

The DEFENDER - February 2020



“... defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

A monthly publication of the
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: The Enemy Within

The World Council of Churches (WCC) is meeting for their 11th World Assembly in Karlsruhe, Germany in September of 2021. It's not too early to send out warning signals. Jesus said “...many false prophets shall rise (in the last days), and shall deceive many,” (**Matthew 24:11**). The spirit of antichrist is already in the world (**1 John 4:3**), signifying the latter days are here. The theme for the WCC Assembly is “Christ's love moves the world to reconciliation and unity.” Don't be fooled by the title.

The message of the WCC is the promotion of the social gospel, not the gospel of the scriptures. They have stated that the emphasis will be upon Christ's love expressed by advocacy for justice and peace, and unity. They will also emphasize the one human family's need for love in facing the future together. The WCC has made it clear that the reconciliation and unity of which it speaks is far different from that presented in the Bible. Their agenda centers on the promotion of ecumenism through the twisting of scripture and compromise. Instead of rejoicing in the spiritual work of Christ which has brought us into righteous fellowship with God, the WCC instead seeks the transformation of society into a grand socialist utopia. WCC General Secretary Rev. Dr. Olaf Fykse Tveit said that because the Bible is archaic, the World Council would turn toward a more modern approach to the world, urging member churches to focus more on the enormous challenges of this world, while adding that “the one human family needs love and needs to love to face our future together.” Dr. Tveit ridiculed true believers by saying we are too focused on the life after this one, praying instead that God would “motivate and guide us in our planning and work, in anticipation of the coming unity of humankind. Thy kingdom come!”

Rather than focus on the true Gospel of Christ, the WCC is more concerned with immigration, climate change, universal healthcare, and economic transformation. Although some of these issues address matters that we all should care about, the progressive agenda is seeking to bring its vision of the “Kingdom of God” on earth, while standing in opposition to the true kingdom of God as presented in the scriptures. As a means of accomplishing their grand socialist programs, the WCC has called for government taxation as a tool for promoting redistribution, accountability and sustainability, and regulating and democratizing finance.

Real believers know that true justice and equity can only come from God. The problems of humanity are the effects of sin, which no government program can remedy. Our only hope is found in Christ. Manmade schemes to bring in the kingdom of God will always fail.

Rev. David Lewis

George Washington's Sacred Fire Part I – God's Providence Builds a Nation

By Robert Luthardt, Jr.

Peter Lillback's book, Sacred Fire, was produced and published out of voluminous unbiased historical research into the life of the Father of our country, George Washington. He and co-researcher Jerry Newcombe lit the proverbial candle in the darkness of academic downgrade and political correctness. Their work effectively de cloaked the darkness of spurious deficiencies and prejudicial contrivances in 20th Century revisionist history. Sacred Fire is a veritable treasure of honestly recovered history for serious students of America's founding.

George Washington was born in the "Colony" of Virginia (February 22, 1732) and died in the "free state" of Virginia (December 14, 1799). Washington and Americans of his Christian convictions and patriotic persuasion were living supports of the foundational upheaval that birthed our freedom and Constitutional government. These Americans were moved and guided by Providence.

Augustine Washington and Jane Butler had 4 children (2 died in infancy). Lawrence and Augustine Jr. were George's older half-brothers. Jane died and Augustine married Mary Ball (a committed Christian) and had 6 children, George the eldest. George's father and older brothers had each been sent to England for education at the Appleby Grammar School. George did not since his father died when George was only eleven. In God's providence, George never saw England. He did receive the Appleby education from the tutoring of his brothers. He had other well-educated tutors from decreed Christian ministers to other highly noted scholars.

George also learned valuable lessons from his mother, an unwavering disciplinarian (although she was gentle, loving and kind). George became a surrogate father to his siblings mostly because he was exceptionally tall (several inches over 6 feet in adulthood). Yet he was as well known for his own gentleness and compassion as for his physical proportions. George's first adult responsibility was to stand as a godfather at age 15. A year later, he joined Lord Fairfax's land surveying team and was appointed an official Public Surveyor at 17. In this, George became familiar with vast areas of Colonial America (preparation of providence?). By his early twenties, he was promoted to Colonel and into leadership of American Militiamen.

Found among the books, sermons and letters in Washington's personal library are his childhood lesson books and other evidences of his extensive Christian upbringing. He would necessarily have been taught that Virginia's, and other Colonial Charters, mentioned Jesus Christ and contained charges to evangelize America's lost tribes. He would have known of (and possibly memorized) the Mayflower Compact written by the 1620 Christian pilgrim settlers who came for religious freedom. George Washington was of an advanced level of Biblical literacy (Bible-based) a credit not only to church education and his learned tutors, but also to one he loved and respected, Mary Ball Washington, his mother.

