



SHIELD OF FAITH

"Take Up the Shield of Faith" - Paul

Tuesday August 13, 2019

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: — Matthew 28:19

Anchor of the Soul

<https://email.althahosting.com/campaigns/zt160xfpxp1f8>

In His providence God gave me a wonderful father and mother. They loved me. They fed me, made sure I made it to the bus stop on time, and took me to church on Sunday. They were not either abusive or violent. I think of them as a typical lower middle class American couple. They are both in their eighties now. We are still close.

Dad gave me a 22 rifle as a child. He trusted me with it, after showing me how to use it. Even though I knew it was wrong, I would occasionally take a shot at a small animal or bird. Occasionally, I made a "lucky" shot. The thrill of making the shot always overwhelmed the guilt I felt at having violated my father's rule.

My parents took me to church. They went beyond attendance to help out as volunteers. I never made a strong connection to Christianity as a youth. Religion was not real important. I'm thankful that Christianity was there, even if it was merely a background motif of my youth.

By the 1970s Christianity had become a background motif culturally. It was far from being the dominant moral system for the nation. The idea that all religions are equal clearly Trumped (pun intended) any religious or moral system dominating another. Desire, or lust, is the force that propelled me through my youth.

From my first day of awareness I was injected with lust routinely by television dramas and advertising. Children's shows shortened attention spans, while the government run school propagandized God out of existence. He was replaced with the worship of science and knowledge.

By my late teens all this had worn thin. I needed more. I sought meaning through "love." I fooled myself into believing that what I really needed to fill my lust-filled soul was the "love" of a woman. I found one and won her. But, before I persuaded her to "love" me back forever in marriage she introduced me to her first love — Jesus Christ.

This changed everything. Yesterday I started my 59th year of life on this earth. It was my birthday. Even though I've pursued Jesus Christ my entire adult life I know I'm just getting started. Eternity is a long time. My girlfriend, who became my wife, introduced me to the adventure of eternity — knowing and serving God. My soul has been full every since.

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While my lust was the gateway to a deeper commitment to Jesus Christ, the Bible became a potent source of inspiration and guidance. My parents introduced me to music in my middle school years. I learned to play the trumpet and did so through High School. Additionally, I enjoyed 70s pop music. As I closed my teen years American pop music influenced my thinking.

The famous evangelical pop musician, Keith Green, drove home the importance of the verse quoted above. Early in my Christian life as an adult, I dedicated myself to the Great Commission, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” It was the “Go ye” part that piqued my sense of adventure.

Ever since then I’ve worked to “Go” where God would have me to go, especially in my thinking — no matter the cost. At that same time I obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, New York. This cemented my interest in ideas. But I needed action. We all do. Humans make ideas real. They embody their ideas. Their ideas inform their actions.

God sent me into politics as a Christian. And I sought to “teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

It wasn’t hard. I always knew I was right about sodomy. Christian moral tradition on marriage, family and sexuality is reasonable. The propaganda and manipulation of the cultural Marxists was piled high even then. The superiority of Christianity anchors me to this day.

Now more than ever I rely on Jesus Christ to guide me every minute of the day. Paul the Apostle said that we should pray without ceasing. I rely on prayer.

How can I not in the age of Epstein. Am I going to rely on the “news?” Heaven forbid.

Christianity is an anchor that will always hold. The writer of Hebrews observes, “Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast.”

Amen.