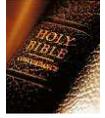


The DEFENDER - April 2020



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

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IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK: Be of Good Cheer

Jesus said, “In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (**John 16:33**).

If you ever wanted to see what socialism looks like, up close, just look at what is happening in the United States right now as a result of the hype and hysteria of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Socialism, in simple terms, means more government. And under the specter of a national emergency, the government (federal, state, and local) is doing just that. It has restricted the right of free assembly and travel, as well as free commerce. It has taken charge of major industries (based on crowd size), called out the militia (National Guard), restricted the public’s access to government buildings, and is controlling healthcare by advising doctors and insurance companies what they will test for and who they will treat (socialized medicine). This is a blatant attack on our constitutional rights as U.S. citizens.

The public’s overreaction to COVID-19 is exponentially worse than the actual problem, ranging from the raiding of supermarkets to the fear of Asians. The influenza virus is far worse than this, killing over 50,000 Americans annually, yet we don’t shut down the nation every year for that.

This has been politicized by the Far Left in America. And the Fake News media is steering this ship right into a reef. I can’t help but recall the words of Rahm Emanuel, who said, “You never let a serious crisis go to waste. And what I mean by that, it’s an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before.” We’re allowing a dangerous precedent to be set with this. Now that the general public has been “trained” in how to react to a crisis (real or imagined), the government can play this “emergency card” at will.

So what can we as Christians do to tamp down the panic and hysteria? Pray. Pure and simple. In the midst of the chaos and confusion, it’s no time for true believers to be overcome with fear. We may not know what is coming tomorrow, but God does. The future is always unknown to us. It doesn’t take much fretting over what “might” happen to cause anxiety. But Paul told the Christians in Philippi to be anxious for nothing (**Philippians 4:6**). In fact, he said that we were to be content in whatever situation we found ourselves (**Philippians 4:11**). In addition to prayer, we also need to act. We too, should never let a serious crisis go to waste. Be compassionate to the sick and help the needy in whatever way you can. We need to put feet to our faith. Make a phone call to a neighbor who lives alone. Make sure they’re okay. Text or email your Christian brethren to encourage them. Don’t be a Christian in name only. Wear your faith on your sleeve. Do as Jesus said and love thy neighbor (**Luke 10:27**).

Rev. David Lewis

George Washington's Sacred Fire Part III – Dismantling Fake History

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

One faulty tenet in revisionist's attempts to discount George Washington's Christianity is based upon his seldom speaking the name Jesus Christ. Their airified puffery deflates quickly once one understands that Bible-believing Christians know the name Jesus Christ is sacred – never to be uttered in vain (Ex. 20:7). 18th Century Christians were taught to zealously guard that "Name above all names" (Matt. 6:9; John 14:13-14; Is. 9:6).

Rule 108 in George Washington's personal copy of "Rules of Civility" instructed, "When you speak of God and His attributes, let it be seriously with reverence." Also, Washington was faithful to his life-long motto, "Deeds not words." For Washington (and 18th Century Anglicans) in all activities of farming, military, business or politics, the name of Jesus Christ was seldom uttered to avoid profaning it. This was NOT unbelief but reverence to the Son of God. Honest, truth-seeking researchers easily found that Washington faithfully followed Judeo-Christian principles and unbelieving Deists and misguiding redactors do not.

Washington wrote, "I feel the most lively sentiments of gratitude to the DIVINE PROVIDENCE ... for the protection of our Civil and Religious Liberties (Nov. 10, 1783). This displays Washington's awareness of not only the human spirit but also Man's spiritual relationship with an intervening, caring, loving God. Washington well knew that the spiritual energy in Mankind was power either for good or evil. In his writings are found negative spiritual phrases, such as: "so fatal a spirit," "a dangerous spirit," "a shocking spirit," and words like, "criticism, retaliation, revenge," etc. He also wrote of a spirit of good with, "spirited men," "a spirit of discipline," "of enterprise," "of liberty," "of bravery," "of order" "of fortitude," and others.

The mass of evidence available gives full confidence that Washington diligently sought deeply connected spiritual union with his God. Washington was frequently in the company of and comfortable with those who openly practiced piety including many of the clergy. He had correspondence with roughly 100 of them. Washington not only declared his own piety toward Anglicans but with clergy of other orthodox denominations (apostasy had not yet set in). He also actively advocated Biblical piety for his officers and men at arms – especially at Valley Forge. He assured them that the instances of providential goodness that came to them were from "The Supreme Author of All Good" which demands a proper show of heartfelt gratitude to the Throne of God. He even went so far as to demand piety from them.

