudly declaring their loyalty to al Qaeda — everything changed.

Just months into the conflict, Christian leaders were in despair and on the verge of losing everything. The Catholic Bishop of Benghazi, Sylvester Magro, was quoted by Reuters saying that his flock of over 10,000 had been decimated, with the Christian community there dwindling to just a few hundred survivors. A Coptic Christian priest in the area said his usual congregation of over 1000 parishioners had been reduced to just a few dozen. Migrant Christians were put in cages, beheaded, sold into slavery, and more, with observers labeling it a "genocide."

Even in non-Islamic countries, U.S. government intervention produced a cataclysm for Christians. Consider the case of the Ivory Coast. In 2012, the Constitutional Council declared that Ivorian President Laurent Gbagbo won re-election in a victory later affirmed by that nation's Supreme Court. But Obama and the United Nations agreed with a Muslim globalist named Alassane Ouattara that there had been "fraud."

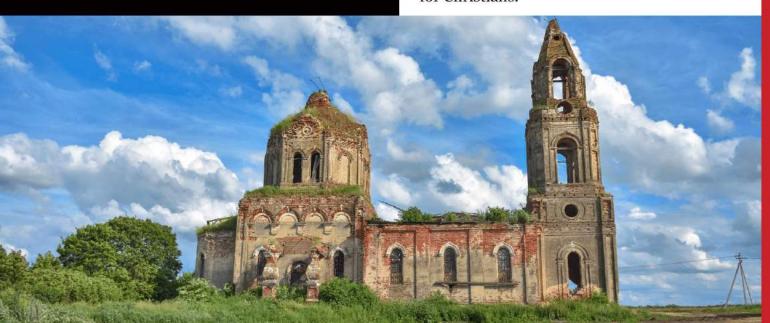
And so, they intervened militarily, partnering with Islamic militias from the North for a "regime change" operation. Obama and UN forces dropped bombs on the Christian leader's forces to support Islamic jihadists marching toward the capital. As they went, news reports documented thousands of brutal murders of Christians by the Obama- and UN-backed militias, who raped Christians and hacked them to death with machetes and even burned churches filled with Christians to the ground. U.S. Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.) called it "a reign of terror." Obama painted it as a model for the future.

Anti-Christian Policy at Home

None of this should be surprising considering the escalating hostility toward Christians of the U.S. government and the Deep State behind it, even in the United States. The U.S. government has become increasingly brazen in its funding of anti-Christian and godless extremism. In fact, across the United States, authorities are seeking to force Christians to violate their conscience and celebrate homosexuality and transgenderism, whether it be baking cakes and making websites or while in counseling.

Even American troops are being indoctrinated with anti-Christian propaganda. In 2013, the Obama administration's Department of Defense was caught training U.S. soldiers with a presentation that equated Catholics, Orthodox Jews, and Evangelical Christians with al-Qaeda, Hamas, and the Ku Klux Klan. All were included on a slide titled "Religious Extremism." More recently, the FBI was caught plotting to recruit pastors and priests to spy on their "traditional Catholic" congregations inside the United States.

Meanwhile, the U.S. government and its globalist allies have also been working overtime to flood historically Christian nations with Islamic and pagan migrants — both legal and illegal. Millions of those migrants have moved to the West under asylum laws, ironically pointing to U.S. government-instigated wars in their homelands as the justification. And the result has been a disaster for Christians.







In France, for instance, jihadists have been running wild in recent weeks, burning down historic churches and symbols of Christianity with almost as much fiendishness and zeal as the French revolutionaries more than two centuries ago. Multiple jihadist migrants have even beheaded pastors and priests during church services as horrified Christians looked on. Much more terror targeting Christianity and Christians is on the way as governments bend over backward to combat "Islamophobia" and "homophobia" while persecuting Christians.

The U.S. government has become one of the most dangerous foes of Christianity, Christians, and the Church anywhere on Earth. If left unchecked, the persecution it aids, abets, and fuels overseas will eventually be unleashed on American Christians, too. It is time for Congress to put a stop to it now before any more Christians are raped, enslaved, or murdered.

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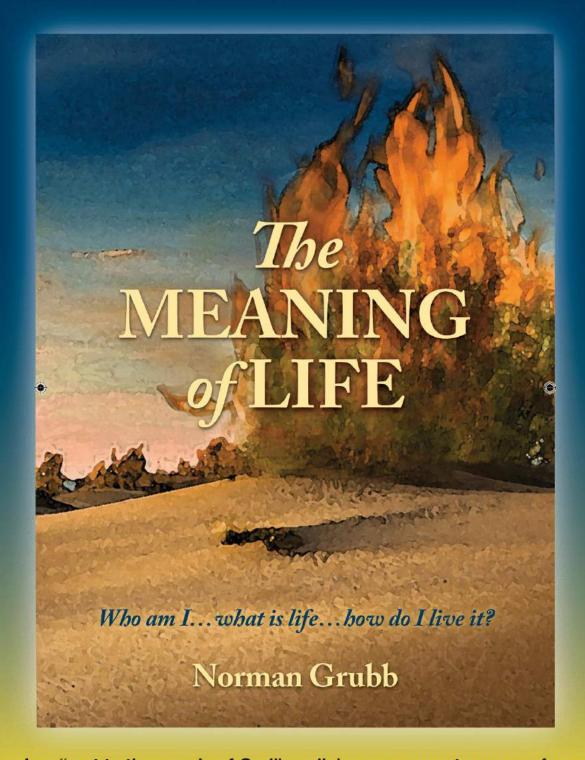
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Is September 11 the Real Date of

The Lord Jesus Christ's Birth?

By Paul Kane

as the Lord Jesus Christ, for His First Advent, born on September 11? Is this why many of the evil events of this world take place on that date, as an attempt to take a "swipe" at Christ's birth date?

The Bible does not explicitly state the date of Jesus' birth, but there are a number of passages that provide numerous clues. One of the most intriguing passages is found in the book of Numbers, Numbers 29:1 which says,

"AND in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you."

Some scholars believe that this passage is a reference to the birth of Jesus and that he was born on the Feast of Trumpets in 2 BC.

The number 7 is significant in the Bible, and it is often associated with perfection. The seventh month of the Hebrew calendar is Tishri, and it is the first month of the new year. This would make the Feast of Trumpets the first day of the new year, which is a fitting day for the birth of the Messiah, who would bring in a new era of salvation.

Before we go any further, let's turn to and read Micah 4:8, and then Micah 5:2; here's what it says "And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem."

Now, Micah 5:2 "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he



come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

Now turn to Matthew 2:4-6 and let's read what the Magi said to Herod. Here's what it says "And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written

"And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you." Numbers 29:1.

Some scholars believe that this passage is a reference to the birth of Jesus and that he was born on the Feast of Trumpets in 2 BC.



by the prophet Micah, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel."

To Read the full account of The Birth of the LORD Jesus Christ, Go to Luke 2:1-14

Let's now turn our focus to THE PROCLAMATION OF CAESAR AUGUSTUS - Luke 2:1-5 - "that all

the world should be taxed."

Augustus ruled from 43 BC to 14 A.D. Augustus is Octavian, grandnephew of Julius Caesar. Now, Quirinius was "governing" under the governor Varus of Syria at the time of the census mentioned in the Bible, probably around 7 BC, as seen in Luke 2:2

Josephus refers to a census in 6 AD, when Quirinius was the governor, Egyptian records state



that a census was done by Rome every 14 years and took several years to accomplish.

Herod the Great was alive at the birth of the Messiah. The problem of the timing of Herod the Great's death is related to a remark by the Roman Historian, Flavius Josephus. Josephus recorded an eclipse on March 13, 4 BC, which he said was "shortly before Herod died."

However, the actual date of the eclipse was December 29, 1 BC. And then, the time between the birth of the Messiah and Herod's death is necessary since Joseph and Mary, with the baby Jesus Christ, fled to Egypt and did not return until after Herod's death due to the massacre of the children at Herod's orders. Herod the Great died on January 14, 1 BC. Tertullian said that the birth of Jesus Christ was 41 years after Augustus began his rule, and Augustus died 15 years after the birth of Christ. The death of Augustus was August 19, 14 AD. Tertullian also said that Jesus Christ was born 28 years after the death of Cleopatra, who died in 30 BC.

Irenaeus, as well, said that Jesus was born in the 41st year of the reign of Augustus. And Eusebius said the same thing. The 42nd year of Augustus ran from the autumn of 2 BC to the autumn of 1 BC.

The LORD Jesus Christ was most likely born on September 11, 2 BC.

One more thing, when the temple was destroyed by Titus on August 5, 70 AD, the first course of priests had just taken office. There are 24 courses or



The VERY INTERESTING fact of this date is that it is Tishri 1 on the Jewish calendar, Rosh Hashanah, The Feast of Trumpets.

divisions for the Jewish Priests. The course of Abijah, John the Baptist's Father, Zacharias, was the 8th course. So, tracing backward, Zacharias would have ended his duties on July 13, 3 BC. The birth of John the Baptist would be 280 days later, April 19-20, 2 BC, which was Passover that year; the birth of Jesus would have been six months later, in the fall of 2 BC. The VERY INTERESTING fact of this date is that it is Tishri 1 on the Jewish calendar, Rosh Hashanah, The Feast of Trumpets.

In Ephesians 1:13, the Holy Spirit, through the Apostle Paul, declares that men are saved and sealed by hearing and BELIEVING the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your Salvation. Therefore, here, now, is declared unto you the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your Salvation: "that Christ died

for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. BELIEVE today. The time is short.

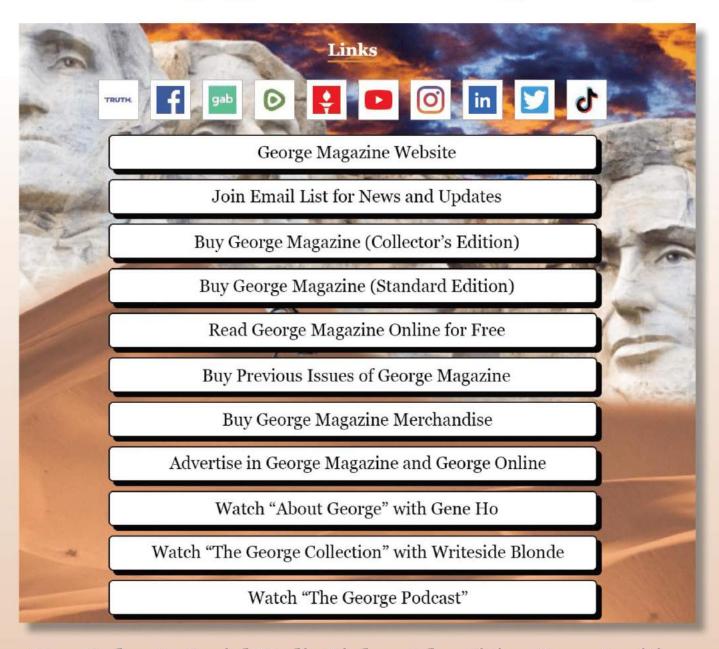
So There You Have it!

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The Psychology and Manipulation of Political Propaganda:

How It Encourages Good People to Do Nothing

by Jon David

Propaganda is a powerful tool that can be used to influence people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. It is often used in politics to promote a particular ideology or agenda.

Propaganda is the dissemination of information—whether true or false—with the intention of influencing the opinions or actions of others. It is a powerful tool that can be used to manipulate people's thoughts and beliefs, and it has been used throughout history to achieve political goals.

Propagandists understand the psychology of human beings and how to use it to their advantage. They know that people are more likely to be persuaded by information that confirms their existing beliefs. They also know that people are more likely to be persuaded by information that is presented in a way that appeals to their emotions.

SELL Nowotion SELL Nowotion SELL Nowotion SELL Nowotion SELL Nowotion SELL Nowotion NIEWS Manipulative

apathy. This is done by making people feel like their actions don't matter or that they are powerless to change anything. Propaganda that suggests that the system is rigged or that there is no point in trying to change things can make people feel like they are helpless to make a difference. This can be done by using words like "hopeless" and "helpless" or by creating a sense of fatalism.

Propaganda can also encourage people to do nothing by making them feel overwhelmed. Propaganda that bombards people with complex information or that presents them with a seemingly endless array of choices can make them feel like they can't possibly make a decision or take action. This can lead to paralysis and inaction.

Of course, not all propaganda is designed to encourage people to do nothing. Some propaganda is designed to encourage people to take action, such as joining the military or voting for a particular candidate. However, even this type of propaganda can be used to discourage people from taking other types of action, such as protesting or speaking out against the government.

The psychology of political propaganda is a complex topic, but one thing is clear: **propaganda** can be a powerful tool for encouraging people to do nothing. If we are to be effective in combating propaganda, we need

Propaganda encourages people to do nothing by appealing to their fears.

Fear is a powerful emotion that can cloud our judgment and make us more susceptible to persuasion. For example, propaganda that plays on people's fears of terrorism, crime, or economic hardship can make them more likely to support policies that are in the interests of those who are spreading the propaganda.

Another one of the most common ways that propaganda encourages people to do nothing is by creating a sense of Another way that propaganda encourages people to do nothing is by making people feel like they are already doing enough. This is done by highlighting the efforts of others or by making people feel like they are already making a difference. This can be a very effective way to discourage people from taking action because it can make them feel like they don't need to do anything else.

HYPE Plugging Information Plugging Information Control Plugging Information Plugging Informat

to understand how it works and how it can affect us.

So, to sum up, Propagandists use the following variety of techniques...

Fear-mongering: This is done by creating a sense of fear or anxiety about a particular issue. This can be done by using words like "danger," "threat," and "risk." Appealing to emotions: This is done by using emotional appeals to make people feel angry, sad, or scared. This can be a very effective way to get people to act, but it can also be used to discourage people from acting.

Distraction: This is done by drawing people's attention away from the issue at hand. This can be done by focusing on other, less important issues or by using entertainment to distract people.

Sophistry: This is done by using logical fallacies or misleading information to confuse people. This can make it difficult for people to understand the issue at hand and can make them less likely to take action.

Propaganda is a powerful tool that

propaldent, to teach (propaga paidenein, to da (propaga paidenein, to da (propaga paidenein, to da (propaga propaga propaga of a doctrine or cause of tion of a doctrine or propaga can be used to influence people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. It is important to be aware of the techniques that propagandists use so that you can be less susceptible to their influence.

