



Principle Approach Education

WILL YOU BE A LABORER IN THE VINEYARD OF LIBERTY?

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EDITOR'S NOTE: In 1971 Verna Hall delivered the following speech to a Pro-America group in Belmont, California. In this speech she reminds us of the twenty years it took Samuel to restore Israel to its Godly foundations. This message is most timely and imperative today, and most instructive to this generation.

Two hundred years ago, in 1771, the American colonies were in the midst of the ten-year period immediately preceding the War for Independence, and were articulating, solidifying and practicing the American Christian philosophy of government.

In 1765 the famous Stamp Act had been enacted, and the American Colonies, by means of petitions from each colony, and petitions from the united colonies (as a result of the Stamp Act Congress) were able to have the Act repealed in 1766. However, simultaneously with the repeal of the Stamp Act, Parliament passed the Declaratory Act, the purpose of which was to assert the power and authority of Parliament to bind the colonies “in all cases whatsoever.” As soon as the implications of this Declaratory Act became known in the colonies, the education program in the American Christian philosophy of government was accelerated, and the colonies were sustained by this knowledge, and carried by it through the seven-year War for Independence.

The American Revolution was not a war against government. It was a war to preserve Government—government built upon individual liberty and responsibility. It had been thought through and practiced in the thirteen colonies since the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620.

(As an aside, but an important point to register, the American Revolution was in no way similar to the French Revolution, which was a rebellion and insurrection—the spawning ground of all the insurrections which have taken place in the world since 1789. No nation has yet truly emulated our Revolution, nor understood the philosophy of our form of constitutional government.)

The colonists understood the history, meaning, and proper practice of self-government. They understood the history, meaning and proper practice of private property. They understood the history, meaning and



proper practice of voluntary union. They understood how to reconcile liberty with law. They understood how to maintain union with diversity.

The result of their devotion to individual liberty and their willingness to sacrifice their lives and their fortunes for it (which they did) gave to the world for the first time in human history, the Christian form of civil government—individual liberty and freedom protected by law. It took 1789 years for Christianity to establish its form of civil government, not for the benefit of Americans alone, but as a model of excellence for emulation by all people throughout the world. Although our Constitution is the Christian form of civil government, and demands an understanding of Christianity in order to make it work properly, it can bless all individuals living under its jurisdiction—be they Christian, Jew, Buddhist, Mohammedan or atheist. The most exciting human event since the beginning of the Christian era, was the enactment of the Constitution of the United States. Christians of all countries throughout that long period of 1789 years had dreamed of such a civil government,—sacrificed and even died for their dream. What a unique heritage we have! It thrills me to the core of my being, every time I think about the chain of Christianity moving slowly westward toward the establishment of America and her form of civil government. What a privilege to be an American! What a sacred heritage is ours!

As one reads the writings of the individuals of the period of which I am speaking (1765-1775), one is struck with the fact that these people knew the importance of what they were doing because they knew the history of mankind's struggle to be free. They accepted their role and responsibility to further this cause, not knowing whether or not they would be successful in achieving the end result. They were successful, and we are the recipients of their legacy. For two hundred years we have been reaping the harvest of their planting.

By sad contrast, look at us as a nation today. The most favored of God's people for two hundred years, and we are perhaps the most selfish, spoiled, unthinking, indulgent people in the world, made more inexcusable because we have been the most favored. These qualities are applicable also to individuals who claim to be patriots, claim to be politically conservative—yes, to many of those who even claim to be Christian.

The best way to describe how far away from the standards of the founding father generations we have come, is to say that we are 180 degrees away—just the opposite from what they were. For example:

Our educational systems are no longer home-centered, academic and demanding; they are socialistic and indulgent, producing, year after year, graduates who fall naturally into the endorsing and fomenting of political, social, economic and cultural activities destined to destroy our Christian constitutional form of government.

Our political statutes—local, state and national, passed year after year implement socialism and solidify the power of centralized government. (The political party appellation makes no difference.) Whether we have a republican or democratic congress, the legislation passed strengthens socialism.



Our economic actions, whether of government, industry, management, labor, stockholders, agriculture or services, all have been that of selfish indulgence and greed—no segment desiring to hold the economic line, do without personally, in order that the whole might be better. Peace at any price!

Our cultural activities—music, art, design, dress styles, hair styles, the use of color, building designs—few of these are American. All are foreign not only foreign in nationality, but foreign to American quality, American decency, American beauty, in the tradition of our cultural and living standards of two hundred years ago. Instead of leading the world in the cultural areas, as we started out to do, we have literally wallowed in other nations' politically controlled, socialistic, communistic and pagan art forms.

