

# Christianity in America ‘Persuasion, Purpose, & Patience’

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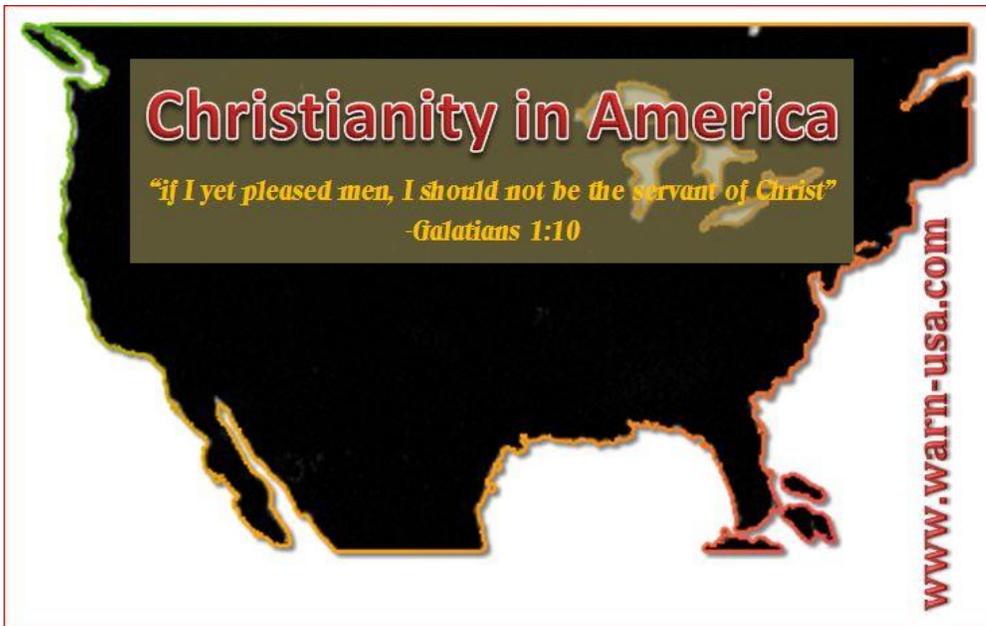
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## Christianity in America: 'platitudes of men'

By Dana G Smith

Christianity in America faces extinction and is daily subject to the direct immoral persuasions and platitudes of those in society who directly offend the Lord God with their immoral ways. It is as given to us and with regards to 'Lot' that scripture says 'his soul was vexed' from a daily bombardment of those things which he witnessed.

*We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."* --John Adams, To the Officers of the First Brigade of the Third Division of the Militia of Massachusetts, 1798

So it is in these last days we know that 'because sin and iniquity shall abound the love of many shall wax cold'. The burden of having to witness a lawless society is in itself a duty for Christians today. We are to be strong not weak, to be a witness to the truth. We are not to obviate it by sheer trickery or misogyny. But the truth be told, the enemies of the gospel many times seem to be Christians.

It is here where both the believer in Jesus Christ and the Church which today consists of myriads of denominational platitudes and arrangements of men come together. The denominational rhetoric are many times followed more closely than scripture itself, as they use scripture for their own advantage. So did the Jews in the day of our Lord. He said 'by your traditions of men you have made the Word of God of non-effect'. Today we have witnessed the Church age in America right along with seminaries, bible colleges, and other Christian oriented business and educational facilities. We have also had a long line of bible preachers, evangelists, and watchmen who have appeared on the scene in America to warn of the current course we have taken. From Billy Sunday to Billy Graham and to David Wilkerson this nation has had staunch warnings for decades now. Not to mention home mission's churches, Pastors, and others who have warned their congregations and friends of the dangers America is heading into as the lawlessness of this nation defies the Living God.

## Christianity in America: 'Foundation'

As George Washington said in 1789 at this first inaugural address that "no Wall of words, that no mound of parchment can be so formed as to stand against the sweeping torrent of boundless ambition on the one side, aided by the sapping current of corrupted morals on the other." It is true today as it was when he said it. We have a constitution but men, those in governance have ignored values, morals, and the Christian seed which was planted in America so long ago. Men like Barack Obama who have brought in a torrent of lawlessness through his own self-styled immorality has just pushed the curtain back on what America is really like. But even Obama has a view of our constitution that it is a '[flawed document](#)' as is reported by Forbes. In a 2001

radio interview on a Chicago public station [Barack Obama](#) laid out his anti-constitutional rhetoric. It was Obama's 'spread the wealth' mantra that saw the constitutional restraints as too burdensome. It was something that must change in order to bring in the socialist agenda of [redistributive](#) wealth as reported by WND at the time.

