

Continuing the Blessings of Liberty

Sun., July 3, 2016

In America today, liberty and freedom are being gradually taken away. For example, according to Mr. Diaz, a constitutional law scholar,

“according to the government of Kentucky, a Christian minister cannot read the passages in the Bible that say homosexual conduct is a sin for they would be in violation of the state’s “sexual orientation” & gender identity policy.”

“the Ohio Board of Professional Conduct served notice to any judge with authority to perform marriages who has deeply held religious beliefs that prohibit him or her from participating in a same-sex “marriage” ceremony that they must either violate their conscience or polish their resumé and find a new line of work.”

Jay Alan Sekulow from The Heritage Foundation wrote, “One of the greatest assaults on religious liberty and faith-based institutions in the history of the United States, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate requires non-exempt employers to cover sterilization, prescription contraceptives, abortion-inducing drugs, and related patient education and counseling services in their health insurance plans. A narrow exemption covers houses of worship, but countless religious employers, such as religious schools and universities, hospitals, and charities, are forced either to comply with the HHS mandate in violation of their faith or to pay significant financial penalties.”

Bob Unruh, formerly with the Associated Press and currently with World News Daily, as well as many others, have noted that various branches of Government have been using the term “Freedom of Worship” instead of

“Freedom of Religion” as in our Constitution. This is meant to narrow what those with strict religious beliefs can do outside of their churches. They are implying that we have the freedom to worship in our buildings, but that we cannot practice our religion freely in our businesses. Hence, the persecution of bakers who do not want to make a Wedding cake for gay couples, etc.

God the Father has called us to live in the freedom of Christ our Lord.

(Colossians 2: 6 – 8)

6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

We must recognize that what the Leaders of America instill in the hearts and minds of Americans will either bring good or evil upon our country.

(Galatians 6: 7 – 8)

7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

(Jeremiah 17: 9 – 10)

9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?
10 I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

Our liberty in Christ does not give us liberty to deny God’s Word, instead we are to uphold it.

(Psalm 119: 41 – 45)

41 Let Your mercies come also to me, O Lord—
Your salvation according to Your word.
42 So shall I have an answer for him who reproaches me, For I trust in Your word.
43 And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, For I have hoped in Your ordinances.
44 So shall I keep Your law continually, Forever and ever.
45 And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts.

(I Peter 2: 13 – 16)

13 Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,
14 or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.
15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—
16 as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

Often times Christians who have not yet grown up in the Lord mistake their freedom in Christ as a liberty to live contrary to His Word because they figure since they are saved they can live as they choose.

(Romans 6: 1-2)

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?
2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

(Galatians 5:1)

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

(James 1:25)

But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

So let us not forget his familiar verse in

(II Chronicles 7:14)

if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

The key to God continuing to bless us with the liberty that we have had in America in the past is dependent on God’s people upholding God’s Word of Truth that we as a country may know the freedom and blessings we have in Christ!