George was a lifelong seeker of knowledge and truth and his life's motto was, "Deeds not words." In his personal library there is a book designed to teach students new to the Faith, how

to use the “Anglican Book of Common Prayer.” This copy displays his signature, his father’s (dated 1727) AND his mother’s. The section dealing with death has staining compatible with “water droplets.” Another text with Washington’s signature (twice) is one of Christian sermons –

The Robert Boyle Lectures. These were solid biblical refutations of 18th Century Deism (non-Christian unbelief). Also, there was George’s “Rules of Civility” learned by every Washington. These were 110 aphorisms for gentleman’s proper behavior and George had to know and practice them all. These were instructions in modesty, compassion, elder respect, good conscience, avoiding youthful lust, and even cleanliness and proper table manners and propriety at public gatherings.

George never attended a university but his education was extensive and included Christian doctrine, elementary subjects (3 R’s), specialized land surveying (heavy in Math), training in business law, real estate law, land acquisition principles, Anglican leadership, military principles and leadership – all providential preparation for the coming “Times that try men’s souls” (The Crisis, by Thomas Paine).

As a Colonel and an accomplished leader of militia and expert in local geography, the English General Braddock engaged Washington’s Militia unit to join his British regulars in a campaign of the French and Indian War (1755). General Edward Braddock was unquestionably a brave and successful warrior and highly accomplished leader of Armies. However, the European tactics of open field, disciplined advances against opposing enemy columns, was wholly unsuited for wilderness warfare where the enemy seeks maximum cover and is all but invisible.

On that ill-fated day in 1755, Braddock, with his columns in the open, was ambushed by the French and their Indian allies. The British were decimated, and Braddock was killed. Every other British officer was killed or wounded and out of action. George, perhaps the largest target of all and worse, was particularly selected for death by the Indian Chief. Washington had two horses shot from under him, five bullet holes in his coat, but was unharmed. Later, in time of peace (when Washington was President) that same Indian Chief told Washington that he knew then that George was a man under the watch care of the “Great Spirit.” Honest historians think so too, the partisan progressivisms of revisionists notwithstanding.

George Washington had distinguished himself for bravery in battle and was respected by foreign and American military leaders alike so that when a Supreme Commander of American forces was needed, John Adams entered Washington’s name. The Continental Congress immediately agreed. It is no small consideration that Adams and Washington were known to agree that religion (Christianity) and morality were indispensable for a nation’s prosperity.

A Biblical study of the attributes and working of our Living God, reveal His unfailing watch care over those He calls His own (Ep. 1:3-11). The Sovereign of heaven grants to His called sons and daughters the undeserved G-I-F-T of faith (Ep. 2:8-10) apart from all human works (2 Tim. 1:9). This same Divine guidance is seen in the raising up of George Washington and in God’s preservation of the Colonial Army pitted against the world’s strongest. From the Bunker Hill victory (1775) to the triumph at Yorktown (1783) burned God’s Sacred Fire of Liberty that never went out. At times it seemed only a spark, but it roared back fueled by blood, tears and prayers.

Between these opening and closing victories, there were many setbacks and defeats. Many gave their lives. After the victory at Boston, there was the counter balancing defeat at New York. Worse, in August 1776, Washington and his ragtag, untrained militia army were trapped by British Regulars at Brooklyn Heights. He was surrounded with the East River at his back.

As that frightful day was ending, the British confidently encamped, assured of victory. They would crush the American Army in the morning and independence would be lost. All knew a cross river escape was impossible for thousands of men, scores of horses and tons of munitions; all but one. Washington and his men prayed to the God of "All things are possible" (Mark 9:23).

Prayer completed; Washington ordered campfires maintained. Next, he sent men to paddle softly about the river commandeering everything that could float. Talking was forbidden. Wagon wheels and horses' hooves were wrapped and muffled. Providence sent dense fog blinding the British and it remained well into the late morning. With God's aid, Washington evacuated ALL men, horses, equipment, field artillery and all other armaments. Safely on the other shore, they thanked God for deliverance. As if on cue and no longer necessary, God's covering fog lifted.

The British were astonished. Christian Americans knew and the British should have known that their adversary was not only American farmers and shopkeepers. Christians also knew and revisionists will discover that the Author of Providence is a prayer answering God. For His own, He never leaves or forsakes (Heb. 13:5).