And as far as *our Christian convictions* are concerned, I'm afraid I do not have the words to describe my feelings in this area. Those Americans who bother to go to church, with some exceptions, listen to sermons geared to encourage reliance upon the national government and society to work out individual problems, instead of listening to sermons insisting that all national problems are but compounded individual problems, and the individual should rely upon God instead of man. Two hundred years ago, through election sermons, artillery sermons, fast and thanksgiving sermons, our forefathers were assured that God rules in the affairs of men, and the only way to obtain God's blessing as a nation was to be a virtuous people. *The Bible was our political textbook*, and one cannot read the Journals of the Provincial Assemblies or the Journals of the Continental Congress without realizing at once how the colonists relied upon God instead of man. God still rules in the affairs of men, and I would rather be right with God, regardless of cost, than with man.

It sums up this way: Two hundred years ago we were a God-fearing, internally oriented people. Today, Americans are a man-directed, externally oriented people. Two hundred years ago, we knew our role in life was to work and produce; today we prefer to play and consume.

Wouldn't you like to do something about it?

EXCEPTIONS

I'm sure there are exceptions to my indictment of us as a nation, and these exceptions are the individuals throughout our country who are not in the limelight; they are the quiet, responsible individuals who are doing what is right, in their homes with their children, in their churches, and in their businesses, in spite of popular trends. They deserve more from those who are in the limelight as leaders, and I include in the role of leaders, organizations such as Pro-America.

CHALLENGE

It is as if God has given Americans another chance to correct their foolish, forgetful actions of the past. By beginning to educate the rising generation in the principles of our American Christian form of government, we can be confident that two hundred years hence, possibly even fifty years hence, there



will be an America with its Constitution working as originally designed; there will be independent, self-governing, self-supporting states; there will be independent, self-governing, self-supporting counties, cities—because there are, once again, independent, God-fearing, self-governing, self-supporting, home-loving, responsible individuals, proud to be called Americans!

TIME AND COST

With any project, the questions are asked, How long will it take? How much will it cost? It will take at least twenty years from the time you begin, to lay the foundation stones. Why? Because this is the length of time, historically, it takes to begin to turn a people away from their sinful ways, and back to God. How much will it cost? In money, very little, but in terms of time—twenty years, devoting some part of every week to this educational work with some-one, including oneself. Can we afford to spend this time away from present social, cultural or political activities? We can, if we love our children and grandchildren enough. Each woman here will be failing her responsibility to her children and leaving them unprepared to cope with the persuasiveness of socialistic arguments, if she does not devote considerable time and effort to education. Think not that your worldly goods, no matter how much, will be of any value to them, if our nation passes the point of no return and changes from a Christian republic to a completely socialistic state. Taking the time is a “value area” which each woman must decide for herself. Home is the first sphere of government; until the home becomes the education center once more, it is Don Quixotic to tilt at Washington. Make the home right and Washington will be right—not vice versa.

CAUSE

Keeping in mind woman’s responsibility for good or evil, let me remind you that our present day situation did not come from without; it came from within. It came not from the increased activity of socialists, communists or interventionists; it came by the “falling away” of Christians and patriots during the last hundred and thirty years, each generation slipping a bit more than the previous generation. The active socialists merely move into the spheres of influence vacated by the patriots.

We first fell away from our Christian conviction, our total reliance upon God, and this was woman’s responsibility; she did not insist that father give his children their religious education in the home. The breakdown of Christianity today in churches and seminaries stems from this fact.

Following our turning away from our Christian conviction, we relaxed the parental responsibility for the education of the rising generation; ignored the Biblical law to parents; and transferred this duty to professional educationists. By 1971 the educationists have carried out their avowed intention, uttered in various ways during the last one hundred years, to change society.

The philosophy of education in a nation determines the political action of a nation. I think most of you know this fact, yet I am always astonished at how few politically conservative individuals are willing to spend time and money on educational programs. The socialists will, the communists will, agitators



will but not the politically and economically conservative! Expose, yes, but education which involves the understanding of fundamental, eternal principles of government, their history, their past application and the present application—no.

The falling away in education is the responsibility of woman, for she let go her role of being the prime educator of her children, the supervisor of what they were taught and how they were taught, and the character of who taught them.

Education, therefore, is the answer to the problems confronting our nation, and rests with the women of America. Will you take back this all-important work? First, begin to find out why the Bible is America's political textbook, and what are the eternal governmental principles incorporated from it into our Constitution. Our founding fathers knew—the women did too, as you would see if you read the correspondence between Abigail Adams and Mercy Warren, as a case in point.

Then, you would find ways to explain the history of individual self-government; of property, of voluntary union, why we have the dual form of government—two sovereign powers over the same geographic area; why the state and the nation must be maintained; the distinction between internal government and external government; the importance of representation.

So our tools are here with which to rebuild our nation. All that is needed is the willingness and desire of the laborers. Will you be a laborer in this vineyard of liberty?