

www.thetrumpetoftruth.com
You will find Sermons • Magazines • Scripture
that will be an encouragement to your day!

Stand Up For Family Values!

by Bro. John Knox
Waycross, Georgia

English statesman Edmund Burke once said that the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing! Regrettably, many good men have done too little as our traditional family values and moral standards have come under attack. Christians must be counted in this number.

At the same time that secularists are attempting to root every reference to God out of America's public life, with alarming success, our national leadership seems increasingly out of touch not only with the American people, but with God.

Moreover, the greatest scandals in Washington are not necessarily the ones surrounding government officials, but rather the legislation which they enact, the decisions they make as executives, or the judgements they render in courts.

Yet too few Christians are taking an active role in our country's affairs. Too few men of faith and principle are offering themselves as alternatives for public office.

And the results are plain to see. Voluntary prayer in school has been replaced by drugs, handguns and metal detectors, although our founding fathers, including George Washington, believed **that religion is an essential pillar of our nation!**

Our children lack basic safety in their schools and streets, and if not threatened by physical violence may well be assaulted by a popular culture that often glorifies debased ideals, immorality and godlessness.

In cities, the work ethic has been undermined by failed Great Society programs which offer more government as the solution to all social problems. These programs have left generations of Americans without independence, self-esteem, or even hope.

Our Constitution has been distorted by unsound rulings that give meticulous attention to the rights of murderers, but leave virtually unprotected innocent, unborn life. As a result, **thousands of unborn Americans are killed every day!**

AIDS continues to spread in the wake of promiscuous sex and drug use, while **militant homosexuality is making significant inroads toward political and social acceptance!**

Our national debt continues to pile up in a way that may burden our children, grandchildren, and generations to come, at the same time that career politicians bicker among themselves and spend away America's future.

Certainly every nation in history has confronted problems, but the severe troubles now confronting us surely stem in large part from a **falling away from traditional values and principles.** Our leaders in Washington often miserably reflect that lapse.

Nonetheless, as much as we may want to blame it on our leaders, the shortcoming is not theirs alone. Like it or not, we share responsibility for the world around us. We are accountable not only to our families and our fellow man, but to God.

While there may be practical limits to what each of us can do alone, we are not therefore relieved of our responsibility. We cannot simply bemoan the state of the world, and wash our hands of it. We must join with others who share our faith to uphold morality and to work for wise, good government.

We are, I believe, accountable for the officials we send to Washington. As voters, we can turn thumbs up or down on an official at the ballot box. However, our challenge is not simply to turn out bad incumbents, but to get the right people on the ballot in the first place, and then help elect them.

The Bible tells us in Deuteronomy 1:13, "Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you."

And, we read in Exodus 18:21, "Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens."

We need to encourage more good Christians to offer themselves for office, and to lead by example when others are not forthcoming!

I have taken this challenge to heart. I was deeply dismayed by the choice of candidates facing me and other voters before I entered my own race. For example, **not a single candidate in either party was pro-life! Nor was there a candidate committed to opposing the homosexual agenda, or to defending traditional values!** Out of faith and concern for the future of my family and country, I decided to act!

My point is that, unless we either offer ourselves as leaders, or support (with our prayers, volunteer work, contributions, and votes) others who share our values, our country is going to continue to suffer! It will suffer in the hands of officials who, at best, lack the principles and the guidance necessary to keep America good and great. **I believe God expects more from us!**

"Only he who can say, 'The Lord is the strength of my life' can say 'Of whom shall I be afraid?'" — Alexander Maclaren