



SHIELD OF FAITH

"Take Up the Shield of Faith" - Paul

Friday September 27, 2019

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. — Romans 8:6

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I want to be spiritually minded. I want life and peace. I don't want death. Carnal mindedness is death, according to Paul the Apostle. Carnal is defined as "being in the natural state; unregenerate. Fleshly; sensual; opposed to spiritual."

While I found much in Donald Trump's speech to the UN appealing dangers lurk within. It's typical for American Presidents to talk about God. Rarely, if ever, do they mention the God-man — Jesus Christ. Trump was no exception at the U.N. He closed the speech, "God bless you. God bless the nations of the world. And God bless America."

Jesus Christ has slipped so far into the background of American political discourse that his gospel has been replaced by the syncretistic notion of "religious freedom." The name "Jesus Christ" has been used much more frequently as an epithet or swear word in my lifetime than the name for God himself. Jesus is discussed inside stained glassed fortresses, but never in politics as the Prince of Peace and Lord of Lords.

Trump's speech reinforced this. After describing sodomy as dignified and promising to elevate global women as economic units he talked about the ironclad American commitment, "protecting religious leaders and also protecting religious freedom." I'm a "religious leader" in Trump's America. I'm not protected by my government. I have been, in fact, under soft persecution my entire career. I'm a Christian patriot who would much rather hear my President celebrate fatherhood and motherhood than "Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiatives."

God is made to fit politics. That's as it should be for a politician like Trump. He has a job to do. Christian leaders also have a job to do. And the two jobs bring conflict. Trump said of baby murder, "Like many nations here today, we in America believe that every child — born and unborn — is a sacred gift from God."

An equally important "sacred gift from God" is the father and mother who cooperate with God in bringing her into the world. Another "sacred gift of God" is the culture that reinforces the only practical compact for successful parenting known to man — lifetime marriage. The right to fornicate is not a sacred gift of God. It isn't even a legal right in civilizations — Christian one's anyway.

Moving to conclude his speech Trump declares, "With God's help, together we will cast off the enemies of liberty and overcome the oppressors of dignity."

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Trump is appealing to the civic “god” of American multi-culturalism, not Jesus Christ — the God of Christianity. It is obvious from what went before in the speech that he isn’t referring to a Christian definition of Liberty here. America’s liberty is carnal. It isn’t spiritual. Freedom to sin isn’t liberty. Freedom to sin is oppression. Trump claims that America’s civic “god” is going to help the world “overcome the oppressors of dignity.”

In my lifetime I’ve never encountered a more ferocious group of “oppressors of dignity” than the LGBTQ howling mob. Yet Trump promises in this speech to, “stand in solidarity with LGBTQ people.”

I’m thankful for Trump’s stand against the one-world Leftist globalists. He makes it clear once again in this speech that he will fight them. That’s good.

I want my nation back. Our nation must return to Christ. It is not our job to decide the form of government or religion for other nations. It IS our job to choose a religion for our nation. We grew strong as a united people when Christ united U.S. This didn’t happen because the constitution or the government declared it. It happened because of the religious consensus of the European people who created the nation.

The purposely ignored religious tensions and differences that now separate Protestants, Catholics and Jews brought us to this point. Economic and political power is now shifting against Protestants. Their ideas informed, to a greater degree than any others, the construction of our national political and social order. There is much to be admired in what America achieved since 1620.

Our way forward will include a more honest consideration of religious differences than we’ve ever managed before. I look for this process to produce good fruit in the end.

Trump’s conclusion was inspired.

“Liberty is only preserved, sovereignty is only secured, democracy is only sustained, greatness is only realized, by the will and devotion of patriots. In their spirit is found the strength to resist oppression, the inspiration to forge legacy, the goodwill to seek friendship, and the bravery to reach for peace. Love of our nations makes the world better for all nations.

So to all the leaders here today, join us in the most fulfilling mission a person could have, the most profound contribution anyone can make: Lift up your nations. Cherish your culture. Honor your histories. Treasure your citizens. Make your countries strong, and prosperous, and righteous. Honor the dignity of your people, and nothing will be outside of your reach.”

Amen.