

DECEMBER 2021

AWAKE AMERICA

Connecting the people of God with the people of government from Washington, D.C.

PRESIDENT
GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BOYHOOD

Christmas REFLECTIONS

While researching George Washington's boyhood documents in preparation for publishing *Foundations That Sustain America*, my wife and I came across George Washington's Copy Book. Discipline in written expression was important in the Washington home. To reinforce this, George made use of this Copy Book when he studiously performed his writing exercises.

The date of 1745 was written in his Copy Book making him about thirteen at the time of this selected, writing exercise of the poem, *On Christmas Day*. Because of a ripped corner, the missing words were taken from the poem, *On Christmas Day* by Orinthia, found in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, London, February 1743, p. 96. Any spelling or grammatical differences were kept as found in the hand-written original as young George copied them.

On Christmas Day

*Assist me Muse divine! to Sing the Morn,
On which the Saviour of Mankind was born;
But oh! what Numbers to the Theme can rise?
Unless kind Angels aid me from the Skies!
Methinks I see the tunefull Host descend,*

*And with officious Joy the Scene attend!
Hark, by their Hymns directed on the Road,
The Gladsome Shepherd's find the Nascent God!
And view the Infant conscious of his Birth,
Smiling bespeak Salvation to the Earth!*

*For when the important Æra first drew near
for which the great Messiah Should appear;
And to accomplish his redeeming Love,
Resign a while his glorious Throne above;
Beneath our Form should every Woe Sustain,
And by triumphant Suffering fix his Reign,
Should for lost Man in Tortures yield his Breath
Dying to save us from eternal Death!
Oh my stick union!—Salutary Grace!
Incarnate God our Nature should embrace!
That Deity should stoop to our Disguise!
That man recovered should regain the skies!
Dejected adam! from thy grave ascend,
And view the Serpents Deadly Malice end;*

CONTINUED...



**CAPITOL
CONNECTION**

MARCH 14-16, 2022
in Washington, D.C.

We invite you to join with us as we return to Capitol Hill to meet our representatives face to face, share our concern for them as individuals, and pledge to personally uphold them in faithful, fervent prayer!



AwakeAmerica.org

Adoring bless th' Almighty's boundless Grace
That gave his son a Ransome for thy Race!
Oh never let my Soul this Day forget,
But pay in graittfull praise her annual Debt
To him, whom 'tis my Trust, I Shall [adore]
When Time, and Sin, and Death, [shall be no more!]



PASTORS ENGAGED IN MAINE

This is a wonderful time of year in celebration of our Savior's birth. I am moved by the quietness which will settle over Washington, D.C. and the rest of our nation on Christmas morning. May we all ponder the glorious message brought by the angels to the shepherds that first Christmas morning.

Rejoice! "...for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord!" LUKE 2:11

*Merry Christmas
to all!*



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Maine Baptists for Biblical Values is off to a great start! Five state legislators and the former governor of Maine, Paul LaPage, joined the crowd of those attending the Reclaim Maine Rally on October 26 hosted by Pastor Steve Christner at Calvary Baptist Church in Turner.

Pastor T. Michael Creed, Director of Awake America, preached an excellent message on being a lighthouse in a dark world. Following the service, one legislator accepted Christ as Savior. Praise the Lord! The first Pastors' Day at the Capitol in Maine will be held on January 25.



The Foundations of Civilization

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS // ARTICLE 2 OF 10

When a nation chooses to live by the 10 Commandments, the first commandment, "*Thou shalt have no other gods before me*", establishes God in that society as the ultimate and final authority. The second commandment exposes and protects against man's tendency to worship and give allegiance to what he can see – objects and entities. Divided allegiance leads to divided authority and morality.

Romans 1 gives us a clear picture of the vain and vile society "*who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator.*" It was a culture described as dark, filled with immorality and wickedness, full of envy, murder, debate, and deceit.

COMMANDMENT TWO: "*Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.*"

Any physical representation of God conceived by man is a limited representation of His power, His presence, His wisdom and His love. This results in a lesser "*deity*" created, defined and manipulated by man. The "*god*" of this new religion is a mere "*genie in a lamp*" and whoever holds the lamp has the power. Whether in the form of state religion or secularization, governance that attempts to control, minimize, or eliminate God in society, perceives allegiance to the one true God as a threat to their values and agenda. While the Bible teaches us to obey those who rule over us, it also declares that God alone is worthy of worship.

Many have bowed before the "*gods*" of wealth, education and equality to the detriment of society. Leaders should not force the choice between God or government, but rather align legislation with Biblical values over self-interest to unify the population and ensure God's blessings.



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Life on the Line

MAJOR ABORTION CASE BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

The battle to grant states the ability to individually determine the legality of abortion is front and center. On December 1, the U.S. Supreme Court heard the arguments on the Mississippi abortion case, known as *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization (JWHO)*, that has the potential to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. Currently, the Supreme Court has said that states may intervene to make abortion illegal or restricted after the fetus reaches the point of viability. For years that was considered to be 24 weeks, but it is being continuously shortened by advancements in science and medical care. The case revolves around a 2018 Mississippi law making abortions illegal after 15 weeks, that was challenged by JWHO, which operates the state's only abortion clinic. The Court had indicated they would focus their attention on answering one question: Whether all pre-viability prohibitions on elective abortions are unconstitutional.

With the Court's new, more conservative makeup, coupled with their decision in September to allow a Texas law that limits abortion to six weeks to go into effect, pro-life advocates are hopeful that the justices will rule in favor of Mississippi's 15-week ban. A victory would open the door for pro-life state legislatures across the country to further limit abortions or even make abortion illegal in their state.

As believers, we know based on Scripture that life begins at conception and that abortion is the killing of innocent life. Tragically, since the passage of *Roe* in 1973, almost 63 million unborn babies have been murdered. Please pray daily God would turn the hearts of the Supreme Court justices to allow states to protect the lives of the unborn. A decision is expected in June 2022.



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I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Written in 1883 by American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, tells of hearing Christmas bells during the American Civil War | the last two stanzas

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men."



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SPECIAL THANKS

*to our monthly prayer and financial partners
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States' Capitol.*