Washington wrote what no Deist would, "That the God of Armies may incline the hearts of my American brethren to support ... to bring the present contest to a speedy and happy conclusion ... the first wish and most fervent PRAYER OF MY SOUL" (such as was always exemplified by Washington, April 15, 1777). Add this bomb-blast of fervent spirituality to other readily available crushing demolition of fake history and fabrication and their façade falls. One prominent example is all that can be cited.

George Washington was called to preside at the funeral of General Edward Braddock (July 9, 1755) who was killed at Monongahela (French and Indian War). Washington led this Christian service using the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. It was held at night so the Indians (savage then) could not desecrate the grave. From the book. Washington had to have read aloud, "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord ... whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die" (John 11:25-26). A Deist would have ordered someone else to take this duty but Washington, a fervent Christian, had no problem. He did it with dignity and grace as one expects of a Bible-honoring Christian.

As both a military and political leader, Washington called for prayer on numerous occasions and eagerly acquiesced when Congress and Church leaders called for Countrywide petitions before God's Throne of Grace. In Washington's orders are found phrases like, "Our gracious Redeemer," "the light of the gospel," "the Church," "the light of Christian knowledge," "the Holy Spirit" and similar thoughts. Any middle school pupil would know these were the words of a Christian and not of an unbeliever or Deist.

How do Degreed, studied, published "researchers and historians" miss such deafeningly loud obviousness and such stark reality? Could it be that our vaunted Institutions of "higher learning," that have been churning out purveyors of fake science and fake news, are also indoctrinating peddlers of equally fake history? If "missing links" in the fossil record can be ignored and glossed over by "scientists," why not reinterpretation and flagrant alteration of previously settled history? The dismal downgrade in public education is a separate topic for perhaps another day.

Washington wrote letters, one to a German Lutheran Congregation (Phila. April 27, 1789) and one to the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church (May 29, 1789) wherein he asked them to pray for him and thanked them for having done so. In both letters he used the phrase, "The Throne of Grace." Perhaps his inspiration was, "Let us come boldly unto the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain mercy ... in time of need" (Heb. 4:16). Washington even wrote out prayers in his letters to others and over 100 still exist. These are an impossible obstacle to strident propagandists and Myth makers in our once renowned universities.

Intellectual featherweights waste much ink trying to debunk Washington's praying in the snow on his knees at Valley Forge. Trouble is there are eyewitnesses to this, such as the Quaker Isaac Potts, reportedly spying on Washington and the Colonial Army for the British. There are high Colonial officers whose letters to their wives reported similar events. There exists abundant confirmatory evidence for this in Peter Lillback's book *Sacred Fire* (Chapter 18, p. 351-375). Lillback concluded that Deists do not pray even in fair weather and never in Christian terms. There simply exists too much unassailable evidence of Washington's Christian commitment that unbiased researchers have access to and have reported upon.

When God's providence led Washington and his Army to Valley Forge, he and America were demoralized by defeats such as at Brandywine (Sept. 11, 1777) and Germantown (Oct. 4, 1777). While Valley Forge was strategically advantageous, it was devoid of everything else an Army at war requires. The half-naked (and some shoeless) undersupplied Army first had to fell trees to erect shelters (during a harsh winter). Yet in this virtual furnace of frozen fire, God forged a human steel rarely seen in the history of mankind.

The struggle for survival in a frigid wilderness was endured not alone on patriotism (and definitely not on Deistic pridefulness) but by men imbued with Biblical principles being led by a fervent Christian, but most of all by the impelling providence of an almighty prayer answering God. God's anvil of perseverance and assurance was struck repeatedly with unyielding hammer blows of suffering, but God was molding more than an Army. When they left Valley Forge they were fashioned into the character of their Christian leader, General George Washington (p. 378). They not only respected and honored him, they loved him.

Washington and all his countrymen knew the history of their forebears who suffered the Mayflower voyage and also the "starving time" at Jamestown. They knew the trials of their Pilgrim and Puritan settlers just a few generations before their own suffering at Valley Forge. True patriotic Christian Americans recognize the dire need that our children no longer be denied the real history of the Christian men and women who settled a wilderness and the overwhelmingly Christian Founders of our Constitutional Republic. They served, fought, bled and died for our freedom. Our children should see the zeal of our ancient benefactors in their own mothers and fathers and in their grandparents. They should know we reach God from our knees. They should know we love the Gospel and America.