How can we combat propaganda?

There are a number of things that we can do to combat propaganda. Here are a few tips:

Be critical of the information you consume: Don't just accept everything you hear or read. Ask questions and do your own research to verify the facts.

Be aware of the different types of propaganda: There are many different types of propaganda, so it's important to be aware of them so that you can recognize them when you see them.

Don't be afraid to question authority: Just because someone in a position of authority says something doesn't mean it's true. Be willing to question everything, even if it comes from a source you trust.

Teach others about propaganda: The more people who are aware of propaganda, the less effective it will be. Share what you know with your friends and family so that they can be more critical of the information they consume.

Propaganda is a powerful tool that can be used to manipulate people's thoughts and beliefs. However, if we are aware of how it works, **we can resist its influence** and make informed decisions about our lives.

The more people who are aware of Propaganda, the less effective it will be.



How a Web Page Designer

Helped Maintain the First Amendment

by Mary Frost

303 Creative LLC v. Elenis, the case brought by web page designer, Lorie Smith, is a landmark decision that has significant implications for the protection of First Amendment rights in the United States. This case not only upheld our freedom of speech but also set a significant precedent that will shape future interpretations of this constitutional right.

This decision emphasized that the concept of "pure speech" is granted greater protection under the First Amendment. Pure speech refers to expressions made through various mediums, such as written or spoken words, without accompanying actions or conduct.

The court recognized that individuals have a constitutional right to engage in pure speech without fear of government interference or coercion.

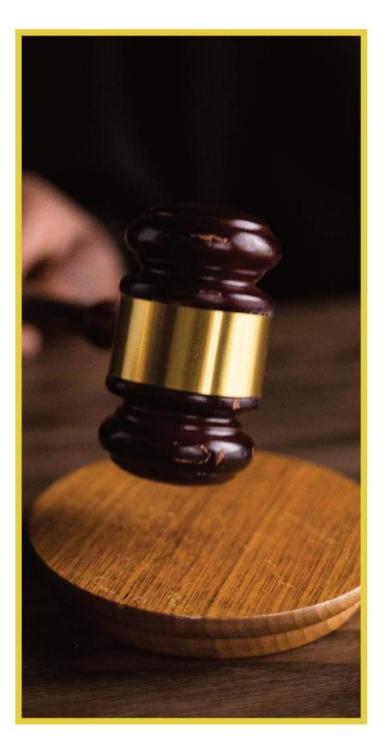
It is important to note that this case focuses on the distinction between 'everyday' goods and services and those that are CREATED by a designer for a specific purpose. For example, a neighborhood grocery store that refuses to sell milk to anyone based on their race, gender, religion, or sexual preference would NOT be protected under the First Amendment. An artist, however, who CREATES a specific product for a specific client WOULD be afforded First Amendment protection, provided their product/service is deemed



"pure speech." This was stated in the case documents: "Public accommodation laws sometimes touch on speech incidentally as they work to ensure **ordinary**, **non-expressive goods and services** are sold on equal terms" but distinguished such incidental impact from a public accommodation law "applied peculiarly to compel expressive activity."

Case Background

Lorie Smith is the sole owner of 303 Creative LLC, a graphic design business based in Colorado. Smith wanted to expand her business to include the creation of wedding websites. However, Smith's sincerely held religious view "that marriage is only between 1 man and 1 woman" would have made creating websites for same-sex couples contradictory to her faith and beliefs. She wanted to be able to decline to create these websites and to be permitted to post a message on her website "telling potential customers that she will only create messages that are consistent with her faith."



The Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act (CADA) prohibits "a person, directly or indirectly, to refuse, withhold from, or deny to an individual or a group ... the full and equal enjoyment of the goods [and] services" because of "sexual orientation." In 2016, Smith took her case to federal court, seeking a ruling that would ensure that Colorado could not enforce CADA should she decide to move forward with her plan to create wedding websites. The case, 303 Creative v. Elenis, was a lawsuit brought by Smith where she sued Aubrey Elenis, the Director of the Colorado Civil Rights Division. Smith argued that CADA would violate her 1st Amendment rights to free speech and the free exercise of religion.3

In a description of Smith's arguments, SCOTUS blog wrote: "Smith explains that she decides whether to take on a commission based on the message that the work will convey, rather than the person requesting it. This means, she says that she would 'happily' design graphics for an LGBTQ customer who runs an animal shelter. But she will not take on commissions that would be inconsistent with her Christian beliefs — including, she says, by promoting same-sex marriage — because a custom wedding website would express approval of the couple's marriage."

When the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals rejected her arguments, Smith took her case to The Supreme Court. The Supreme Court agreed to take up her case, but only on the free speech question, not on the free exercise of religion argument.

It is important to note that this case focuses on the distinction between 'everyday' goods and services and goods and services that are CREATED by a designer for a specific purpose.

Case Arguments

The basis of Smith's argument was that CADA would violate her First Amendment rights because she would be forced to create messages that were inconsistent with her religious beliefs and because she would also be barred from expressing those beliefs on her website.

In their arguments, Colorado claimed that the law in question only regulated sales and did not ban any speech. The law states that any product being sold must be sold to all customers. The state used a hypothetical scenario: a Hindu calligrapher wouldn't be required to create a product with a Christian message, but if they DID create such a product, they would be required to sell it to everyone. Wedding websites, however, are personalized and not regular off-the-shelf products. Under the law, Smith would have been required to create a unique website for anyone who asked.5

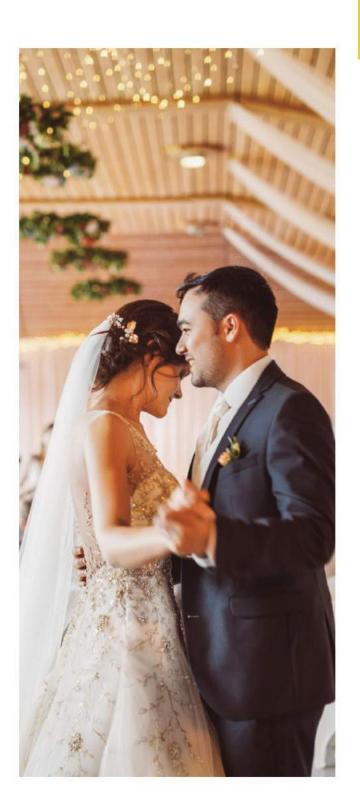
Smith contended that her design services are 'pure speech' and not 'conduct' and are, therefore, afforded greater First Amendment protection. The legal definition of pure speech is the expression or communication of thoughts or opinions in spoken words.



It is given the greatest constitutional protection and is not limited by commercial interests or corporate sources. Examples of pure speech include political speeches, religious sermons, and personal conversations. The Supreme Court agreed that Smith's website creations constituted 'pure speech."



This case is a 'precedent setter' because this issue of pure speech and artistic expression, coupled with a distinction between 'everyday' goods and services and uniquely created products, has not been addressed often in the Supreme Court. One other notable case was Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission.

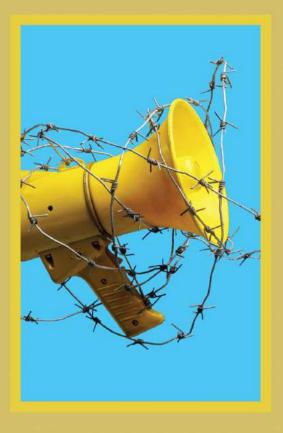


A neighborhood grocery store that refuses to sell milk to anyone based on their race, gender, religion, or sexual preference would NOT be protected under the First Amendment. An artist, however, who CREATES a specific product for a specific client WOULD be afforded First Amendment protection, provided their product/service is deemed "pure speech."

In Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission, Jack Phillips, the shop owner, argued that he believed cake decorating is a form of art through which he can honor God. Because of his beliefs, he declined to decorate a cake for a same sexcouple. Phillips believed that he was acting lawfully because, at the time, the State Civil Rights Division had also concluded in at least three other cases that bakers had acted lawfully in declining to make cakes that included messages they disagreed with, specifically messages demeaning gay persons. Phillips arguments specifically mentioned the other cases where the Colorado Civil Rights Division allowed designers to refuse to create images that they disagreed with. The Supreme Court ruled that a Colorado agency attempting to enforce the same antidiscrimination law "showed elements of a clear and impermissible hostility toward the sincere religious beliefs motivating his objection."7



Of note:



in his majority opinion in the 303 Creative case, Gorsuch warned that Colorado's position could lead to "dangerous" consequences. He quoted Chief Judge Timothy Tymkovich's statements in his dissent from the 10th Circuit's decision, writing, "Governments could force 'an unwilling Muslim movie director to make a film with a Zionist message,' they could compel 'an atheist muralist to accept a commission celebrating Evangelical zeal,' and they could require a gay website designer to create websites for a group advocating against same-sex marriage, so long as these speakers would accept commissions from the public with different messages."8

By ruling in favor of Smith, the court acknowledged that writing something that violated her deeply held beliefs would constitute a direct infringement on her freedom of speech. While the Supreme Court did NOT address Smith's freedom of religious expression in this case, they did uphold her First Amendment rights.

Ultimately, this ruling sets a precedent for future cases involving conflicts between personal beliefs and speech obligations, particularly cases involving free speech rights and artistic expression. It reinforces the notion that individuals should be able to express themselves freely without fear of government intervention or coercion and without violating their sincerely held religious beliefs.

5 https://ordinary-times.com/2022/12/07/303-creative-case-is-about-free-speech-not-discrimination/

6 https://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/303-creative-llc-v-elenis/
7 https://www.oyez.org/cases/2017/16-111
8 https://www.scotusblog.com/2023/06/supreme-court-rules-website-designer-can-deny-same-sex-couples-service/

¹ https://www.mondaq.com/unitedstates/discrimination-disability--sexual-harassment/1339308/navigating-the-us-supreme-courts decision-in-303-creative-llc-and-its-implications-on-first-amendment-rights-in-the-workplace

2 https://ogletree.com/insights/supreme-court-says-wedding-website-designer-may-refuse-same-sex-couples-under-first-amendment/

3 https://one-colorado.org/lgbtq-resources/anti-discrimination-laws-colorado/

4 https://www.scotusblog.com/2022/12/colorado-web-designers-first-amendment-supreme-court-lgbtq-anti-discrimination-laws/

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A Burial Ground for Christians

More than 500 Christian communities were attacked this year, and 457 land properties were grabbed by the Fulani militants in Plateau state.

The dia?

by Lawrence Zongo



ccording to a religious freedom organization base in the USA and Nigeria, the International Committee On Nigeria (ICON) says, "Between 2015-2022 there wereover 20,000 deaths in Nigeria of which approximately over 12,000 were primarily Christians from four majority Christian States (Benue, Plateau, Kaduna & Taraba) attributed to Fulani militants." These killings continue in 2023. "In the first quarter of 2023 alone, Islamic extremists killed more than 1,080 Christians, according to the international crime-tracking, non-profit organizations known as Intersociety. According to the Epoch Times, at least 5,100 were killed last year.

The Fulani militants are tribesmen of the former President of the country, Mahamadu Buhari, who are all muslims and are killing Christians in farming communities. More than 500 Christian communities were attacked this year, and 457 land properties were grabbed by the Fulani militants in Plateau state. The attackers normally come at night on a motorcycle; one hundred or more, holding AK47 rifles and machetes, burning houses and destroying farm produce. The attacks in the Plateau state normally start during the rainy season (May to September) and continue during irrigation farming (November to March). More people are killed when the weather is cold, and

they are inside their rooms sleeping, but less killings happens when the weather is hot (February to March) when militants are quickly noticed by villagers sleeping outside.

The attack lasted for five days in May 2023. According to the community, they buried 224 in different mass graves.

"Nigeria police confirmed 120 people were killed within one week in Mangu county," TVC news reported. The attack lasted for five days in May 2023. According to the community, they buried 224 in different mass graves. James Domshak from Mangu County, in Plateau state, North Central Nigeria says, "Two hundred and twenty four Christians were killed by Fulani Muslims during a night attack. Sixteen villages were attacked in five days. Houses burned, and churches destroyed." He said 26 people were killed in his village in Kombun village, and he shared photos of people killed in his village. He texted via WhatsApp messenger, "This is a massive killing in the Mangu community in Kombun. An additional 120 were killed on Tuesday night, May 11th, 2023. In Boi village, houses and



churches were burned, displacing over 5000 Christians. In other villages, at least 56 Christian farmers were killed in an ambush by the Fulani militants when going to farm."

The National President of an adult ethnic group in Nigeria, the Irgwe Youth Movement (IYM), says, "Attacks in the Christian community are deliberate to wipe Christians out of the country with the strong support of the Nigerian government during President Bbuhari's regime. He says his county in Bassa faced a series of attacks from 2017 to 2022, and at least 2,200 Christians were killed." Those killed are Irigwe Christians and Fulani who

converted to Christianity, he added.

Nigerian governments keep silent when Christians are killed by Fulani militants but reacted to Covid-19 which was never a threat to the villagers. The ethnic president condemned the Mangu County attack and took relief, food assistance, and clothing to the Mangu IDPs with the apex body of the ethnic association Irigwe Development Association.

Neighboring counties of Mangu were also attacked by Fulani militants from May to June. At least 134 people were killed in Riyom and Barki Ladi; the villagers were sacked from the community displacing over 11,000 Christians. A recent attack was on June 11th, when 21 were killed, according to a press release by an adult ethnic group of the attacked village. The press release signed by the group Publicity Secretary Rwang Tengwong explains the attack to reporters in Jos City in the Plateau State Capital. Twenty-one persons were killed and several others injured on Sunday during coordinated attacks by Fulani militias on residents of Rim, Jol, and Kwi Communities of Rivom LGA. as well as Gana-Ropp Community in Barkin Ladi LGA. Two persons were killed in Rim village of Riyom Local Government Area, seven were killed in Jol, and eleven in Kwi, while a Clegyman, Reverend Nicodemus Kim, was killed in Gana-Ropp Barkin Ladi Local County.

The kidnappings, killings, and destruction of lives and properties have not only been on the increase but also remain unreported by the mainstream media.

