



SHIELD OF FAITH

"Take Up the Shield of Faith" - Paul

Thursday, November 28, 2019

No keys with which to open the doors of knowledge and life — Peter Marshall

The Keys are Forgotten

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It is good that so many millions of Americans pause today to feast for Thanksgiving. It's a miracle really, given the remarkable success of cultural Marxists and their fellow travelers. The Communist Party Education Workers Congress dedicated themselves in 1918 to the task of creating a younger generation of communists, "We must turn children, who can be shaped like wax, into real, good communists ... We must remove the children from the crude influence of their families. We must take them over and, to speak frankly, nationalize them."

According to historian Bill Federer these revolutionaries realized that the students would then adopt a neutral point of view. They'd become open-minded to other belief systems and become susceptible to indoctrination into socialism, communism, alternative sexual agendas, and non-biblical religions which do not believe in individual rights.

Karl Marx, Federer observed, said, "Take away the heritage of a people and they are easily conquered."

Peter Marshall wrote, "There was a time in these United States when youth was inspired by (heroes) ... Along with the ponderous Family Bible on the Victorian table and the hymn books on the old-fashioned square piano, there looked down from the walls the likenesses of our national heroes." He concluded, "Those were the days of great beliefs - belief in the authority of the Scriptures, belief that prayer was really answered, belief in marriage and the family as permanent institutions, belief in the integrity and worth of America's great men."

Marshall goes on to explain the deconstruction and debunking of history. The traditions are being dismantled. Marshall observes about the classroom, "at all levels of education, no longer did we laud great men - those who had struggled and achieved. Instead, we merely ... ferreted out their faults ... They were merely ... products of their environments ..."

He laments, "So now, many of our children have grown up without the guiding star ... holding in their hands only a bunch of ... question marks, with no keys with which to open the doors of knowledge and life ..."

This happened before. Jesus spoke about experts in the Jewish law in Luke 11:52. He said they "have taken away the key of knowledge." Christianity.com observes, "through their hypocrisy they have not only failed to enter the kingdom of God themselves, but have prevented others from entering as well."

Jesus gave Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Christianity.com again, "Through Peter's faithful proclamation of the gospel, Peter will open the door of the kingdom to those who respond in faith, while at the same time keeping it shut from those who do not."

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I am thankful today for the faithful proclamation of the gospel. Jesus Christ is my hero above all heroes. He is the guiding star, the King of Kings. Our narrow path through this civilizational crisis is illuminated by His example.

Dedication to Him carried the Pilgrims through multiple challenges. Our feasting today is inspired by their experience coming to America. That experience, and their philosophy, is commemorated on a neglected granite monument in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The 81 foot tall memorial is thought to be the world's largest solid granite statue.

The largest figure, topping the monument, is a woman symbolizing faith. At her feet are four figures depicting morality, law, education and liberty. The figure for liberty is a soldier at rest. Were the statue erected today liberty would have to be symbolized by a porn star.

Faith is holding the Bible in her left hand. Her right hand extends above her head, her index finger pointing toward heaven. This is America. The nation owes a great debt to Christianity, to faith in Jesus Christ.

We would be wise today to celebrate during our feasting the unique Christian texture of American morality, law, education and liberty. It would be prudent indeed to extend our reflection on these truths into the remainder of earthly lives.

I loathe to think of the result should we persist in our forgetting.

Amen.

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