Despite the "Shot heard round the world" (Lexington – 1775) and other early morale builders like Bunker Hill, the chain of defeats that followed almost sealed a disastrous end of American Independence. The countrywide malaise impelled Washington to attempt another dangerous river crossing on Christmas Day, 1776. The bold plan was to surprise the Hessian mercenaries in Trenton, NJ. Providence this time gave Washington and America its best Christmas present. Only two Americans were wounded (one was future President James Madison). Several Hessians were killed, 900 taken prisoner and all supplies and munitions confiscated. Jubilation swept the Colonies. America's Sacred Fire flamed high and was never again in doubt. A nation on its knees before God did (and still can) make it a raging inferno.

Children in the 21st Century should also hear of the critically necessary support for Independence by 18th Century American wives, mothers and daughters. They need to know of Mary Ball and Martha Washington, the brave Dolly Madison, the skills of Betsy Ross and thousands of other Christian women. They need to know of Paul Revere, Nathan Hale, The Sons of Liberty, the Minute Men and, most of all, that brave yet gentle praying Christian leader, George Washington; a man of "Deeds not words."

It is past time for Christian Americans to rise in unified opposition against all who threaten our liberty. As Christians we follow peace and morality with all propriety and prayer for leaders AND enemies. Those who hate Christ and America are already in the streets (like Antifa). We need to raise Christ's standards everywhere – civic meetings, town halls, school boards, etc.

with a Christlike compassionate, quiet, gentle spirit befitting Christ's gospel. Our Constitution still allows us to offer Christ to the "lost tribes" in America and above all: Keep looking up (Luke 21:28).

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Sacred Fire

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The Christian Life – Part 2 – Love

By Nancy Long

John 15:12-14 – *“This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.”*

Romans 13:10a – *“Love worketh no ill to his neighbor..... “*

1 Cor. 16:14 – *“Let all that ye do be done with love.”*

Gal. 5:14 – *“For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”*

1 John 3:18 – *“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed, and in truth.”*

1 John 4:7 – *“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.”*

In last month’s Defender (January), I listed **some** of the attributes of God: love, humility, generosity, integrity, purity, and faithfulness. This month I’d like for us to take the opportunity to explore just one of those characteristics, that being **love**, which is quite possibly the most important of all of God’s qualities. What more appropriate time to delve into this subject than a month that’s been set aside for just that!

Love, in all probability, is one of the most discussed, yet least understood subjects in the world today. All of us possess, from birth, an innate need to love and to be loved, but unfortunately the quest for it has always had its difficulties, perhaps because there’s been a basic misconception of its true meaning.

Love, at its source, comes from, and is rooted in, God, and is in total contrast with the world’s understanding. It’s distinct. It’s special. It’s unique. God’s very nature and essence is love. Who of us can totally understand it? *“God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us”* (Rom. 5:8). We realize that Christ demonstrated sacrificial love by willingly shedding His perfect, precious, sinless blood, and dying for us wicked ones, in order to pay the penalty for our sins, so we could be restored back into fellowship with God. Those of us who call ourselves Christians, who have been born again and now possess a brand new nature, have been blessed with a tiny glimpse, and a bit of an idea, of what true love is all about, and we

now are expected to live as Jesus has taught *“to love one another; as I have loved you”* (John 13:34). This love should be the mark of every one of Jesus’ disciples!

There is a beautiful passage of Scripture that I believe provides powerful wisdom regarding and defining love for all of us to follow each and every day of our lives. It’s found in 1 Cor. 13, is frequently called “The Love Chapter,” and is probably the most quoted passage in the world on this topic. The apostle Paul, by Divine inspiration, revealed these words giving a more clear definition of what real love, in fact, is:

*“Love is patient, and is kind; love is not jealous or proud;
love does not behave rudely; love does not insist on its own way;
love is not provoked; love thinks no evil;
love does not rejoice in wrong, but always rejoices in the truth.”*

This type of love flows far deeper than romance or experiences that only excite the imagination. The love of which the Bible speaks is a behavior or an action we choose to exercise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, regardless of our feelings. This certainly goes contrary to the flesh, to selfish inclinations which, if not dealt with in relationships, will prove to be unproductive, and possibly even destructive.

“By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:35). John expands upon the expectation of love in the true believer. For those who have indeed been born again, who have been imputed with a new nature, their lives should be habitually characterized by love. Those who practice Christ-like love show evidence of the new birth.

It’s important to remember that Jesus Christ said, *“Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? And in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity”* (Matt. 7:21-23).

The most important thing in life is for us to know, and be assured, that we have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, and that we will live with Him eternally in a glorious place called heaven.

A Christian is exhorted to be a loving person (1 John 4:7). God is love, and the Holy Spirit within us is able to make that love very real to us. Only the Spirit of God can enable us to extend this wonderful gift to others. Only with the help of the Holy Spirit will we be able to do some of what is required of us as followers of Christ. To love our enemies, to do good, expecting nothing in return is contrary to our fallen, human natures, but we have the promise that we *“can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth”* (Phil. 4:13).