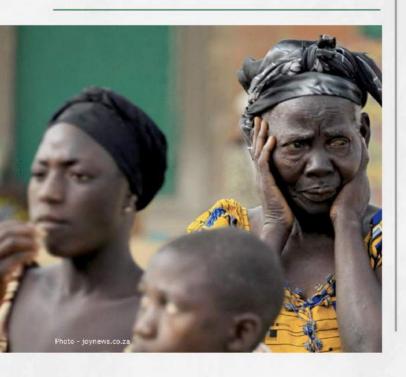
Another is Giwa County, located in the Northern Muslim-dominated part of Kaduna State, Nigeria. "The security situation in Giwa has remained disturbing. The kidnappings, killings, and destruction of lives and properties have not only been on the increase but also remain unreported by the mainstream media," Says Umar Phillip, the Leader of the Hausa Christian group in Giwa. He says, "After the well-coordinated attack of Fulani terrorists led by Turji, the bandit leader of Zamfara state that took place between 24th to 27th of March, 2022 that left hundreds of people dead, houses and Churches destroyed, domestic animals in hundreds rustled, things have not improved."

It was in June 2022 when the militants pledged to allow the indigenous communities of Zangon Tama, Tsaunin Mayau, and Kaya, among many other clusters of villages, to come back to their villages to do farm work. Recall that, from the invasion of March 2022, thousands of people fled

their communities because of the carnage that happened. The militants promised to allow farmers to go back to their communities if they could agree to pay them an undisclosed amount of money. This made the various communities put levies on themselves to gather the amount requested by the militants. The money was collected and taken to the militants. The villagers were then hopeful that they could peacefully go back to their villages to do farm work, as raining season had already begun.

However, less than a month after their return, the rampage by the bandits was resumed, contrary to the truce. A series of kidnappings and killings went on. The worst happened on December 24th, 2022, when the Christian communities were preparing for Christmas. In Tsaunin Mayau, a Christian community, 25 persons were kidnapped. Even after paying ransom, they were not released until the end of March 2023. Before the March invasion of 2022, the communities, via their local vigilantes, were sometimes able to repel bandits' attacks if they were noticed before they struck. But now the villagers have been decimated, as any attempt to repel Fulani bandits always comes with the terrible consequences of mass killings of the locals.

The media has not been helping matters as no one is broadcasting what is happening. Unlike Southern Kaduna, people who are also experiencing the same carnage by the same terrorists but are receiving media coverage, ours is a complete silent slaughter and daily destruction of lives and properties by the Fulani terrorists.





Villages like Janbaba, Tudun Dawa, Gulbala, Tsaunin Mayau, Zangon Tama, and Kaya, among others, have been continuously experiencing these kidnappings and ransom payments even today. From March 2022 to March 2023, over four hundred million nairas (#400,000,000) were paid either as a ransom for the release of kidnapped victims or as a truce to appease the bandits against attacks. As for the villages in the Western part of Giwa, like Tsaunin Mayau, Zangon Tama, and Kaya, many have again fled their communities; the terrorists sometimes come and spray bullets, killing many with no resistance from anyone. "For the last seven months, my Uncle - the husband of my mother's immediate young sister has been reduced to a wheelchair via these broad daylight shootings by the Fulani Militant," says Umar. All the cries by the villages for police or military personnel to help in those communities have fallen on deaf ears.

Umar says, "The media has not been helping matters as no one is broadcasting what is happening. Unlike Southern Kaduna, people who are also experiencing the same carnage by the same terrorists but are receiving media coverage, ours is a complete silent slaughter and daily destruction of lives and properties by the Fulani terrorists. It is important to note that the operations of Fulani terrorists in Giwa County are only in Christian communities. The negative consequences of these Fulani terrorist attacks in our communities are simply unimaginable. As someone in the Agric business, I know many farmers in the western part of Giwa, for instance, who single-handedly farm over a thousand bags of maize but have now been forced to flee their communities. Although the terrorists occupy some of these places now, they're not using the farmlands for any economic activity except as a hideout for keeping their kidnapped victims. This is a serious recipe for hunger, famine, starvation, and a huge humanitarian crisis." Says Umar.

Umar called on the international communities and well-meaning Nigerians to come to their rescue. "Our people are being slaughtered like animals



daily. We have no one to help us. We have no one to even visit these communities to see things for themselves. Please let the world hear us. Let the world come to our aid as our political leaders, who also seem to be the culprit in the carnage, have failed us. We are also calling on the major religious leaders to come to our aid in terms of providing food, shelter, medication, education, and clothing materials to the victims. Because of the situation, many have no option other than to withdraw their children from schools in secondary and tertiary institutions. The local community primary schools built by the locals have been shut down, and we are calling for help."

The persecution of Christians in Southern Kaduna, Nigeria, has been a longstanding issue. The region has experienced multiple incidents of violence, attacks, and killings of Christians by militant groups, such as Boko Haram and Fulani herdsmen. Southern Kaduna is a predominantly Christian area in a Christain/Muslim population state. The clashes between the two religious groups have been fueled by various factors, including political, economic, and social issues, as well as religious beliefs. Some of the causes of the conflict include competition for resources, political power, and influence, as well as the desire to control land and territory. The violence in Southern Kaduna has resulted in the displacement of thousands of people, the destruction of property, and the loss of lives. People have been displaced and living in various local governments. There are over 10 IDP camps in southern Kaduna containing 200,000 adults with their children living in dehumanizing conditions.

The Nigerian government has been criticized for failing to address the situation and protect the affected communities, with some accusing the government of complicity in the attacks. In the last attack that took place on May 15th, 2023, at Runji, over 30 people were killed while others were burned, and empty shells of ammunition were found all over the place with military colors and numbers. According to Rev. Bulus, whose house was burned in one of the massacres in Malagum said, "These killers are too powerful to be called

Fulani. They are government mercenaries with few Fulani..." Other locals also attest that soldiers aided the attacks and gave signals when external help came, then the assailants fled.

David Racha, a former administrator of Bassa County, says, "The genocide affected the economy of Christian communities in Nigeria." He went on to say, "Nigerian authorities must uphold the Oath of Office and Allegiance which forbid the government from exercising power in ways or manners which show favoritism or ill will towards any group, section or segment of the citizenry and ensure that the primary purpose of government, which is to protect lives, (clearly stated in the Constitution) is guaranteed; repeal every law, policy, or program which favors a group, section, or segment of the citizenry to the detriment of others. Review the criteria under which States. LGAs, and Wards delineated political constituencies were created with a view to redressing any inequities, holding the government of Nigeria responsible and accountable for all abuses of power, complicity in the genocide, and systematic undermining of the citizens. Demand reparations, restitution, and compensation for losses suffered, and ensure full compliance through every legitimate instrument, including international laws and charters. Apply every necessary measure to ensure a dismantling of structures that promote the undermining of Nigerian citizens."

The International Committee on Nigeria (ICON) called for the Department of State to re-designate Nigeria as a "Country of Particular Concern", and for the Administration to appoint a Special Envoy for Nigeria and the Lake Chad region to address religious violence and promote stability to bring attention to the impunity fostered by the Government of Nigeria's inability or unwillingness to stop the slaughter and prosecute the killers and those who support them.





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RACHEL - WRITESIDE BLONDE

EXECUTIVE MANAGING EDITOR OF GEORGE



JFK Jr. Hide a Message on the Inaugural Cover

George:

By Rachel Writeside Blonde





So many buzzwords on one magazine cover and considering the man behind its creation and the information he likely knew; it is a bit chilling.

Robert Kennedy Jr. has been talking a lot lately about the CIA and JFK's assassination. What was once heavily speculated -- regarded as a viable possibility -- yet kept hush-hush has surfaced in light of RFK's recent interviews. On an AM radio show called *Cats Roundtable*, Kennedy stated, "I think there is overwhelming evidence that the CIA was involved in his murder. I think it's beyond a reasonable doubt at this point."

"The evidence is overwhelming that the CIA was involved in the murder and in the cover-up."

Kennedy told Joe Rogan in a recent interview that he had to "be careful" and that he was aware of the danger of saying things of this nature. It's no secret the CIA and similar government agencies held the power to make people and situations disappear; whether or not that is what happened in this case definitively is yet to be revealed.

Robert Kennedy Jr. and John Kennedy Jr., cousins only six years apart, likely knew much of the same information about what really happened on November 22, 1963. With Robert having to be "careful" with what he says, exactly what information does he know? And did John Kennedy Jr. know the same information when he created *George* in the mid-1990s?

The censorship of Americans has become a hot topic, mainly in the areas of COVID and the COVID vaccine, as well as questioning the 2020 election results. Every day Americans sharing their stories of vaccine-related injuries were silenced, and many who dared question the COVID narrative were de-platformed. Even those who learned ways to skirt around the buzzwords to avoid being de-platformed, using words like "jab" or "Fauci Ouchie," didn't prove successful in many cases. I myself had an

account removed for simply posting a video of a black and white picture of Donald Trump looking down at Hillary Clinton with the words, "He knew." It seemed they de-platformed Americans for any meaningless reason they wanted.

Kennedy worked
hard to get the first
issue of George out to
the public, and
finally, in the fall of
1995, JFK Jr. stood on
stage and proudly
introduced the crowd
to his glossy
magazine.

It has recently come to light that the government colluded with big tech companies in an effort to thwart any and all dissension from those who were awake to the deception. If the government agencies can do that now, why couldn't they control the conversation in 1963 and beyond? Without the use of social media in the 1960s, it would have been even easier to control that narrative.

John Kennedy Jr. had to know all of this, but, like Robert Kennedy Jr., he knew he had to be careful with what and how he said things. After all, his father had stated he would "splinter the CIA into a thousand pieces and scatter it into the winds" once he became aware of how deceitful it had become. Shortly after giving that

If JFK Jr. knew important things, both from the past and into the future and he knew most Americans would have little to no chance of finding out about the plans made for us, could he have used George to distribute that information?

speech, he was assassinated.

How would JFK Jr. ever get the truth out about his father without risking his life? Perhaps his idea was to create a new political magazine to disperse necessary information Americans may not get elsewhere. Enter *George*. Kennedy worked hard to get the first issue of *George* out to the public, and finally, in the fall of 1995, JFK Jr. stood on stage and proudly introduced the crowd to his glossy magazine. A spinning sign displayed Cindy Crawford on the cover, the perfect George Washington. The cover exuded style and grace — a top fashion model dressed as our country's first president — but was just peculiar enough to keep it interesting.

The issue was full of advertisements, a testament to JFK Jr.'s popularity. Who wouldn't want to advertise in JFK Jr.'s magazine? It all appeared to be a new business venture embarked on by one of America's most recognized faces. But looking back now, I'm not so sure it was just business as usual.

If JFK Jr. knew important things, both from the past and into the future and he knew most Americans would have little to no chance of finding out about the plans made for us, could he have used *George* to distribute that information? Obviously, he would have to be careful with how he laid it out there, but looking back at these magazines offers plenty of instances where that could have been the case.

One need not look further than his inaugural issue. On the cover, next to Cindy, are the titles:

John Kennedy talks to George Wallace President Madonna Dodging bullets with the FBI's Louis Freeh Caleb Carr on the next American Revolution So, we have: John Kennedy, President, dodging bullets, FBI, American Revolution.

So many buzzwords on one magazine cover: and considering the man behind its creation and the information he likely knew, it is a bit chilling. Was John Kennedy Jr. using his magazine simply to get people engaged in the political process? Was he using *George* to disperse information -- with plausible deniability, of course – to awaken the public? Perhaps he was doing a bit of both.

The good news is, if you skipped the mission of the OG (original *George*), it's <u>never too late to</u> <u>learn</u> the political process and <u>get involved</u>. And, of course, if you're interested in more exciting coincidences, you can catch them right here in these George Vault articles.

We approach politics as you might—as skeptical consumers, for whom efficacy is at least as important as party loyalty. And if we can do just one thing at *George*, we hope it's to demystify the political process, to enable you to see politicians not just as ideological symbols, but as lively and engaging men and women who shape public life. As a lifelong spectator of the giant puppet show that can turn public people into barely recognizable symbols of themselves, I hope we can provide something more useful.

hope you'll be informed, provoked and entertained—but mainly, we hope you'll get involved, because as a wise man once said, politics is too important to be left to the politicians.

John Olivery

MICHELLE GARIBAY EVENTS





Protecting Religious Freedom:

A Look at Donald Trump's Executive Orders

by Mary Frost

Throughout his presidency, Donald Trump implemented a range of policies aimed at protecting religious freedom in the United States. These policies included executive orders, legislative measures, and changes to government agencies. Here are some of the most significant policies implemented by President Trump to protect religious freedom.

2017

Executive Order on Promotion of Free Speech and Religious Liberty

One of the most significant pieces of legislation signed by President Trump was the Executive Order on Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty, which he signed on May 4th, 2017. This order directed federal agencies to protect and promote religious freedom in their policies and programs. It also eased restrictions on political speech by tax-exempt religious organizations.¹

Expansion of Religious Exemptions for Employers

In October 2017, the Trump administration rolled back an Obama-era rule that required employers to provide contraceptive coverage as part of their health insurance plans. The new rule expanded exemptions for employers with moral or religious objections to contraception coverage. These exemptions were recently upheld by the Supreme Court in a 7-2 decision on July 8th, 2020.²

Tax Cuts and Job Act of 2017

Another important piece of legislation that President Trump signed was the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. This act included several provisions that protected religious organizations from discrimination by state or local governments. For example, it prevented states from denying tax exempt status to organizations based solely on their beliefs about marriage or gender identity.³

2018

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care: Conscience and Religious Freedom Division

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care: In January 2018, HHS announced a new division called the Conscience and Religious Freedom Division. The division was tasked with enforcing existing laws that protect healthcare providers from discrimination based on their moral or religious beliefs.⁴

Faith-Based Partnerships Initiative

In February 2018, President Trump signed an executive order creating a new faith-based partnerships initiative within the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The initiative aimed to promote partnerships between government and faith-based organizations to address social issues and problems.⁵

Religious Liberty Task Force

In July 2018, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the creation of a Religious Liberty Task Force within the Department of Justice. The task force was designed to ensure that the department's policies and actions were in line with religious liberty protections in existing law.⁶



Executive Order on Establishment of a White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative

President Trump issued his executive order on Establishment of a White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative to help faith-based and community organizations "to compete on a level playing field for grants, contracts, programs, and other Federal funding opportunities. The efforts of faith-based and community organizations are essential to revitalizing communities, and the Federal Government welcomes opportunities to partner with such organizations through innovative, measurable, and outcome-driven initiatives."