If Socialism or even communism was the only threat that would be one thing. But the real threat today is the destruction of America, the redesign of our constitutional system by those in power who like Barack Obama want a new system they like. Yes, these are threats; but the real threat is that immoral wave that has struck America. Just like Babylon of Old or Mystery Babylon of Revelation the ship of state is awash in immorality and godlessness. Oh we have religion, and beliefs in this country. What we don't have any more is a Christian nation and Christians in mass who would take to the streets and to DC to change the way things are going. Simply put, though; this should have taken place some 30 years ago when the seeds of immorality were being first planted and pushed to society for change. Today, immorality and godlessness is a right for those who want to achieve their own desires can do so, no matter how corrupt they may be. There is no sin in America anymore, anything goes, and shame has been tossed out the window. The truth becomes obliterated by the masses of society who think the truth is a lie.

For Christians today the truth must be our foundation. That foundation of truth is the Word of God. The Word of God for us is not the Koran, but the Bible. It is not atheism or some other belief. We must stand on truth and that truth is God's Truth through Jesus Christ our Lord. As Paul told the Galatian's "If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." That gospel is the one given to the Apostles by our Lord and then given to the early church. It is the foundation structure of all our faith. There is one Lord and one savior. As Paul said "do I now persuade men or God", further Paul told them that if he were to "please men, I should not be the servant of Christ." Paul continued in this thought when he addressed the Corinth church telling them that "knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men."

## Christianity in America: 'Persuasion'

### Gal 1:9-10

(9) As we said before, so say I now again, If any *man* preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

(10) **For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.**

### 2Co 5:9-11

(9) Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

(10) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

(11) **Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.**

As Christians today the paramount thing is not some easy-pleas-y church that soft soaps the message of God through Jesus Christ our Lord. We are to be that light and that voice. If we are persecuted for that voice and it is already happening around the globe and in America as well, then so be it. But every Christian in prison, or who gets beaten for his faith, or is killed for his or her faith, and those Christians who are ostracized because of what they believe; then these are the witnesses of the real truth. That truth is given to a system and a nation about the very truth that those around them want to stop. They become lights in prison, lights on the streets, and lights to the world even if they are persecuted. We are that voice in the world and that is the truth. As our Lord said in Acts 1:8 “and ye shall be witnesses unto me” and this was confirmed by the Apostles themselves who said “this Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.”

## Christianity in America: ‘His own will’

Make no mistake being a Christian it neither easy nor without those who hate us. In America many never thought the day would come when we the church would wind up backslidden and far from the Lord God. Neither would we have believed that America as we have known it would cease to exist. Gentiles who saw and embraced the light, now in this nation have rejected the truth; substituting for it something that will appease the masses. But in all truth, there is little Christianity can do to remake America back into what it once was. She is the Whore of Revelation 17, Mystery Babylon of Revelation 18, and the Laodicean church in Revelation 3.

It is amiss to say that there are no real Christian believers in America today. It is also true that many Christians are bothered and even upset by all that is going on both in America and in the world. There is no peace and the war and chaos continues daily. Many, as scripture says, are becoming hardened to all the debauchery, persecution of Christians, death, war, and violence in the world. In America, society has been slowly brainwashed by those in power who want to change this nation, pervert it’s people, and bring in new agenda’s for a global society that fits the plans of those in charge. All things are heading for the rule of the dark one aka the Anti-Christ; in fact even Obama is ‘Anti-Christ’ in his beliefs. But so are many today, as Paul warned in 2 Thessalonians two. But in all this there is a will that is in charge. It is God’s will, carried out by our Lord Jesus Christ; who is Lord of Lords and King of Kings. One day he will gather all things together in Christ Jesus, as Paul wrote in Ephesus “all things in Christ [the Messiah], both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him!”