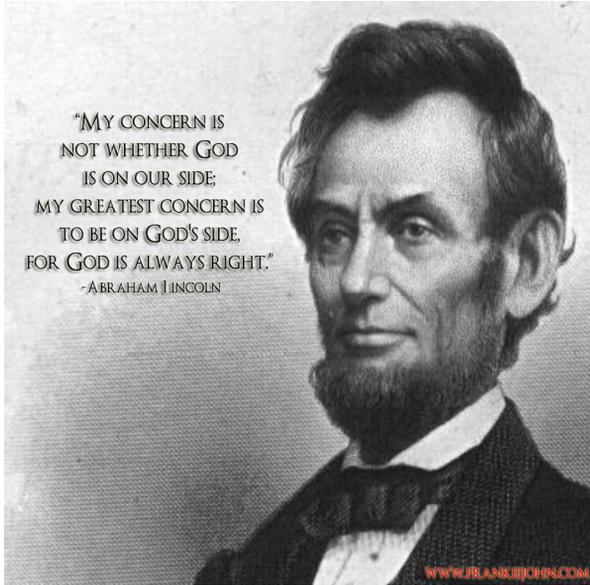
Love is patient and kind and does not envy or covet what others have been given. A person who loves is always content with his lot in life. Love is courteous and polite, and never rude. Love is the willingness to give up oneself for the sake and protection of others (1 Cor. 13:4-7). True love will be translated into our daily lives. It will be expressed in our actions through patience, kindness, always thinking good, and not evil. Christian love doesn't possess a bad temper but behaves tastefully in all situations. The person who is governed by the principles of love practices no ill to anyone with whom he has anything to do (Rom. 13:10). It's the first fruit of the spirit (Gal. 5:22). If we have love, all else will follow!!

I think of the words penned by Charles Wesley in the hymn, "And Can It Be?"

*"He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race.
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!"*



Presidents with February Birthdays



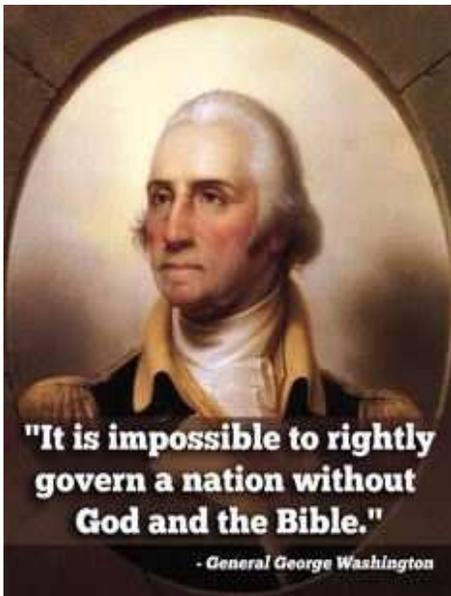
"MY CONCERN IS NOT WHETHER GOD IS ON OUR SIDE; MY GREATEST CONCERN IS TO BE ON GOD'S SIDE, FOR GOD IS ALWAYS RIGHT."
-ABRAHAM LINCOLN

February 12th



William Henry Harrison—February 9th

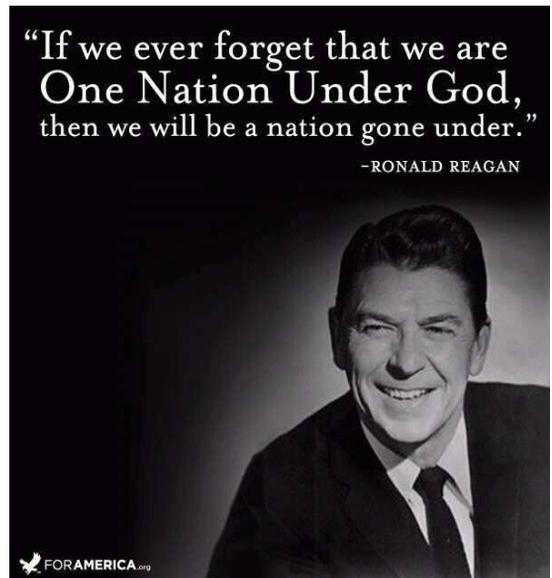
"I deem the present occasion sufficiently important and solemn to justify me in expressing to my fellow citizens a profound reverence for the Christian religion, and a thorough conviction that sound morals, religious liberty, and a just sense of religious responsibility are essentially connected with all true and lasting happiness."



"It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible."

- General George Washington

February 22nd



"If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

-RONALD REAGAN

February 6th

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

The Defender is available, free of charge, on audio CD.
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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM
Friday Youth Group	7:00 PM