The First Step Act

Along with other criminal justice reform measures, The First Step Act included provisions allowing inmates access to faith-based programming and chaplains while incarcerated.⁸

2019

Conscience Protection Rule

Conscience Protection Rule: In May 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a new rule that would protect healthcare workers who refuse to participate in procedures that violate their religious beliefs or moral convictions. The rule was designed to protect doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers who object to procedures such as abortions or assisted suicides.⁹





Executive Order on Improving Free Inquiry, Transparency, and Accountability at Colleges and Universities

The order stated that public universities receiving federal funding must promote free inquiry and debate on campus, including protecting students' rights to express their beliefs without fear of retaliation.¹⁰

2020

The International Religious Freedom Alliance

In February 2020, President Trump announced the creation of an International Religious Freedom Alliance. The alliance is composed of countries committed to promoting and protecting international religious freedom through diplomatic channels.¹¹

Executive Order on Advancing International Religious Freedom

Another important executive order signed by President Trump was the Executive Order on Advancing International Religious Freedom in July 2020. This order established a new White House office dedicated solely to promoting international religious freedom and directed U.S. foreign policy toward protecting and promoting religious liberty around the world.¹²

Updated Guidance on School Prayer

Trump spearheaded the federal government's first updated guidance on school prayer since 2003. It clarified scenarios in which school officials must permit prayer and detailed consequences for non-compliance. The directive states that students are allowed to pray in groups during lunch and other free time. It also states

that students speaking at assemblies can pray if they were selected to speak through a process that's based on "content-neutral, evenhanded criteria."¹³





Throughout his presidency, Donald Trump made it a priority to protect religious freedom in America. From policies to executive orders to legislation signed, his administration took numerous steps to ensure that individuals of all faiths could practice their beliefs without fear of persecution or discrimination. Religious liberty is a fundamental human right guaranteed by the United States Constitution's First Amendment. It is essential that this right be protected for all individuals regardless of their religion or belief system. President Trump's administration took significant steps toward protecting this fundamental right, but it is imperative that we continue to safeguard it in the future.



1 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/05/09/2017-09574/promoting-free-speech-and-religious-liberty

1 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/05/09/2017-09574/promoting-free-speech-and-religious-liberty
2 https://www.shrm.org/resourcesandtools/legal-and-compliance/employment-law/pages/aca-religious-exemption-contraceptive-mandate.aspx
3 https://www.harvard-jlpp.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2019/04/Newman-Final.pdf
4 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/08/2018-01226/protecting-statutory-conscience-rights-in-health-care-delegations-of-authority
5 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/08/2018-09895/establishment-of-a-white-house-faith-and-opportunity-initiative
6 https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-sessions-delivers-remarks-department-justice-s-religious-liberty-summit
7 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/08/2018-09895/establishment-of-a-white-house-faith-and-opportunity-initiative
8 https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5682/text
9 https://www.cbsnews.com/news/conscience-rule-hhs-finalizes-rule-protecting-health-care-workers-who-refuse-care-over-religious-beliefs/
10 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/03/26/2019-05934/improving-free-inquiry-transparency-and-accountability-at-colleges-and-universities
11 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/05/2020-12430/advancing-international-religious-freedom
13 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/05/2020-12430/advancing-international-religious-freedom
13 https://apnews.com/article/897f550e2d5b809acaeffdf489aa62c9



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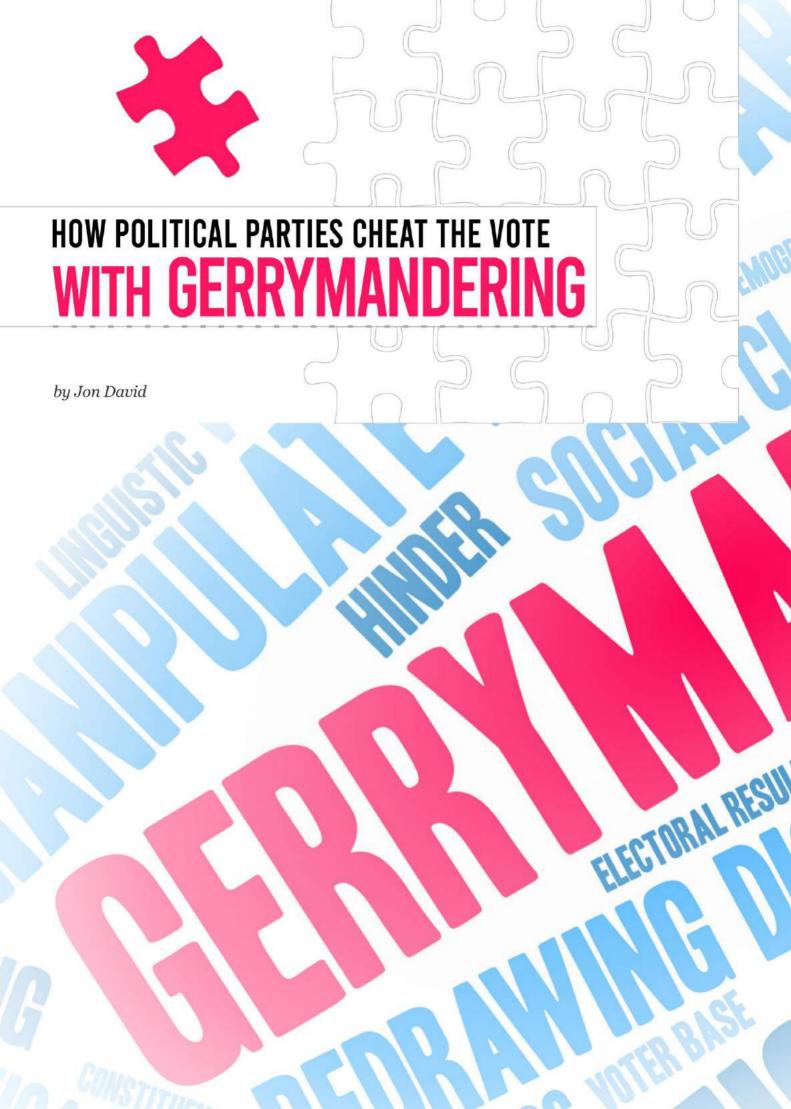
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For everything comes from Him and exists by His power and is intended for His glory. All glory to Him forever! Amen.

Romans 11:36









errymandering is a term that refers to the manipulation of electoral district boundaries to favor one political party over another. It is a practice that has been used for centuries by politicians who want to secure their power and influence, regardless of the will of the voters. Gerrymandering can have serious consequences for our voting system, as it can undermine the principle of one person, one vote and create uncompetitive and unrepresentative districts.

So, how does gerrymandering work?

The process of drawing electoral district boundaries is usually done by the state legislatures, which are often controlled by one of the two major parties in the US: the Democrats or the Republicans. The Democrats or the Republicans can use various techniques to create districts that give them an advantage over their opponents. For example, they can:

Pack: This means concentrating as many voters of the opposing party as possible into a few districts so that they win those districts by a large margin but waste their votes and have less influence in other districts.

Crack: This means to split up voters of the opposing party among several districts so that they are outnumbered by the voters of the dominant party in each district and have no chance of winning any seats.

Kidnap: This means to redraw the boundaries of a district that is held by an incumbent of the opposing party so that they are moved to a different district where they have less support or face a stronger challenger from the dominant party.

Hijack: This means to redraw the boundaries of two districts that are held by incumbents of the same party so that they are forced to run against each other in a single district, and one of them has to lose their seat.

These techniques can result in districts that have bizarre and irregular shapes, as they follow no natural or logical boundaries but only serve the interests of the party in power. For example, some of the most notorious examples of gerrymandered districts in the US include:

- Maryland's 3rd congressional district, which has been described as a "praying mantis" or a "blood spatter."
- Illinois's 4th congressional district, which has been called a "pair of earmuffs" or a "Latin snake."
- Texas's 35th congressional district, which has been likened to an "upside-down Chinese dragon" or a "windshield wiper."
- North Carolina's 12th congressional district, which has been dubbed an "I-85 corridor" or a "ribbon."

These techniques can result in districts that have bizarre and irregular shapes, as they follow no natural or logical boundaries but only serve the interests of the party in power.

What are the effects of gerrymandering?

Gerrymandering can have negative impacts on both the quality and the quantity of representation in a democracy. Some of the effects include:

Reduced accountability: Gerrymandering can create safe seats for incumbents, who face little or no competition from challengers, and therefore have less incentive to respond to the needs and preferences of their constituents. They can also become more ideologically extreme, as they only have to appeal to their base voters and not to moderates or independents.

Reduced diversity: Gerrymandering can reduce the diversity of representation in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, and ideology. It can dilute the voting power of minority groups, which may be packed or cracked into districts where they have no voice or influence. It can also create homogeneous districts that reflect only one point of view and exclude alternative perspectives and opinions.

Reduced participation: Gerrymandering can reduce the participation and engagement of voters, who may feel discouraged or disillusioned by the lack of choice and competition in their districts. They may also feel that their votes do not matter or count, as they are predetermined by the partisan mapmakers. This can lead to lower turnout and civic involvement.



How can gerrymandering be prevented or reformed?

There are several ways to address the problem of gerrymandering and improve the fairness and integrity of electoral districting. Some of these include:

Independent commissions: Some states have adopted independent or bipartisan commissions to draw electoral district boundaries instead of leaving it to the state legislatures. These commissions are composed of citizens or experts who are not affiliated with any political party or candidate and who follow certain criteria and guidelines to ensure impartiality and transparency.

Judicial oversight: Some states have challenged gerrymandered maps in court based on constitutional or statutory grounds. The courts can intervene and invalidate maps that violate certain principles or rights, such as equal protection, voting rights, compactness, contiguity, or community of interest.

Public input: Some states have allowed public input and participation in the redistricting process, such as through public hearings, online platforms, or citizen initiatives. This can increase the

awareness and involvement of voters in how their districts are drawn and provide feedback and suggestions to improve the quality and representation of their districts.

Technology: Some states have used technology and software tools to assist in the redistricting process, such as geographic information systems (GIS), computer algorithms, or online mapping applications. These tools can help generate and evaluate different districting plans based on various criteria and objectives and provide data and analysis to support decision-making and oversight.

Gerrymandering is a serious threat to the Republic of the United States of America, as it can distort and manipulate the will of the people and create unfair and unresponsive representation. It is important to reform and prevent gerrymandering and ensure that electoral district boundaries are drawn in a fair and transparent manner which reflects the interests and values of the voters, not the politicians.

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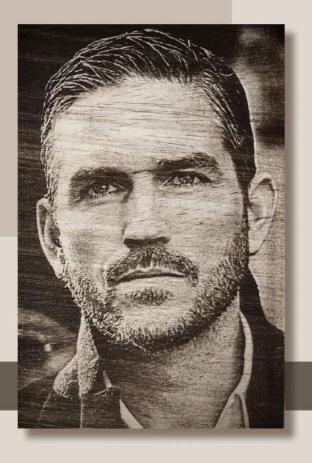
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Bidenomics: Building a Narrative of Deception



By Zack Moore

A decade or so ago, in my naivety, I thought that the coming age of data and statistics would make our lives simpler and more obvious. Instead, we've emerged into a reality where data is obviously used to make our lives less simple and more difficult.

Rather than run toward what the data tells us,we exist in a society that doesn't even seem to want to understand data.

On Tuesday, June 27th, the Biden administration posted a graph on the official @POTUS social media accounts that is one of the most insane things they've ever posted, which is saying a lot considering insanity is their core policy principle.

It was posted with this caption: "My Administration has created more jobs in two years than any previous administration has created in the first four years. It's no accident. It means our economic plan is working, and this is only the beginning."

What was the economic plan? Shut down the economy under the last President, then reopen it when you take office and take credit for the jobs your political allies have taken away, then allow them to come back?

The graph represents a challenge that we will have moving forward as history is created via the science of repetition and the strategy of censorship. The System is going to hit the populace with its hypnotic narrative while scrubbing the Internet of the words of those who are intellectually and financially free of that narrative.

Compared to what we've experienced under Obama and Biden, Trump's presidency was comparatively successful from an economic standpoint. Things were good, definitely better than they are now, whether you're blaming Covid, Biden, or both. In late 2021, I listened to a September 2019 podcast between Ben Shapiro and Logan Paul, two strange bedfellows. You'd get pulled into remembering the era, and there was nothing the lackluster crew of Democrat candidates could have done to unseat someone who had been largely successful from a policy perspective, especially from an economic and foreign policy standpoint.



To capture the job data using the numbers that the graph is using isn't exactly dishonest from a purely statistical standpoint as the numbers are, technically, correct. Still, it's entirely dishonest from a framing perspective. But it does indicate the way business is done.

Those involved in promoting this graph know that the numbers representing Trump and Biden aren't accurate for either President. They know Trump's numbers are a result of lockdowns that Democrats largely pushed. And many believe those lockdowns were pushed to unseat President Trump.

The more honest thing to do would be to not put a deceptive graph like this up.

A more honest assessment would have a cutoff date for Trump of the month before the Covid shutdowns started, and for Biden, they could have started after the job totals returned to their pre-Covid level.

Nothing about these last three years is economically natural or replicable, so even mentioning the data is a farce, but what could be an actual, real conversation is: how was Trump doing before Covid?

That wouldn't be a conversation that the Biden administration would want to have.

In January 2017, when Trump took office, there were 145.6 million total non-farm payroll jobs, which is 11.6 million more than the 134 million there were in January 2009 when Obama took over in the



midst of a recession that carried on for far longer than corporate, legacy media told us it did.

Job losses continued through the summer of 2010. The low was about 129 million jobs between December 2009 and March 2010 before a slight increase in the next two months that was then followed by a summer of job losses until hiring picked up and stayed trending upwards in October of that year.



Over the 96 months of his presidency, the economy added just under 121k jobs per month. If you just counted the last 75 months of Obama's presidency, following October 2010, the economy added 221,000 jobs per month. A strong rebound after a lackluster start that many believe was largely due to the economic uncertainty and instability that came from the reshaping of the entire healthcare sector of the economy.

In a 2016 City Journal article, Mark Pulliam writes that 40% of all U.S. civilian jobs during the previous eight years were in Texas, a point that is illustrative of the fact that Obama's economy would have never come out of recession without the success of states whose policies he disagreed with. A state with 9% of the United States population in 2016 made up almost half of the country's added jobs.

Returning to Trump's economic record, in the February 2020 jobs report, there were 152.3 million non-farm payroll jobs, which means that in the first 37 months of Trump's presidency, the economy created 6.7 million jobs. A rate of 181,000 per month.

This would put him in an equivalent, comparable space to Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton, two Presidents during two different eight-year periods that most rightly remember nostalgically as economically prosperous times for our country.

Again, this is not a stamp of approval for any President as, when we aren't using job data to score typically cheap political points, there are so many different factors that go into a successful economy. Sometimes the president before you can set you up for success, or a housing crisis can set you up for statistical failure as you leave office. You don't have to be a fan of Bush Junior to know that the lack of job growth illustrated in this graph was a result of a bipartisan mistake in an attempt to make housing affordable for people who can't afford houses.

Sometimes you're just lucky. No one man controls the world's economy, but those job numbers under Trump do say something.

A fair way to look at Trump's presidency would be to look at those first 37 months as the indicator. Over the course of eight years, 181,000 jobs added per month would become almost 17.4 million jobs created: a number that would have been more than any other president and 5.8 million more than Obama.

That's how deceptive this graph is before we even get into unpacking Biden's numbers.

Another weird aspect of the presentation of this graph is that the creators put everyone else in red and Biden in blue, which is almost a Blue Team vs. Red Team kind of tribal signal. It's an odd choice on

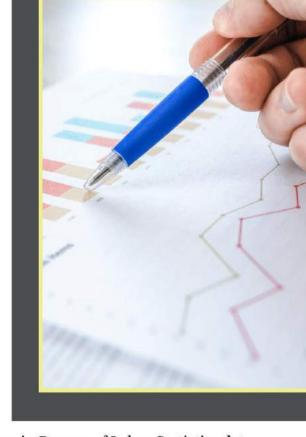


two accounts because the graph makes it look like Biden is doing something so much better than Clinton and Obama while also putting them in the opposing team's colors!

While Bill can't be prominent in the public eye due to his lifelong inability to control his impulses, Obama is still 'the messiah'. He is the man who can do no wrong. And it's likely that he is governing for a third term from his basement in his sweatpants like he dreamed of out loud in an interview a few years ago.

Jobs totals under Trump peaked at 152.3 million before dropping to 150.9 million in March 2020, then falling off a cliff to 130.4 million in April. Of those roughly 22 million jobs lost, almost all that job loss was in the private sector.





The unnecessary and unscientific lockdowns to deal with a virus created in a lab in China, with funding from Dr. Fauci's National Institute of Health, destroyed Trump's best talking point, and frankly, any candidate's best talking point: a solid, stable economy.

May 2020 saw a rebounding bump all the way to 133 million jobs as a few big states like Texas, Florida, and Georgia re-opened, and the economy even got back to 142.5 million jobs by the election. By January, there were 143 million non-farm payroll jobs in America. Still 10 million jobs under the February 2020 peak, but the economy was on its way back.

Statistically speaking, by May 2023, 13.1 million jobs had been added back to the economy since January 2021. So, this graph isn't *technically* false, but it's the kind of lying that the Establishment specializes in. That is when they aren't outright lying, which seems to be their favorite.

Biden's big blue bar on the graph represents this perceived job growth, which would pace out to 468,000 jobs per month. One outlier statistic used is a complete misrepresentation of what's really going on in the economy, while today's unemployment and labor force participation rates are actually just *slightly worse* (3.7%; 62.6%) than in February 2020 (3.5%; 63.3%).

As seen in Bureau of Labor Statistics data, there has even been stronger than natural job growth as the many highly motivated individual forces within the economy fight to get back on track to where We (The People) were pre-Covid lockdowns. There really is no right way to track this data.

America did not return to its February 2020 jobs level until June 2022, when it hit 152.4 million. By the May 2023 Jobs Report, jobs had reached 156.1 million. It's not even like that's something to scoff at, either.

If you were pretending this was a real economic recovery, 3.7 million jobs created in the 11 months since would be over 336,000 jobs per month. But truly, the economy is fighting and clawing its way back, still not where it would be in terms of jobs if the economy wasn't interrupted at all.

If we continued the trajectory the economy was on, meaning 39 more months of 181,000 jobs added per month, there would be 159.4 million jobs today.

That's a pervasive aspect of the Covid lockdowns. It's not just what happened; it's what continues to happen. We are 3.3 million jobs behind where we could be. That's a lot of lives that could be a little bit more stable right now.

If you counted the 3.7 million new jobs that the jobs got back to as Biden's accomplishment, the new jobs created after we reached our pre-lockdown level, then Biden has created 136,000 "new" jobs per month in his 28 months.

That's not where Trump was, but it's better than the trends during Obama's eight years.

The last week of June seemed to be the week the Biden administration kicked off what will be a feeble attempt at a campaign with Biden repeating the 13-million added jobs as a real accomplishment of his multiple times.

On June 28th, the Biden Twitter feed had a series of tweets about "Bidenomics," which is about "Investing in America, Empowering Workers, and Lowering Costs."

This a motto from a President who is fighting off multiple foreign bribe scandals, who shut down railroad strikes as railroad workers fought for sick leave, and who is playing a significant role in forcing record inflation on the middle class.

Inflation has increased because 80% of the U.S. dollars in existence were printed in 2020 and 2021, which certainly didn't seem like something that Trump could avoid as the global Establishment forced a worldwide shutdown.

In November of 2021, Biden's signed a \$1.9 trillion "American Rescue Plan," which was an unnecessary package that was made possible by Democrat states fighting to keep the restrictions going for as long as they could feign the



existence of an ongoing pandemic in an attempt to rob the treasury of more treasure.

This third "Covid relief" package brought the total relief package to \$5.2 trillion, which was about 25% of GDP. This was also the cost of all our wars since 2001, and \$5.2 trillion is greater than the cost of World War II, adjusted for inflation.

One tweet in this Biden campaign-branding launch states that "trickle-down economics failed the middle class. Bidenomics is rebuilding it."

Considering his coming opponent in the 2024 election, all these lies are meant to oppose Trump diametrically, so everything Biden says he is for is also a counterpoint, meaning that his opponent stands for the opposite. Find whatever statistics you can cherry-pick to pretend you're running a much better economy than the one we all experienced just four years ago.

"Look at Trump! He lost jobs under his administration!"





For the Establishment, it doesn't matter if it's not true; what matters is how frequently they repeat it. The goal is to create a reality where the American citizenry could actually be convinced that Joe Biden could win, despite a weak economy, multiple foreign bribery scandals, and the threat of nuclear war.

Covid lockdowns and BLM/Antifa riots created an environment where you could believe a candidate who didn't leave his basement could win in 2020. There were excuses made for why Biden couldn't convince more than a dozen people to be in a room during campaign stops. While at the same time, the riots provided the image that there was substantial dissatisfaction with the direction of the country.

The Establishment used racial animus to unseat a President who had the strongest economy for black Americans the country had ever seen and, a recent Reuters study just found, is the only President who isn't the descendant of a slave owner. That includes Obama.

Per Scott Turner in The National Review, before Covid, black Americans experienced a record low 5.2% unemployment rate and a labor-force participation rate of 63.2%, the highest it had been since the 2008 recession. One million black Americans lifted themselves out of poverty between 2016 and 2019, which was how the black poverty rate reached a record low.

Over that same period, median household income for black families rose over \$4,000 after falling from 2002 through 2016. Black homeownership "skyrocketed" to 47%, "another mark not reached since the 2008 recession." While real wages went up under Trump, real wages have declined every month since April 2021.

Yet the Establishment-slash-Democrats destroyed the best economy that black Americans had ever seen, then used the black cause and generational trauma in an attempt to win an election against the guy who, arguably, helped facilitate that economic success through working closely with black leaders like Mr. Turner "to craft an agenda that would help our communities realize our dreams."

All of this is illustrative of the environment we exist in, an environment where the Establishment is telling you the opposite of the truth. Confusion is the goal.

Thankfully, as long as enough of us out there are willing to seek out and tell the truth as best as we can, we have a chance at winning.

Systematically Being Removed from Society?

By Donna Gwin

Today, Christianity and everything related to God, Jesus, and the Bible are being systematically removed. First, Bibles and prayer were removed from schools, which has become the norm. Antireligious narratives and those who are anti-God are pushed mainstream, and Christians, pro-Christian beliefs, and all things to do with God and Jesus are forced farther into silence. Last year a man wearing a Jesus shirt in a public place, a mall, was asked to remove his shirt or be escorted out of the building. In that same mall, front, and center in a Target store, were shelves of LGBTQ clothes, rainbow flags, and all things pushing that agenda. Clothing that is not just for adults but for babies and children.

When a shopper asked the manager where the 'Straight,' 'I Believe in Jesus,' and 'I love God' sections were, he turned and walked away, never responding to her question. She followed him and asked again but was repeatedly ignored and asked to leave if she didn't stop asking the question. Secularism is quickly replacing religious thinking as more and more anti-God, anti-religion views are given carte blanche while, at the same time, all things Jesus, God, and the Bible are being removed and Christian voices silenced at an alarming rate.

Anti-Christian hate crimes are on the rise as well. The suppressions and persecutions are real and very disturbing. We must recognize that Christianity and belief in Jesus are not tolerated in some countries. We must realize the freedom we have in America is worth fighting for.

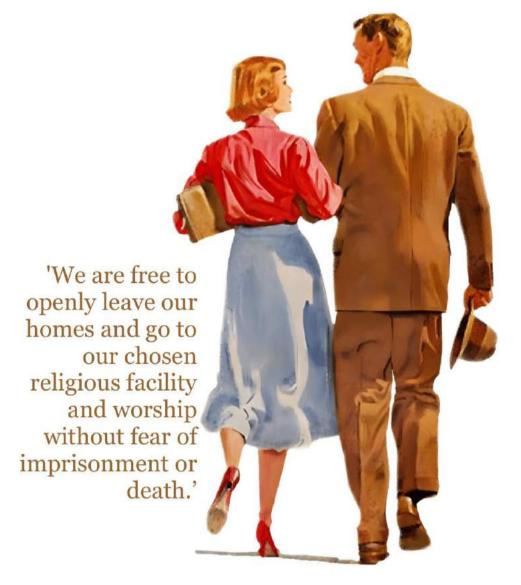
If today's Christians faced the same persecution as martyrs of the past, could we withstand or hold up



First Martyr, St. Stephen - Giorgio Vasari

If Christians today faced the same persecution as martyrs of the past, could we withstand or hold up against life-or-death persecution and not give in to the pressure?

against life-or-death persecution and not give in to pressure? If we can't overcome the roadblocks of today, how will we make it when we're faced with a life and death choice: Choose to deny God/Jesus or lose our life? Here in America, we still have freedom of religion; we can believe what we want, go to church where we want, and even not believe in God if we so choose—in other parts of the world,



they don't have a choice and freedom of religion is not the case. Christians are being killed daily for their Faith. In some countries, Christians are killed if they will not denounce Jesus and their Christian Faith. Those who are Christian are taken out into the countryside, asked to denounce their Faith, and when they refuse, they are bound, their throats are cut, and they are pushed into large pits. How many of us living in an ever-changing America realize what is at stake?

Anyone who follows the news or has social media has heard stories of those who are experiencing push-back on their belief in God. Some people face ridicule daily but are allowed to keep their Faith without the threat of death. That is not the case in countries like Afghanistan and China. David Curry, President and CEO of Open Doors USA, has an annual report on 50 countries where living as a Christian is not only

challenging but nearly impossible. Retired U.S. Army Lieutenant General William Boykin, a former commander of Delta Force and undersecretary of defense for intelligence, warns that "Christian persecution is only going to grow unless we wake up and take a strong stand against this." He said, "The attacks indicate an increased religious intolerance that could hit closer to home." This most assuredly seems to be the case as we hear a new story of someone being discriminated against or even silenced due to their belief in God, Jesus, and the Bible daily.

In an article by Doug Bandow, "Christianity Is the World's Most Persecuted Religion," 360 million Christians live in countries where persecution is significant, and roughly 5,600 Christians were murdered, over 6,000 were detained, and another 4,000 plus were kidnapped. Murdered for their faith: Churches are

destroyed and burned. We have witnessed some of this in America, but it's rare, in comparison, to what is happening in other countries, we are blessed not to face this daily. Yes, we have those who want God, Jesus, and the Bible erased from society altogether, but our Constitution keeps this from happening on the same scale elsewhere in the world. We are free to openly leave our homes and go to our chosen religious facility and worship without fear of imprisonment or death. 1.

The next few paragraphs will be hard to read, so please note, they are graphic and disturbing.

We, as Christians in America, feel we are being persecuted, and to some extent, we are. There is no question we are made to feel as though we're a stain on modern society: we are called 'Jesus freaks' or 'Bible thumpers,' and other choice descriptions we find

to be offensive or be proud to carry because we love Jesus and are free to share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, so these labels should not offend us. What I am going to explain here are the methods used to persuade Christians to denounce their faith in Jesus and deny God, along with the tortures and death of the early Martyrs. Maybe if we really think about what earlier Christians faced, we will feel less persecuted, more thankful, and fight harder to defend the freedom of faith and religion we enjoy today.

Discrimination vs. Persecution

Though these situations are looked at as the same, there's a considerable difference between discrimination and persecution. Discrimination is when we are asked to remove a hat or shirt or even asked to leave a venue because of our beliefs.

Persecution is much more serious in that it involves acts of violence such as destruction of property, pain and bodily harm, sexual violence, and being put to death for our beliefs or refusing to denounce what we believe and accept a belief forced on us. But make no mistake, discrimination can easily lead to persecution. 2.

'Foxes Book of Martyrs' gives a clear and graphic view of the persecution early Christians faced. At the hands of Nero and others, great persecutions came against all who believed in Christ as the Messiah. They were boiled in oil, skinned alive, laid on beds of metal, heated with torches, tortured in unimaginable ways, and sometimes, beheaded. Nero had Christians sewn into the skins of animals and let dogs loose on them. The dogs would torture them until they died. For others, Nero made shirts of wax for Christians to wear, that were set on fire to light his gardens. There are countless examples of these horrific persecutions Nero committed from 64 to 67 AD. The

first persecution under Nero was notably one of the worst at the time as Christians had not previously been tortured and murdered for their faith on this scale---but it would not be the last

St. Stephen preached the Gospel to those who betrayed and murdered Christ. They became so angry with him that they cast him out of the city, and he was stoned. Then, according to St. Luke, James the Great, the brother of John, was beheaded. Phillip was scourged, beaten, and thrown into prison, then crucified. Matthew was beaten to death with a halberd, a two-handed pole weapon used in the 13th-16th centuries. James the Less had his head crushed, beaten with a club. Matthias was stoned. Andrew. Mark, Peter, Simon, John, and Barnabas are some of those who were martyred for their belief in Jesus Christ. 3. 4. 5.

Believers are facing persecution, being silenced, and the prejudice against us is growing daily. But we shouldn't be surprised. When Jesus said to His disciples, "Follow me," did He promise them big houses, wealth, and an 'easy' way to go? No! Quite the opposite, in fact. Jesus told His disciples they would be persecuted and even face death if they followed Him. But their love for the Savior was so strong this didn't stop them from following Him.



In John chapter 21, Jesus asked Peter repeatedly, "Do you love me?" Peter said yes, three times, then Jesus told Peter what his path would be. What did Peter do? He asked about John. "What about him," Jesus' favorite disciple. This brings up the question, should we be comparing ourselves to others? This scripture indicates that we should not.

Though we may face troubles and trials while others live a good life, we should not compare ourselves. It is easy to want to question God, "What about them?" Why are they living a good life, fulfilling their dreams, having life so easy, and here we are suffering, going through trials, or just not getting where we want to go in life? We are all called for a purpose.

Are we strong in our faith and our trust in God, solid that we would be able to stand firm for Him in the face of life-or-death





'Jesus told His disciples they would be persecuted and even face death if they followed Him.'

persecution? We get offended if we are talked about, told to remove a hat or shirt, or if we find ourselves in a situation where our Christianity is being questioned. We get frustrated and feel 'persecuted,' but are we really? Is the discrimination we face in this country a steppingstone leading up to the persecution Christians face in other countries?

People might ask, how we will handle persecution if we can't handle a bit of discrimination. Do they not have a valid point? We are moving toward much harsher discrimination; are we prepared? Do you have on the Full Armor of God? Are we full of the Holy Spirit that if faced with the torture and death of early Christian martyrs, we will be able to stand? Christians are being discriminated against in this country and are being killed for their faith in other countries.

Is the discrimination we see in America today a steppingstone to the persecution of Christians we hear about across the world coming to America? What can and must we do to defend our faith and our country? We aren't just defending our freedom of religion for ourselves; we are defending faith and country for

our children and grandchildren. We cannot afford to lose our religious freedom for their sake as well as our own.

We Must Win This War!

Stand strong, brothers and sisters, "Encourage one another with these words, Jesus Is Coming."

- 1. https://www.cato.org/commentary/christianity-worlds-most-persecuted-religion-confirms-new-report
- 2. https://righttoremain.org.uk/whats-the-difference-between-discrimination-and-persecution/
- https://www.biblestudytools.com/history/foxs-book-of-martyrs/the-first-persecution-under-nero-a-d-67.html
- https://landmarkevents.org/neros-persecutions-begin-a-d-64/
- https://archive.org/details/foxesbookofmartyrs_201708/page/n6/mode/1up

Who's Got Their

"Six "?

One Man's Heart for Persecuted Jóers and His Mission to Leave No Man or Woman Behind

by Renee' for the Republic, M.S., the Star Spangled Chick



About January 6, 2021: "There are so many things the American people need to see to realize exactly what happened and why and who the bad guys really are. Maybe someday, it will all be public. Hopefully soon."

That quote, from 54-year-old David Sumrall, perhaps sums up why he was born for such a time as this. By day he's a carpenter from Texas. By day and by night, he rallies for the rights of patriot protesters and their families who are being maligned, persecuted, prosecuted, bankrupted, and punished --- silenced and suffering.

Their realities include everything from being held in unsanitary conditions to delays in their trials --- reflective of a communistic country. Much of the money to help them comes from Sumrall's own back pocket. To borrow a phrase first originated by airplane pilots, he 'has the six' (or backs) of those locked away.

Sumrall is regarded as a leading authority on the whole morass; therefore, the lawyers of the defendants frequently ask him to testify on their client's behalf. He reportedly has accumulated more video evidence than House Speaker Kevin McCarthy has seen. Or former Fox News host Tucker Carlson. Or anyone else.

A video investigator and the founder of StopHate.com, Sumrall --- along with one of his employees, videographer/citizen journalist Daniel Goodwyn --- agreed to speak with *George*. Their mission is to counter the mainstream narrative, which they both say is craftily devised, deceitful, and successfully marketed. [Author's note: Goodwyn's interview provides details about his personal ordeal and will be published in an upcoming issue].



Both have had the FBI at their doors and in their faces. Goodwyn recently reported to prison. The gist of his crime? Walking inside the Capitol building and then exiting after less than one minute.

The two were interviewed live on-air, in the same week, by Tucker Carlson on his widely popular, top-rated Fox TV show *Tucker Carlson Tonight*. That happened shortly before Tucker was shown the door, as Fox continued to fall into what many would describe as a leftist-leaning quicksand.

For background on both Sumrall and Goodwyn, *George* readers can watch their Tucker Carlson interviews here: https://stophate.com

Read on to hear more of what Sumrall says about:

- How "too much truth" revealed (stemming from those TV interviews) may have gotten Carlson axed.
- One example of a DOJ dirty trick
- The threats and intimidation. Sumrall is clear he's not suicidal.
- Every dog will have his day. Sumrall has a word for FBI Director Christopher Wray.



Renee' for the Republic (RR) interviews David Sumrall (DS):

RR: Please introduce yourself to our readers. What would they want to know about you as an initial overview?

DS: I'm a carpenter from East Texas who loves God, my family, and old-school American

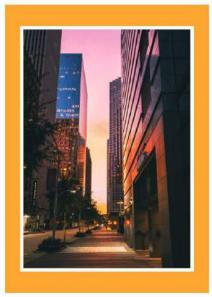
Values. During the Los Angeles riots, my wife was pregnant with my son, and I knew we needed to do something to try to help make the world a better place for our kids. So, I started the Stop Hate Awareness Program to help bring people together. STOP HATE is an acronym: Start Turning Off Prejudice Heal Attitudes Through Education.

RR: Please talk about J6 and your efforts toward getting to the bottom of what occurred.

DS: Immediately after J6, I started working on ways to re-capture the **narrative** around what actually happened that day. I started a petition to make January 6 "Patriot Day" to help people understand that we are proud of the good parts. I started the Stop Hate Department of Defense, SHDOD, as a location to find fundraisers for the defendants and their families.

On June 4, 2021, I released "Righting History, the Journalistic Battle of January 6th," the first J6 documentary to show the public what truly transpired that day.

A year later, I released BloodyHill.com (*The 7 Deadly Sins of J6*), which was my second J6 documentary. It gives more detail about the setup and provides different perspectives than what the media has shown.



Sumrall is regarded as a leading authority on the whole morass and is frequently asked to testify on behalf of J6 defendants. He and videographer Daniel Goodwyn were interviewed on Tucker Carlson Tonight shortly before Carlson was ousted.



RR: The FBI wasn't happy with you?

DS: I built a media team made up of other J6 defendants and journalists, and I started StopHate.news, which the FBI quickly crushed and destroyed. How? The FBI harassed the guy who I'd hired to build the website until he had to quit for fear of losing his regular job.

They drilled him to see if we had any secret videos we were hiding. Questioned his employer, friends, and family. This guy did not go to DC on January 6 or have anything to do with it! What a joke.

The FBI put some kind of horrible virus on the website, and we had to shut it down.

It didn't stop us from posting articles about the deaths on January 6: Capitol Offense --- The Ugly Truth Behind the Five Deaths from January 6th and 7th...or from showing the police brutality toward the innocent protesters, etc.

I have also submitted film for most of the documentaries that have been seen about J6, have consulted on films, and I also have several more projects currently in the works. We should have another documentary out very soon called J6: A True Timeline.

RR: How many J6ers are there... targeted in a massive dragnet by the government in power?

DS: Information on arrests is constantly being updated. It changes weekly. Between new arrests and diesel therapy --- where they move prisoners around to further torture them --- it is difficult to keep up with the numbers. Over 1,200 arrests so far. Over 600 have taken pleas to escape the pressure from the DOJ, not because they are guilty. There are over 140 currently in confinement: prison...some are serving their sentences, but most have not even had a trial yet.



The DOJ is trying to make examples of these people and put fear into the hearts of other potential defendants and even their supporters. The government has stated that there will be up to 2,000 more arrests!

Patriot Mail Project, J6 Patriot News, and American Gulag try to keep good counts of prisoners and their locations.





RR: Deprived of due process? To quote AC/DC: dirty tricks done dirt cheap? Can't the protesters sue the government for acting in an unconstitutional manner?

DS: Many of the prisoners being held are from original arrests soon after January 6 and the following months. The government was still building its database of videos until around August or September. And many of these guys were tricked into signing off on the right to a speedy trial in hopes that the government would work with them, and they may receive lighter sentences. Once that happens, you can't sue them because you signed off on it --- not knowing they would take years to try the cases.

"I reached out to countless ministers and church members. Very few show any interest in supporting these hostages."



RR: Tell us more about how you landed a segment on Tucker. The backstory, please.

DS: After submitting a film for Tucker's documentary and working with his producers, I got a call one day asking what I would talk about if I were a guest on the show. I wanted to showcase the prisoners and their personal experiences and drive people to support them. So, I spoke about the book that Tim Rivers and Marie Goodwyn put together called "The American Gulag Chronicles, Letters from Prison."

RR: You and your employee Daniel Goodwyn were on Tucker Carlson the week before he was shown the door. What's your take?

DS: There are very few in the media, like in politics, who have proven themselves to be trustworthy. Tucker Carlson was one of those seemingly trustable people, he seemed genuine enough and certainly friendly, and I hoped that conversation would continue between us. But, of course, he was fired.

Do I feel a little responsible? Maybe? I am still looking at the timing of that whole situation and wondering how it happened. And so fast. Maybe we will find out more someday. But we still need a big voice like his to get this message out. Very disappointing to get so close to getting some real publicity for these hostages, only for him to be fired the next week after our interview.

I am open to talking to anyone in the media, on any side, at any time. "People die from lack of knowledge," and we can help fix that.



RR: You have acquired a ton of information and actual video uncovering the full truth of J6. Copies in safekeeping? What do the American people deserve to know...what does the world need to know?

DS: We have a collection of J6 information, maybe the biggest outside of the U.S. Government's database, with countless hours of videos, interviews, posts, etc., which we have built up over the last few years. We have team members fighting for their very freedoms, so we have a very good reason, and --- let's say a vested interest --- in seeing all that information is accumulated and then getting it back out to the public.

Because of my research and experience, and the fact that I was also there on J6, several lawyers have hired me as an investigator for J6 defendants. So, I have access to the government's database of videos. There are so many things the American people need to see to realize exactly what happened and why, and who the bad guys really are.

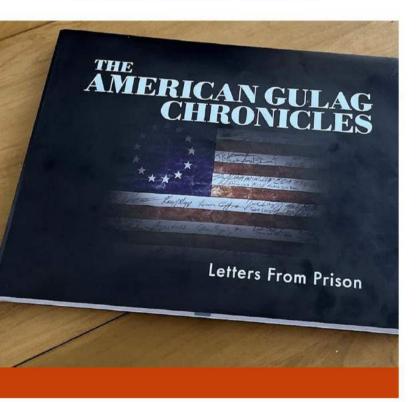
RR: Leftists and others say that the claims of a truth cover-up are merely rumors. Another right-wing conspiracy...

DS: Leftists may be too far gone to help at this point. Politicians continue to play games with these people's lives, their wives and children, and torture them until they are satisfied. The truth is too disgusting and cruel for many to ever accept or recognize.

RR: Has the FBI SWAT team not raided you? Are you afraid you'll end up in prison for simply possessing evidence? What's your chess move if the FBI and DOJ come after you?

DS: The FBI has come to my house at least four times, I spoke with them twice, once with my lawyer, and they determined I am not a person of interest. Or at least that's what they said. The DOJ still threatens me with criminal charges almost every time that I go to DC to testify in these cases. We'll see how it plays out.

Everyone should be made aware of the amount of their taxpayer dollars being spent on this (which is really about political persecution). Investigations, surveillance, drones, helicopters, arrests and transport, court costs, time and energy, etc., and much of it on misdemeanors. Ridiculous.



RR: Will you "go there" and talk about the topic of the weaponization of the DOJ and FBI? Ironically, today Wray was testifying before Congress, and he denies that it is happening. What say you?

DS: Christopher Wray has some explaining to do and probably some jail time to serve. He has lied about so many things that we may need to write a book about it. I was fortunate enough to get some information to Congress early on, which helped them in the direction of the questions if you know what I mean. More about Wray is coming soon.

RR: Talk with us about the types of threats that you and your family (and/or staff) have endured. Do you worry about being "suicided"?

"The FBI has come to my house at least four times, and they determined I am not a person of interest. Or at least that's what they said. The DOJ still threatens me with criminal charges."

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DS: "Fear not" is something that I and my team at StopHate.com have to live by and realize that God is bigger than all of this. We all need to do our parts for God and Country, and He will do the rest. The government likes to threaten me with potential criminal prosecution when I testify in these J6 cases, but somebody has to bear witness for these people. So why not me?

If they charged me now, it would be purely political, which is still a possibility. I have been very outspoken since I got home from the Capitol after January 6, and I don't plan to change for anyone.