No matter how hard the world of men snarl and glare and hate the very thought of the Christian God and our Savior existing, the truth is, “His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven”; AMEN! So even in America, as this nation rejects the Lord, persecutes Christianity, and follows an immoral path, the will of the Lord will be done. He knows those who are his and will honor those who ‘Trusted in Christ’. Further we know that “all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”

## Christianity in America: 'Purpose'

### Eph 1:9-12

(9) Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, **according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:**

(10) That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:

(11) In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, **being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:**

(12) That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

### Rom 8:28-30

(28) And we know that **all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**

(29) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

(30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

It is that purpose which we as believers follow. Through his Word, his Spirit, and his Calling on our lives. We live unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Period, we are not to fear, living in fear, or fear those who hate or reject who we trust in. It used to be a different America a very long time ago. When speaking of revival, it was a Christian revival. When speaking of God, it was our God and Father. When talking faith, it was the faith of Christ Jesus. Today we have many gods, many faiths, and many ideas. We even have no faith. But we honored all those who lived here and whatever they believed in or did was okay as long as they were true Americans who lived and purposed that this was the Land of the Free. Today all this has changed. As America heads into the future with a new President we do so divided: divided as Americans individually, divided in race and race relations, and divided also in our faith. The one thing all Americans have in common today is the lawlessness of America and the immoral wave of the society itself. The world is fighting over faith; Christians are dying and also languishing in prisons around the world. I speak directly of Christians here and in those nations we find that are Muslim, we find them persecuting Christians like in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria, Libya, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Yemen, Nigeria, Kenya, Indonesia, and many others. We find nations that persecute Christians as in North Korea who is communistic and rules with an iron hand, but then there is China who is also Communist and has been persecuting Christians and other groups there.

## Christianity in America: 'for my names sake'

It is here that in the world as believers in the One True God and Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, we are to be his witnesses 'for my names sake.' The church at Ephesus did things well. There were those who claimed to be Apostles, but the church found that they were liars and not of the truth. What is more, the church could not put up with those who were evil. Make no mistake we are talking about the Empire of Rome here. Many gods, immoral ways, and a war economy surrounded the believers. Yet in the midst of all this immorality and evil, they bore it all and labored for the Lord with patience. They continued in doing this but along the way the work took precedence over their relationship and love for the Lord. More work, less prayer made for the believers to lose their 'first love'. It was replaced by sheer churchianity.

It was, after all, the Lord who held all the churches in his hand and ruled over all aspects of the church. He indeed commended them for their labor, patience, and other attributes. Nevertheless he warned them that they had left their first love. He spoke to the church as 'he that holdeth the seven stars' and who walks among the 'seven golden candlesticks.' It was the Lord that had the power to remove them from his presence. The church had lost its Shekinah glory; the result of them losing their first love. As scripture says, 'because sin and iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.' Such was the Ephesian church. Ephesus the home of the goddess Diana and those who made statues for her worship would have been overjoyed to see the church move away from their former witness and discipleship. Here our 'First love' for our Lord can never be replaced; to this we must commit ourselves.

## Christianity in America: 'Patience'

### Rev 2:1-4

- (1) **Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;**
- (2) **I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:**
- (3) **And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.**
- (4) **Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.**

### Jas 5:7-11

- (7) **Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord.** Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.
- (8) **Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.**
- (9) Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.
- (10) **Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.**
- (11) Behold, **we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job,** and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

## Christianity in America: 'Persuasion, Purpose, and Patience'

It is for us to decide today whether we will take the portion of our witness seriously or not. For many Christians in America the traditions, denominations, and personalities that lead the church come first in the arena of discipleship. The bible is subject to those traditions, denominations, and personalities and how they interpret and teach their version of what it really means to be a Christian. Today what a Christian is and how they got that way is also viewed in many different ways. The issue of morality and a moral code to live by, not to mention following the Word of God is also something that many see differently.

But today in America there are Christians and a testimony to which all must give heed. It is our calling and God's purpose through Christ Jesus that the believers take the message to the world and begin here in America. We have but a limited time to do this. To put it bluntly, America has for so long seen a church ridden with the things of the world that to take the church seriously would be a hard thing to do. The world and society in general do as they please and today especially in America Christianity has no one portion or hold on this nation. It is clear that many in this country do not believe. We see for instance that Janet Jackson in all her fame has now become a Muslim. Lindsey Lohan who is a singer and a starlet in her own right has also become Muslim. Daily we see Islam in the news and people rejecting the truth as is prophesied in 2 Thessalonians chapter two and believing in something or someone else. Paul told us directly that this would occur. When you reject truth, the only thing left is a lie. So while the church has reneged on its duty and while Christians have been so busy in the world they live in, the gospel witnessed and our stand for righteousness has waned. The love of many has waxed cold and the many churches are as Ephesus, not to mention Laodicea.

**Make up your mind as Christians to seek the Lord, pray, read the Word of God [the bible], and follow our Lord with biblical Persuasion, through biblical purpose, and Christian patience as you work for and labor for his names sake. But in so doing, never forget or fall away from "Your First Love"!**