Washington wrote to a delegate in Congress from Valley Forge, "No history ... of an Army's suffering ... and bearing them ... to see men without clothes to cover their nakedness, without blankets ... without shoes..." (their marches traced by bloody footprints), "often without provisions ... through frost and snow ... without house or hut ... submitting to it without a murmur ... a mark of patience and obedience which ... can scarce be paralleled." Washington wrote that "they were following a SACRED CAUSE" (52 times) as a duty to their God who daily granted providential protection to those faithfully following him and keeping His Word.

George Washington has been maligned by some 20th Century writers as a "lukewarm Episcopalian" or a "warm Deist," "not a deeply religious man," "not ardent in his faith," but the SACRED FIRE He spoke of and lived by was neither secular or Deistic hot air. It was the voice of God from a never-failing faith (Gen.3:2; Luke 22:32).

One revisionist declared the famous portrait of Washington kneeling in the snow at Valley Forge was mythic legend. Was he there to observe Washington's every move? Yet even this victim of pseudo scholastics admitted that there were credible eyewitnesses on record. Apparently, it overloads and enflames the minds of secular socialist oriented university denizens that the volumes of accumulated facts of Washington's life-long Christian commitment is beyond reasonable doubt. They ought to be required to set up their own universities (seminaries actually) to spread their Marxist/Socialist religion that leads to deadly consequences.

President Ronald Reagan said it best, "The most sublime picture of authentic American history is of George Washington kneeling in the snow at Valley Forge." Our prayer should be that God raise up in America another in the "LIKE" of George Washington. Keep looking up (Luke 21:28).

Chief Source:
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SACRED FIRE
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Providence Forum Press, P.O. Box 446
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
www.providenceforum.org

He Grew the Tree

By Nancy Long

1 Samuel 2:2 – *“There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside Thee: neither is there any rock like our God.”*

Matt. 25:34 – *“Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”*

Romans 5:8 – *“But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*

Eph. 1:4 – *“According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.”*

Titus 1:2 – *“In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.”*

“He molded and built a small lonely hill
That He knew would be called Calvary
Then He made the seed that would grow to be
Thorns that would make His Son bleed
Then He made a green stem, gave it leaves and then
Gave it sunshine and rain, and sheltered it with moss
He grew the tree He knew would be
Used to make the old rugged cross.

Chorus

Nothing took His life, with **love** He gave it
He was crucified on a tree that He created
With great love for man
God stayed with His plan
He grew the tree so that we might go free.

With tears in His eyes, God looked down through time
Saw Him spat upon, rejected and mourned
Oh, still He grew the tree that He knew would be
Used to make the old rugged cross.
Nothing took His life, with **love** He gave it
He was crucified on a tree that **He** created
With great love for man
God stayed with His plan
He grew the tree so that **we** might go free.”

Words and Music – Chuck Lawrence

There seems to me that no more fitting words can be added to the lyrics of this song. The Creator created!! The Creator grew the tree!! The Creator had a plan!! His supreme and sovereign purpose was in place even before man was!!!

Our awesome, majestic, glorious, sovereign, more than amazing God, back in eternity past, created the soil that nourished the seed. This then, would ultimately come to be used for whatever was needed to cause the plan of redemption to come to fruition!!

Such love is not to be comprehended by the human mind! Such ways are unfathomable! Who can understand? If we even had the ability to sit and ponder these thoughts, until the appointed time in which God takes us home to heaven even then, God's ways would escape us, *"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts"* (Isaiah 55:9).