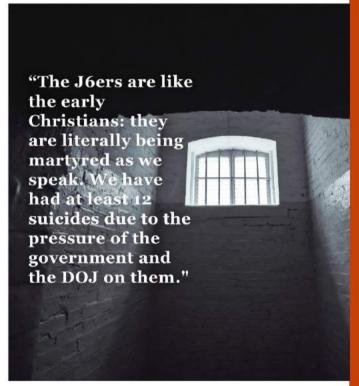


My family has handled this all very well, considering, and I couldn't be more proud of them. Fear tactics on women are not cool. Letters from the prosecution threatening to put me in jail over evidence claiming I will release it are a lie. Trying to destroy someone's family is mean. Who threatens that better than our DOJ and FBI? Nobody.

It was the most patriotic day in our history, and people need to know what happened. I only pray that if I am ever arrested --- for essentially stepping on the grass --- it forces all of our research and documentaries further out into the public in a huge way. So the rest of the world can finally catch up to where we are.

RR: Exactly how are you and those efforts being suppressed? Please talk about your counter-initiatives.

DS: Censorship seems to be the biggest problem in relaying this information to the public at large. The media and big tech have a tight grip on the flow, and their shadow-banning is out of control. We have teams of volunteers who try to share this information on social media tirelessly. I have listed so much on our website for people to find at StopHate.com



RR: Please describe in detail the actual documentation of suffering going on by J6ers. How can people help?

DS: I can't explain what these J6 martyrs and their families are experiencing. Words aren't enough. It's a deeper, physical, emotional abandonment that eats away at your soul. Like waiting for help that never comes, day after day, year after year, and knowing that you did the right thing, at the right time, for the right reasons, but nobody will defend you for your sacrifice.

The best way to know how they feel is to ask them and write them letters via PatriotMailProject.com, to adopt and support them personally. Buy the book *American Gulag Chronicles* https://www.americangulagchronicles.com/. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to help them and their families.

RR: Please discuss how J6ers are being shut away and muzzled.

DS: These prisoners have been locked away and silenced, not only by the judges but by attorneys and especially the media. That's one reason the book is so important to get their stories to the public. We suggest people buy extra copies and donate them to the local libraries, schools, pastors, etc.

RR: Have you spoken with former President Trump, and does he know (or does his inner circle know) about all of the evidence you have? Who are the congressmen, or women, or others who have truly helped the cause?

DS: The most difficult thing is trying to decide who is actually on our team and who is not. Who is using this for politics? It's hard to make a statement on what Trump knows, but if he does know, I am disappointed. I have spoken with people on several of his teams. I believe he is familiar with me and my work, yet I haven't seen anything come of it yet. Makes me wonder if the information gets all the way to him. Then it makes me wonder if this has been hijacked for the election. It certainly looks that way at this point.

RR: Do you think there's a realistic plan to save this country from the goons and the loons? Many feel we've already fallen into communism...

DS: As a man of faith, and a man of action, there is a balance that is necessary. Sure, it would be great if Jesus swooped in and saved us, but is that what we deserve? Are we learning anything here? We may be in for a spanking for quite some time. We got ourselves into this position, so we need to fight hard every single day to get ourselves out of it.

The church has failed miserably. God revealed that to us during Covid in so many ways. Such as when the church allows the state to tell it whether it can minister or not. If your church caved, it helps you decide that's a church you shouldn't go to.

The Bible is very clear about what is good and bad, right and wrong. We get caught up in our ideals and tolerance and lose sight of the truth. The church turned its other cheek to keep its 501(c)(3) status, and we let the world creep in. That's our fault. Some people would say that judgment is too harsh, but I guarantee it (judgment) is coming anyway.

The devil is definitely a better strategist than we are. His plan to divide and conquer is working seamlessly.



RR: Are pastors and churches stepping up to help J6ers?

DS: I couldn't be more disappointed in the church as a whole. I reached out to countless ministers, pastors, and church members...and very few showed any interest in supporting our January 6 hostages. These J6ers are like the early Christians. They are literally being martyred as we speak. We have had at least 12 suicides due to the pressure of the government and the DOJ on these people.

When the church turns its back on people like this, it says more about the church, doesn't it? Let's be honest; churches don't train their congregations anymore for the battle that we are in. I'm sure God is disappointed in what modern churches have become. They're needed in this fight.

RR: What can the average citizen do to take back this country? Many are stressed, trying to make ends meet, depleting their savings. Stunned, watching as the country is being purposefully dismantled in order to cripple the USA into socialistic communism.

DS: Take your kids out of public schools. Be a watchdog at your city council meetings. Vote your faith. Shop locally. Stop trusting Big Pharma, the media, and the government. Pray without ceasing. Give everything you have to God.

RR: There remain some out there who don't think America is really in trouble. They'll say: "It's just more politics. It's always a cycle." As they psychologically "check out" of the stressful mess...

DS: People don't get involved with MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, until their kid or a family member gets hit by a drunk. This is different because once this hits you, it's too late for everything.

RR: You drive hundreds of miles to testify on behalf of J6ers. You sleep in

"It's like waiting for help that never comes, day after day, year after year, and knowing that you did the right thing, at the right time, for the right reasons, but nobody will defend you for your sacrifice."

your truck at rest stops. Do you fund this out of the goodness of your heart?

DS: I was telling a friend the other day, "My truck is a national hero" for carrying me back and forth, zigzagging across the country time after time.

Every trip to DC and back costs around \$800 in fuel round trip and takes me away from work for a few days. I stop and sleep at the rest areas to save on hotel costs. And with a three-or four-hour nap, it makes it about a 24-hour drive one way. I do not ask the defendants for any compensation.

We have funded events, rallies, and concerts out of our own pockets for years. Now I find myself in a position where I need more support to serve more people in different ways. I'm learning how to ask others for more help to accomplish those goals.

RR: Who are the patriots past and present who inspire you?

DS: The people who have inspired me the most are probably the founding fathers. I believe they are closely related to our J6ers, who are cut from the same cloth. They have sacrificed everything for us, so we can enjoy the freedoms granted by God, defined in our Constitution.

They are 100% committed to freedom at all costs, as we all should be. So, here's to the founding fathers and to J6ers, for leading by example, for giving us heroes to look up to. To aspire to be as patriotic as they continue to be.

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by Zach Moore

I'd never been to New Orleans before, despite a bachelor party invite I couldn't attend during my final year of college football, and my sister had lived there for a year up to this point. My girlfriend and I had recommendations for places to go and things to see, but I asked a famous TV writer, to whom I'd given a handful of private Jiu-Jitsu lessons, for some recommendations. I was thinking to myself that as a favorite son of the city, someone who had written one of the best seasons of TV drama that also spotlighted the feeling of Louisiana, he might have a good recommendation.

"Keep your head on a swivel. That place is a war zone."

As someone who lived in the state for most of his life, he said his most recent trip post-Covid was the worst he had seen it.

There were bad areas, surely. Areas that were worse than anything we have in Austin, a symptom of a city that experiences devastating floods that wipe away hope every two decades or so.

I was staying in one of the nice spots in the city, the Garden District. One of the few spots in the city that doesn't flood, so this is where all the people with money live, while the people with lower incomes fight against floods elsewhere.

We stayed in an Air BnB with an incredibly pleasant French chef whose credentials included cooking Nelson Mandela's first meal after his release from prison and a day at the White House.



Walking around this beautiful neighborhood of shotgun houses and onto Magazine Street, I was reminded of the ease with which "hellos" and "good mornings" used to be shared in Austin, Texas, and the lower frequency of those pleasantries over these past few years.

When broaching the topic of where I'm from when asked in Austin, I tell people, "New Jersey, right outside New York City," but I always add the qualifier that I visited the city every year from the age of eight to 18. A yearly visit with my father to visit an author friend of ours on Lake Marble Falls.

It's also a disclaimer that I'm not like all the rest of the animals who move here from the Northeast. I, at least, understand the cultural expectations of the place in which I am living. At least, that's what I'm trying to signal.

My very Texan version of virtue signaling.

The trip to New Orleans was a reminder of the charm of a smaller Southern city, with its 375,000 souls versus an Austin that is encroaching on a million residents, if it hasn't already passed that.

My mom had lived in New Jersey for her entire life before moving to town in 2021. She is unique in her move.

The 2018 exit polls from CNN illustrated that Beto O'Rourke actually out-earned Ted Cruz in native-born Texan votes, while Ted earned a 15-point margin with transplants. The *Texas Monthly*, whose article I pulled that from, noted that this was to be expected as most transplants are older and more likely to be conservative, which I'm not so sure of.

Sure, there are plenty of older people who are moving to Texas as they retire, and many of them may be chasing family just as my mother did, but many of the transplants are chasing a better work environment or maybe coming along with the job that relocated to Texas. My mom is in that nearretirement age population, the people the article would attribute to being more conservative, but she has watched so much CNN that when I bring up the inherent corruption of the FBI, she does everything she can short of pounding the table and crying like a toddler to get me to stop.

While she moved to Texas as a Democrat, many Democrats have left California for Texas. Most of the people moving to Texas have the political perspective that one would assume Texans would want when they say things like "Don't California My Texas."

Being from New Jersey, a place that's renowned for its aggressive drivers and rude people, my mom's mind was blown by the fact that drivers in the slow lane would *slow down* when they saw someone merging onto the highway and into their lane. It blew me away too. You could feel the politeness and hospitality in the way people drove.

Over the past few years, that politeness on the road has migrated out of the culture as more people have migrated in.

While the headline of an article is always a variation of "Don't Californicate My Texas" - for good reason - with 700,000 California refugees migrating to Texas



from 2010 through 2020, it's not just people from California. The other day I was honked at as the light turned green in a way that made me feel like I was in Boston.

One of the issues is that people are coming from places like Los Angeles, New York, and Boston. With their arrival, however, the place doesn't just become more like those cities due to the personalities of the migrants and the culture they brought with them; although with the masses of them coming, those personalities surely have an impact. Austin, I think, is becoming more like those cities because more people mean more traffic, more competition, and more money.

More traffic on the roads. More competition for your job and demand for that apartment you want to rent. But more people mean there is also more money for you to earn. The good and the bad. Those are the consequences of living in a cool place, the place everyone fled to during Covid.

That population increase is making our home state more like the ones we left. With it comes the need to work more hours with the inflating rent prices, plus the inflation of the Biden presidency and the Covid spending spree.

Inflation might have been 10% over the last two years, while rent increased by 45% in Austin from 2010 to 2020, which has accelerated even more since 2020.

A friend of mine made a good point about affordability and its impact on the culture of a city. When you go to a restaurant or bar and ask for recommendations for where to go, you want to be able to ask someone who has enough time off and enough money to give you a good recommendation, someplace worth going to, rather than some boilerplate answer that everyone gives you for the "To Dos" in a city.

Anyone can tell you to go to East Sixth or Rainey Street, but can you get a recommendation to build a trip around when you're visiting that friend from college who moved to Texas?

It's higher prices and harder work schedules that are sucking the culture out of the city, making it more like the places we all tried to escape.

How does the young musical artist make it when his rent increases by \$500 from one year to the next in the same apartment?

The influx of new industry and big business brings two issues with it. First, the high incomes for the non-binary Facebook employees who spend four hours a week working means that they have more income for landlords to rely on as they push up rent every year.

Second, because they moved here chasing their job, they didn't move here for the same reasons that made the cultural migrant move on his or her own. When you move because of your job, your mindset is likely more skewed towards making the place you moved to more like the place you didn't choose to leave.

While Shark Tank's Kevin O'Leary goes on mainstream media to call states like California, New York, and Massachusetts uninvestable, there's something very dark about it all that dawned on me during 2020.

The electoral map is such that a Presidential candidate needs 270 votes to win. While California and New York will each lose an elector vote between 2020 and 2024, and Texas will gain two, Democrats start with 82 surefire electoral votes just based on those two states alone. The entire Northeast and West Coast are blue too.

If Democrats force tech businesses and multinational corporations to move to red



states, they are bringing people with them who make enough money not to feel the full impact of the incompetent policies in the states they just left.

This is why Democrats abandoned the working-class. Heading into the 2016 election, Chuck Schumer did the math for us. They weren't worried about losing working-class voters because "when middle-class incomes decline, people tend to move in a more progressive direction." And "for every blue-collar Democrat, we lose in western Pennsylvania, we will pick up two moderate Republicans in the suburbs in Philadelphia, and you can repeat that in Ohio and Illinois and Wisconsin."

Texas, being a border state, is also under siege by the open border policies of the Biden administration, another aspect of the assault on Texas in an attempt to turn it blue. That would be another 40 votes they could capture in perpetuity if they could slant the state just a few more percentage points to the left. A total of 122 electoral votes from those three states would make voting even more irrelevant than it already is.

The other assault on the state comes from George Soros' foreign money in the District Attorney's office here in Austin under the false leadership of Jose Garza, who has a policy of quickly letting violent criminals back on the street after a crime, forcing many officers in an already defunded police force into early retirement through demoralization. This is a pattern happening across the country, not just in Texas cities.



In that, this "Californication" issue isn't something that's unique to Texas. The spreading of Communism is everywhere right now. What started in 1917, with the Bolshevik Revolution that led to the Soviet Union, is embedded in the institutions that miseducate, misinform, and profit off us. All we can do is continue to illuminate it, continue to discuss it, and hopefully educate enough people about the truth of what is happening.

What the Californication of Texas truly is though, is this ever-increasing population boom that leads to the same competitive issues that forced someone like me, someone who couldn't picture being wealthy enough to buy a home in the suburbs of New York City anytime soon, to come to Texas.

The key is to pick a place where you can grow with the city along the trajectory of your working years. Somewhere you can buy a nice home for \$250,000 at 30 and sell for \$1.5 million at 65. The nest egg you can retire on.

I don't know if there's any place we can save from the onslaught of terrible ideas from our political, corporate, and cultural establishment, but you can figure out a way to live in a cool place before it gets too cool to afford.

Thankfully, there are still some places like that in the Republic of Texas, but unfortunately, this whole damn country might be ruled like California soon if we don't figure out how to stop it.





THE HOLY LAND

by Michele Marin

If you are searching for a once-in-a-lifetime trip that weaves the roots of Christianity through the tapestry of ancient traditions and sacred stories, take a spiritual odyssey through the Holy Land. Trace the footsteps of biblical figures, traverse legendary landscapes, and delve into a rich mosaic of cultures that have shaped this revered region.

We hope our 4-day Jerusalem itinerary provides inspiration for your next travel adventure. The best times to visit are April through May and October through November when the weather is mild, and the crowds are thin. Remember that there's an increase in travelers and hotel prices during major Jewish celebrations such as Passover, High Holy Days, and Sukkot, so be sure to check your dates. Although Jerusalem is the capital of Israel, there is no airport in the city. Most visitors fly into Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport and take the train to

Jerusalem, which takes less than an hour.

Day 1: Arrival in Jerusalem

After settling in, take the day to acclimate and immerse yourself in the surroundings. Begin your pilgrimage by stepping back in time as you wander through the labyrinthine alleys of the Old City of Jerusalem. This **UNESCO** World Heritage site, enclosed within centuries-old walls, has been the epicenter of religious significance for millennia. The Old City is divided into four quarters: the Armenian Quarter, the Muslim Quarter, the Christian Quarter, and the Jewish Quarter.

Explore the Arab market where the cacophony of merchants haggling, the colorful displays of textiles and trinkets, and the inviting aroma of Middle Eastern cuisine form an exhilarating sensory experience. Recharge with a leisurely lunch at Rooftop Outdoor Lounge & Restaurant in the Mamilla Hotel. Enjoy the breathtaking view of the Old

City and a menu brimming with fresh, natural ingredients from meat and fish dishes to pasta.

Next, make your way to the Western Wall, one of the holiest sites in Judaism, and take a moment for quiet reflection. Within its hallowed walls lie sacred sites revered by three major religions - Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. The juxtaposition of the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Dome of the Rock within such proximity is a testament to the city's unparalleled spiritual significance.

You'll also want to visit the Church of the Holy
Sepulchre, a Christian holy
site in Jerusalem that is said
to preserve the remains of
Jesus Christ. The present
building was constructed
mainly during the Crusader
era after Persians destroyed
a previous basilica.

Round your day with dinner at Machneyuda in the Mahane Yehuda marketplace. The openconcept kitchen gives you an up-close look at your food being prepared. Explore a



View of Jerusalem - Mount of Olives

menu anchored in the freshest marketplace ingredients. Machneyuda is known for its seafood and high-quality ingredients. http://www.machneyuda.co.il/
The Rooftop - Mamilla (mamillahotel.com)

Day 2: Mount of Olives and Bethlehem

As the sun gently rises over Jerusalem's horizon, embark on a soul-stirring journey to the Mount of Olives. Here, amidst ancient olive trees, you can retrace Jesus' footsteps during his triumphant entry on Palm Sunday. Take the time to pause for a moment of reflection and prayer as you enjoy the breathtaking landscapes.

Next, travel to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. Visit the Church of the Nativity, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and marvel at its ancient architecture. Discover the Shepherd's Field, where the angels are said to have announced Jesus' birth. The Orthodox Church of Nativity is a heritage site featuring a 4th-century church built above a cave believed to be the birthplace of Jesus. It is a popular religious destination where devout pilgrims line up to bless their items at the precise spot where Jesus was born. The church, also known as the Basilica of Nativity, showcases beautiful artwork on its walls and features the Milk Grotto Chapel.

Enrich your understanding of the local culture with a sumptuous Palestinian lunch, savoring a delectable array of traditional dishes that will leave you with a deeper appreciation for the local culinary heritage that has withstood the test of time.

As the day gently transitions to evening, return to Jerusalem, and partake in an intimate lecture on the history of Christianity in the Holy Land. Led by a knowledgeable scholar, this enlightening session unearths the layers of faith that have shaped the region over millennia.



Masada, Israel ancient rock plateau fortress in the Judaean Desert.

Day 3: Masada & the Dead Sea

Experience the ancient fortress of Masada, where you will learn about the courageous stand of Jewish rebels against Roman forces. Masada National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that features ancient ruins and serves as a historical landmark. It was built more than 2000 years ago by King Herod and offers visitors an outstanding introduction to Masada's archaeology and history through its museum. The fortress sits on top of a plateau, providing visitors with breathtaking views of the Dead Sea.



The entrance to the Masada fortress, Israel



Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth



Holy Lavra of Saint Sabbas the Sanctified, known in Arabic as Ma

Next, make your way to The Dead Sea, a salt-rich lake amidst desert beaches, mineral spas, and oases. To reach this lowest point on Earth, travel northwards through the Desert Highway of Maan and traverse a winding mountain road that provides breathtaking views until you arrive at the banks of the Dead Sea.

Day 4: Nazareth & Sea of Galilee

Explore Nazareth, where Jesus spent his childhood. Visit the Basilica of the Annunciation, a stunning church commemorating the angel Gabriel's annunciation to Mary.

Then, sail on the serene waters of the Sea of Galilee, a revered site for Christians, believed to be where Jesus performed miracles.

While it is tempting to try to see so many instrumental points of interest, it's also important to take time to relax and enjoy the moment. This is a great place to spend the afternoon enjoying the beautiful beaches. Lavnun Beach is a popular spot with tourists and features unique activities like raft building.

Spend the rest of the day winding down as you prepare to depart with unforgettable memories, newfound spiritual insights, and enduring friendships.

Are you Successful?

by Andre Popa

aving been born in Communist Romania, I had always heard of the idea that success can be found in America. The concept back then and even now insinuates that success is material in nature. Society has trained us to measure each other based on the wealth we have created. If someone has money, they are deemed "successful," and if the person lacks money, they are not.

The first question upon meeting someone is almost always, "What do you do for a living?" That answer will trigger an emotional response which will dictate how we treat the person, right? Usually, whether the person has a regular 9-5 job barely paying the bills or, is a multi-millionaire makes a difference in how we react.

And now we have placed that person in a preconditioned box depending on their bank account. That same person could be cheating on their spouse, not taking care of their kids/family, being a criminal, thief, addict, etc. Yet, as long as they have achieved a certain level of monetary success, we have been taught to revere them and filter out their flaws.



Don't misunderstand me; money is very important. Yet when it becomes more important than one's happiness, joy, fulfillment, self-love, relationships, and God, we just may be missing the point of this journey.

According to www.dictionary.com, there are two definitions for the word success:

noun

- the favorable or prosperous termination of attempts or endeavors; the accomplishment of one's goals.
- 2. the attainment of wealth, position, honors, or the like.

See? Both automatically have to do with money or the like. How many unhappy people do we know that have achieved financial success? Too many.

Badassery Factory was launched

for exactly this reason many years ago. We saw and felt the pain in humanity. Most people walk around like zombies justifying their existence, yet not ever focusing on internal happiness. Tony Robbins has a joke he uses on stage: "If you think money can't buy happiness, you don't know where to shop!" Funny... but not funny.

Money comes with a tracking system known as accounting, so one knows how much value he or she has. Can you imagine if we had the same calculations for our happiness? Our joy? Our health? Our relationships? And obsessed over them like we do money? WOW!

The more money one has, the more disciplined in that practice one is. So, it all comes down to focus. As you know, my saying, "Life goes in the direction of our



Financially broke people will find areas of selfsabotage and not feeling worthy.

thoughts, words, and beliefs!" The level of importance we give something is the same level of experience we get to enjoy. I believe money makes us more of who we already are. You know the saying, "An a'hole with money is just a bigger a'hole!"

How cool would it be if we could keep track of our emotions, thoughts, words, how we treat people, how our kids react when we walk through the front door, how our spouse displays excitement for our existence, and how many minutes per day we devote to our spirit/God?

In my coaching business, I have clients do a full inventory of their daily activities. This little exercise quickly shows them where their energy is going and what the return on that investment is. One now has an opportunity to change the activities that bring them unwanted results and vice versa, do more of what will bring them joy.

People who constantly have problems and drama in their lives usually find they complain a lot and hang out with the wrong crowds. Physically unhealthy people realize that their focus is on disease, and their actions mirror that energy to produce the result in the body. Nothing happens in the body that does not happen in the mind first!

Financially broke people will find areas of selfsabotage and not feeling worthy. I can go on and on, yet I feel you get the point by now.





Are you Successful?

Here's a 30-day challenge for you:

Sleep a minimum of 7 hours per night.

Leave your phone in another room.

Create a morning routine. prayer/meditation, exercise, read, and/or journal to create your day.

Get outside and ground for 10 minutes. bare feet on the dirt, grass, or sand, and/or put your palms on a tree.

Help people without any expectations.

Hang out only with people that bring joy.

Do inventory of your emotions.

Create a gratitude list and repeat it throughout the day.

Clean nutrition. Cut sugar, any and all white foods, fried everything, no seed oils, and eat organic as much as possible.

Each night, review your day and ask yourself what you could have done differently/better.

Run yourself like a business.

Do this every day for 30 days and send me a message letting me know your results!

- Andre Popa



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The Secret to Timeless Embracing Beauty at Every A

By Michele Marin

oco Chanel famously stated, The beauty of aging lies in Beauty begins the moment you decide to be yourself." But the iconic French fashion designer also says, "Nature gives you the face you have at twenty; it is up to you to merit the face you have at fifty." And both are so very true.

embracing the journey, becoming more self-assured, and the wisdom that one accumulates through the years. From finding joy in the little things to learning to love ourselves, there's peace that transcends as we age. Yet, don't we all feel so much better when we practice self-care and

put our best face forward (pun intended)?

We've curated a list of stand-out beauty products tailored explicitly for the seasoned beauty aficionado. These products will empower you to embrace your journey with grace, flair, and a touch of joie de vivre.

Ogee Hyaluronic Acid Elixir 1.5% Great For: Hydration, Fine Lines, Improving Skin's Appearance

If you're not already using Hyaluronic Acid, be sure to add it to your daily routine. This gem is the key to retaining moisture and getting a radiant glow. We love Ogee products because they are certified organic, cruelty-free, not tested on animals, vegan, glutenfree, all-natural, non-GMO, and made in the USA. And their recent Personal Microderm Elite product launch- Ogee Hyaluronic Acid Elixir 1.5%-- doesn't disappoint. With its powerful proprietary mixed molecular weight hyaluronic acid blend; this elixir mixes low and micro molecular weights to deeply penetrate and enhance skin moisturization while improving the appearance of texture, suppleness, and signs of aging, leaving skin hydrated, firm, and luminous.

Available at Ogee.com; \$88



Pro Great For: Exfoliation. Improving Skin's Appearance and Sun Damage.

Sure, you can get Microdermabrasion knockoffs on Amazon, but PMD is the pioneer of skincare tools and the first company to launch microdermabrasion devices in 2003. The Personal Microderm Elite Pro is the most technologically advanced

microdermabrasion device on the market. Users can customize treatments with various settings and accessories. The PMD Elite Pro boosts collagen production, diminishes blackheads, and improves skin tone and texture.

Available at PMD Beauty; \$299 elite WHAT'S INCLUDED Body Cap







Antioxidant Revitalization Serum Best For: Detoxifying Skin of Free Radicals Damage

Nicknamed the "master" antioxidant, Glutathione helps protect skin from the harmful effects of oxidative stress, which is linked to many issues like acne, rosacea, psoriasis, eczema, age spots, blemishes, sunspots, redness, inflammation, wrinkles, fine lines, and more. Research shows that the naturally occurring Master Antioxidant is critical to longevity and good health. The founder of Auro Wellness, Dr. Navan Patel, strongly advocates glutathione's benefits for the skin: As a key component to the continuous regeneration of healthy skin, glutathione plays a critical protective role." Available at Auro Wellness Products; \$179



Truffoire Body Butter Best For: Crepey Skin or Full Body Moisture

You know truffles as a culinary delicacy, but did you also know

that these gems are packed with antioxidants and carry so many health benefits, including decreasing inflammation? Truffoire, the luxury Skincare brand, uses black and white truffles in their products, and the results are impressive. Do vourself a favor and pick up Truffoire Body Butter. Your skin will thank you. The thick cream creates a layer of intense moisture and acts as a barrier between the skin and environmental stressors. It's as if your skin glows! Available at Truffoire Gourmet Skincare; \$68



Zundora Best For: Plumping Skin. Hair and Nail Growth.

Not all collagen is created equal, and the newest supplement, Zundora, is proof. Award-winning brand Zurvita worked extensively with physicians, scientists, and researchers to develop this breakthrough antigens collagen gel. This blackberry flavor gel is packed with hydrolyzed collagen peptides which are clinically proven to improve the health of hair, skin, and nails, reduce fine lines and wrinkles, and increase skin elasticity. Zundora also includes potent ingredients from multiple superfoods that further help protect, nourish, and smooth skin.

Zundora Antioxidant Collagen - 30 Pak (zurvita.com); \$78.95



There's a new FDA-approved injectable in town, and it's here to fight wrinkles and improve moderate to severe lines. DAXXIFY® is the first and only peptide-powered neuromodulator and the first to be made in the USA. So, what makes DAXXIFY stand out from the competition? It's longevity. Clinical studies show an improvement in frown lines for six to nine months, while other injectables typically last three to five months. Sign us up!



Peptide Powered

The only long-lasting frown line treatment powered by a novel peptide.

Happy soon to be fall, George! As we begin to transition from summer to fall, it's important to remember the fundamentals of fashion. Keeping a capsule wardrobe and basic staple pieces are essential as trends **Incorporated** and fashion begin to change basic colored with the upcoming seasons. tops I recommend opting for neutral tone colors such as: black, white, tan and navy blue. This is the best way to keep up with the ever changing seasonal trends and still be able to style fashion trends in different ways.



Wide-legged palazzo pants

This season, wide-legged palazzo pants are super trendy and are the perfect transition piece to wear from summer to fall.

These pants can be dressed up for dinner or an event, worn professionally when paired with a blazer to work or you can keep the look simple by pairing with sandals and a basic top. These pants can also be worn as a casual travel outfit when sight seeing on vacation or over your swimwear as a classy cover up this summer.

The pants come in numerous colors and sizes, an adjustable draw string and quality material that's not too light or heavy. I incorporated basic colored tops when creating two different looks with these pants. With staple pieces you can then opt for fun or trendy colors to pair up with.

Be sure to subscribe and follow the link / QR code for outfit details and inspirations!

https://linktr.ee/laura ashley



IST ANNIVERS ARY ISSUE!

COMING SOON

IN GEORGE MAGAZINE ISSUE 12