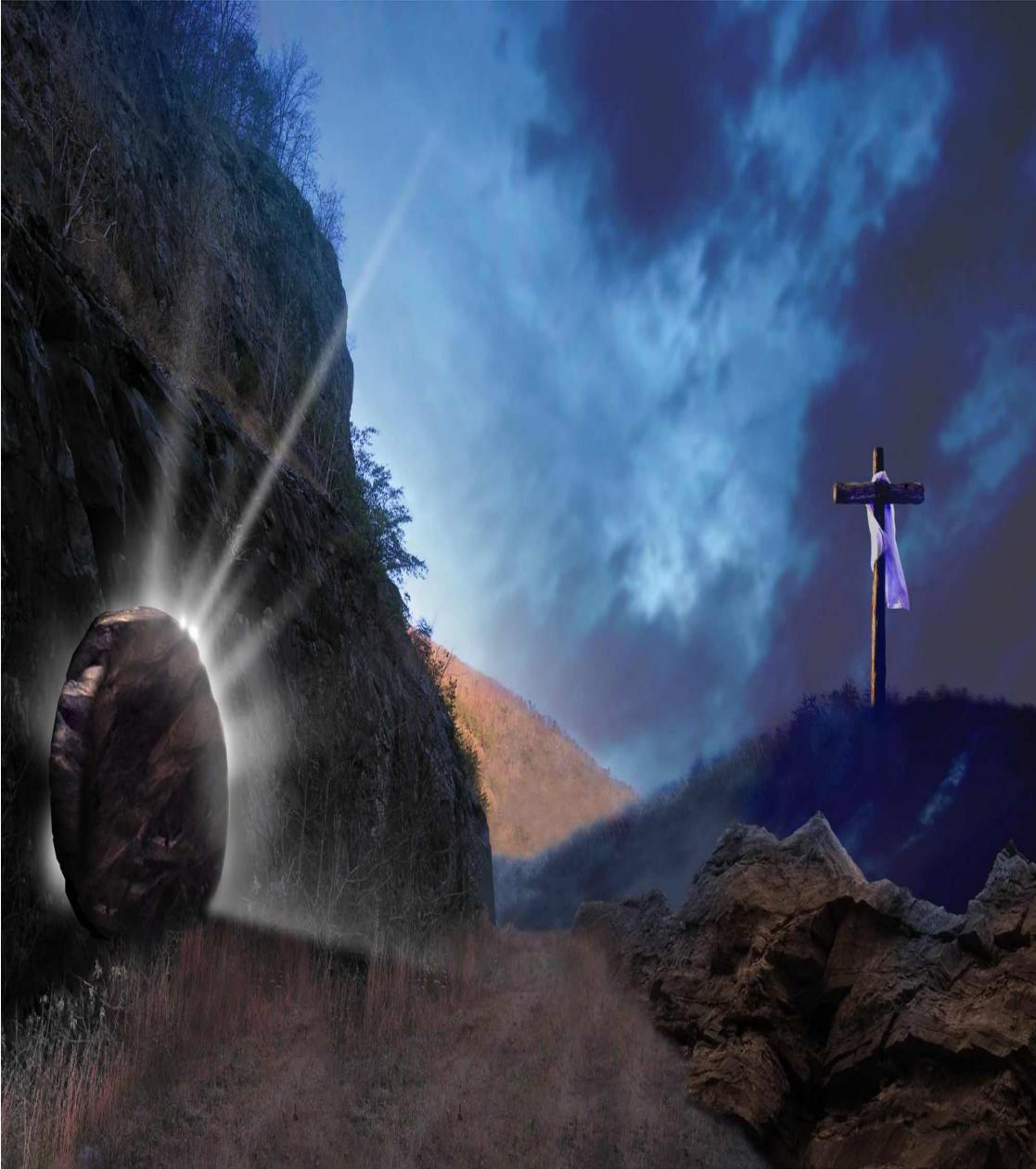
God has had a sovereign plan in place from before the beginning of time! Jesus Christ willingly left the glories of heaven, to come to this sin sick earth to be born of a virgin to live a perfect life and to ultimately die, in order to pay, with His precious, perfect, sinless blood, the required price for **"sin"**. *"God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8). *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16).

Jesus Christ died, yes and was buried, yes but He did not stay in that grave!! As was part of the plan, just to reiterate, that was fashioned before the world began the completed picture, Jesus raised Himself out of that tomb. **God is not dead! He is alive!!** *"Because I live, ye shall live also"* (John 14:19). This is a promise on which we all can rejoice!!

We, believers, have hope we, believers, have been given, **a hope** we, believers have victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. What a plan! What a God!! What a splendid, marvelous, miraculous God we serve!! We are victorious, both here, while still living on this earth, and as well, throughout eternity. This is truth!!! Let's not take it for granted! Let's not take it lightly! Let's not hide it under a bushel. Let's live as though we believe!!

Happy Resurrection Day, my Defender friends!!





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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airing Monday through Friday
on WCBM AM 680 in Baltimore.

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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

ALL OF THE ABOVE SERVICES/BIBLE STUDIES HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED!