

The



Reaching



Preaching

Teaching

in the Wilderness

•2020•

•Mini-Voice & Prayer Letter•

•Free Subscription•

Seeing the ETERNAL Vision 20/20



"Where there is no VISION, the people perish:"



"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight." - Mark 1:3





by Ronnie Williamson

Our text is found in Proverbs 29:18: *Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

Many churches have used Proverbs 29:18 as their vision verse for soul winning, missions, and even leadership. As it is true that we need goals for our ministries and that application could be made in Proverbs 29:18, rarely is the actual meaning of this verse expounded. Briefly our text is exhorting us to see our great eternal God in His holiness and majesty. Where there is no vision of God and His truth, the people perish. Literally, they run naked and unrestrained. Now this truly flies in the face of a lot of modern pulpits, “but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.” Oh no, laws and rules are out. That certainly harelips the devil and puts a kink in a lot of church lifestyles today. So I guess since this is Old Testament and law has nothing to do with happiness, then vision has little to do, if anything, with our churches today. Right? Wrong!

Do we see, do we hear, or even do we want to see and hear the eternal truth of God? Quite frankly, there are a lot of church folk and preachers getting into stuff they once would not have because they didn't have the money to do those things. Plastered all over the WWW is the extravagant and carnal activities flaunted by “Christians” in American churches. Now this is a sermon in itself, and I can't spend a lot of time on that subject, but let me propose three simple questions.

1 Where did that come from? We are asking the question of origin. The origin of what we do, where we go, what we sing, and even what we wear. Is the origin Biblical? In our brochure on “Cremation” for example, we discuss the pagan origin of cremation. This seems so obvious but many Christians have never asked the question, where did cremation come from? The same applies to many areas and issues of life. Are we living and practicing Biblical truth, or has the world invaded our lifestyles?

2 Where does that lead us? Things we do, say, post, have affect and influence on others. I've used the illustration many times from Montana. The elk hunter fired his high power rifle at an elk on a mountain, and accidentally killed a young girl riding her horse on a distant ridge. Sadly, he did not look beyond the target. If we do not ask ourselves the question, “where might my actions lead?” the ultimate influence, even consequence, could be tragic.

3 Where is God in this? Often there are scriptural prohibitions we have not even considered. Possibly there is a Biblical precept or principle that should be applied. We might perceive permission to do this or that, yet restraint should rule the day. The first time my wife went to India the ladies asked why she did not have pierced ears? So why do the women in India have piercings? Thirty years ago when I asked mothers in American Churches if they would permit their daughters to have multiple piercings in their ears or wherever, their response was negative. If you have one piercing in the earlobe, how about the top of the ear even multiple piercings in the ear. What about the eyebrow, nose, lip, tongue, or wherever? At that time, many thought I was being ridiculous. But today, have you taken a look at a lot of church members and choirs with multiple piercings and tattoos. So where is God in this? I suggest, He was not even considered in this.

Where there is no vision the people live unrestrained, naked from any concept of the laws of God. The consequences in many cases are tragic and far-reaching. Vision 20/20 must therefore involve:

Scriptural authority and absolutes.

Over 3,000 times in the King James Bible, God tells us His Word is divinely inspired in origin. Hundreds of prophecies specifically and meticulously have been fulfilled. Archeological proofs are almost innumerable. Bible records have led to many amazing discoveries. Again, the origin of God's Word is God Himself. We have in print God's authority and absolutes for our life and practice. So we should ask throughout our choices is there a Biblical origin and foundation for those choices.

Stand even under tremendous pressure or praise.

We are indeed a blessed and privileged people. His grace and love are demonstrated to us daily. We have been given God's Word that we may know Him, His truth and promises to us. We also know, being in this world that as His children, we are not of this world. However, pressures come to bare that would turn us away from His truth. Even at times the world or well-meaning Christians may try to persuade us by their praise and flatter away from God's truth. Daily we must commit and determine to stand when influences try to deter us from God's Word, will, and ways for our lives.

Stay with the old paths and sanctify the present.

“Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.” (Jer. 6:16) Sadly, are we responding as they did “we will not walk therein.” God's Word is inspired and infallible. He has given us the authority, absolutes and anchor for our souls. Why would we not choose to walk the tried and proven path that He has set for us? But so many have said, “we will not walk therein.” “Were they ashamed when they had committed abominations? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall...” (Jer. 6:15)

Now that doesn't make us a “stick in the mud.” Standing, seeing, and asking for the old paths is Biblical not out-of-date. Why, because God's Word is eternal. Remember we are seeing the eternal and daily there is rest, and victory for our soul. So daily, by Biblical direction and discernment, we can take this present world and sanctify that which would bring honour and glory to Him. Yes there are opportunities and innovations that we can use in our present ministries and service for Him. However, there may very well be some issues or areas that by spiritual discernment we should avoid. There are without doubt abominations that have crept into our churches today. Some seem to not blush or be ashamed of such practices. They did not seek the origin, where these practices might lead, or even if God was in it. Even when there has been preaching on the subject they said, “we will not walk therein.”

Okay, so here is the end of the sermon. They said they would not walk therein so what did God say? Here's His final Word for us today in Jeremiah 6:17-19:

¹⁷ Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Harken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken. ¹⁸ Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. ¹⁹ Here, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND PARTNERSHIP!

PRAYER LETTER

(Detach this page, post, and pray!)

Vision 20/20

Our theme for a New Year and a New Decade is "Vision 20/20 – Seeing the Eternal."

Proverbs 29:18 says, Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." Key directives of this Vision include:

- Scriptural authority and absolutes,
- Stand even under tremendous pressure or praise of men,
- Stay with the old paths and sanctify the present,

and further details are expounded throughout this issue.

I believe the Lord has opened the door for us to continue this gospel work, as partners together, in The Voice in the Wilderness ministry. In about 18 months, we have shipped over 750,000 Bibles and scripture portions. Pastors and missionaries have distributed these scriptures across Colombia, Venezuela, and the jungle regions. Reports have been given of souls saved, and churches encouraged with God's printed Word.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support that has made this effort possible. Three more boxes just arrived safely in Caracas and Barquisemeto. These boxes and many others have contained not only God's printed Word, but food and helps as well. Our vision for 20/20 will be to send more shipments like this into Colombia, Venezuela, and the jungle. Continued updates will be given on our website and emails. Thank you again for your faithful and sacrificial partnership.

For Christ and souls,

Ronnie Williamson

Ronnie L. Williamson
Isa. 40:31
Happy Trails!



Pray for us!

- Scripture and Aid shipments continue
- *The Constitution Defender* is complete and located in homeschools, Christian schools and libraries. A Companion Activity Guide is coming soon.
- A Pallet of Jungle Bibles is ready for shipment.
- One booklet and four brochures have been translated into Spanish and are ready for printing.
- Teaching resources are being prepared for translation and printing for the Jungle Churches
- Travel Schedule and health
- Increased Partnership and Support
- Praise the Lord for faithful friends who gave sacrificially and substantially for our year-end offering.
- Praise the Lord for faithful monthly supporters who sustain this mission effort.

More Updates



Vimeo: thevoiceinthewilderness

FB: thevoiceinthewildernessMk1



Biblical Alert Podcast

Twitter: TheVoice_NC

www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org

Complete, Detach & Return to PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802

We want to hear from you!

☐ I will pray for The Voice in the Wilderness

☐ Enclosed is an offering for Resources \$ _____
(Complete other side)

☐ Please send me email updates. My email is: _____

☐ Enclosed is an offering IN HONOR ☐ / IN MEMORY ☐
of: _____

Amount - \$ _____ (name of person)

☐ I will be a Constitution Defender \$ _____

- ☐ Send me a Softback Copy of *The Constitution Defender* ☐ Hardback Copy
- ☐ I will sponsor the printing of *The Constitution Defender* with a special offering.
- ☐ I am interested in multiple copies for a special event or group. My Phone # is _____



We would like to pray with you.

List your special requests:

RESOURCES FOR YOU

BROCHURES



A Miracle in India & Venezuela

The testimony of Baba and the story of building a church in Venezuela

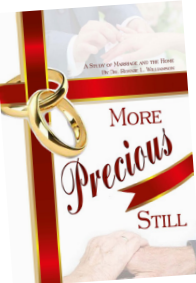
Suicide & Cremation - Biblical help

How to be a Prayer Partner & Suffer the Children - Praying effectively for missionaries & tips on child evangelism

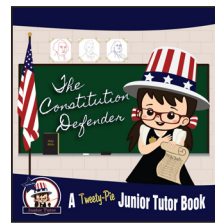
Marriage, Divorce, & Remarriage - a trilogy series examining God's plan for marriage

Black Testimonies, Public Education, The Aged Years, To Spank or Not to Spank - Biblical truths for sensitive issues

Selflessness, Sacrifice, Duty, Honor - A Father's Testimony & the story of Butch O'Hare

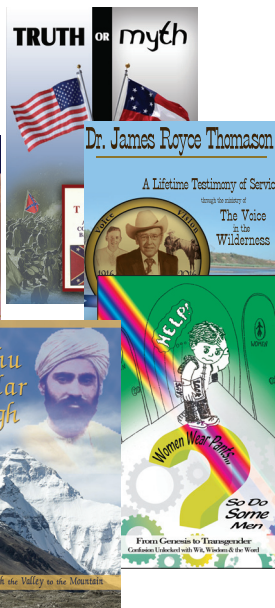


Packed full of wit, humor, illustrations, and important Scriptures, key Biblical elements of a Godly marriage and home are unfolded in this study book by Dr. Ronnie Williamson.



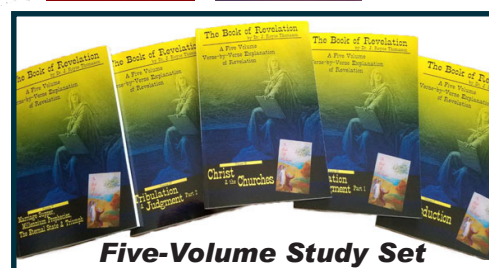
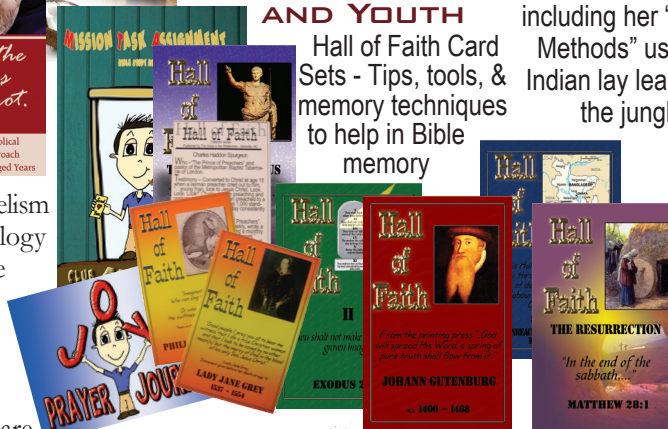
With a simple overview of all seven Articles of the Constitution and history surrounding the writing, you will be challenged in faith, duty and patriotism. Be a Constitution Defender! Soft or Hard Cover

BOOKLETS



BIBLE MEMORY AND YOUTH

Hall of Faith Card Sets - Tips, tools, & memory techniques to help in Bible memory



Five-Volume Study Set

A verse-by-verse layman's study of The Book of Revelation by founder of *The Voice*, Dr. J. Royce Thomason. Each book includes study question sections along with illustrations to aid learning and understanding.

WITNESS TOOLS



Heritage Lapel Pin - A uniquely designed lapel pin picturing the Christian flag, US Flag, Star of David, Alpha & Omega, Bible, Eagle - beautifully displayed on a full-color description card

KJB Anniversary Lapel Pin - Featuring the Bible with salvation colored ribbons & 400th anniversary dates

Smiley Booklet Tract - 2"x2" gospel message booklet tract



His Voice Shakes the Wilderness

A detailed account by Sophie Muller of her lifetime of missionary work in the Jungles of South America

Beyond Civilization - Further details of Sophie's ministry including her "Jungle Methods" used by Indian lay leaders in the jungle

BOOKS



Mini-brochure teaching series for children on Bible Memory, Death, Life & Creation

Response Form

Your offering is vital. Please use this response form to: submit your offering, request a resource gift listed below, and submit prayer requests to *The Voice in the Wilderness* (See other side)

Resource Request Form

Spanish Resources Coming Soon!

with a \$10 Offering

- ☐ His Voice Shakes the Wilderness
- ☐ Beyond Civilization
- ☐ More Precious Still-Marriage & Home

with a \$2 offering

- ☐ Heritage Lapel Pin
- ☐ KJB Lapel Pin **out-of-stock**
- ☐ Smiley Booklet Tract-10/pk
- ☐ Joy Prayer Journal (Youth)
- ☐ MTA Devotional Book (Youth)

with an offering

- ☐ Miracle in Venezuela ☐ India
- ☐ Selflessness, Sacrifice, Duty, Honor
- ☐ Suffer the Little Children
- ☐ How to be a Prayer Partner
- ☐ Public Education
- ☐ Suicide ☐ Cremation
- ☐ To Spank or Not to Spank
- ☐ Biblical Approach to the Aged Years
- ☐ Marriage, Divorce, & Remarriage
- ☐ Black Testimonies ☐ Coconut Story

with a \$2 offering

- Hall of Faith Card Sets**
- ☐ Commandment Card Set
- ☐ KJB Hall of Faith Card Set
- ☐ Heroes of the Faith Card Set
- ☐ Unreached People Group Set
- ☐ Luke 2 Birth of Jesus Card Set
- ☐ Matthew 28 Resurrection Set
- ☐ PUP: Precept Upon Precept Series
- Bible Memory, Death, Life, Creation Mini-Brochures

with a \$5 offering

- Booklets**
- ☐ Truth or Myth: Confederate Flag
- ☐ From Genesis to Transgender
- ☐ Dr. J. Royce Thomason Biography
- ☐ Sadhu Sundar Singh Biography
- The Constitution Defender**
- ☐ Soft Cover (\$8)
- ☐ Hard Cover (\$15)
- with a \$40 offering**
- ☐ Book of Revelation Study Set 1/20

With your help, Scripture and food supplies continue to Venezuela!

Reaching



Preaching

750,000 Scriptures to South America

Colombia, Venezuela and the Jungle Regions

THANK YOU!



During Christmas week a pastor in Venezuela received and unpacked his box of Scriptures and food supplies. What a blessing! The children were super excited to eat some of the special treats sent along, especially the nutella!



Jungle Ministry
Scriptures received and distributed (left)

Folks gather for a Scripture reading teaching time on John 1 (above)



Pictured at left is a Venezuelan city church that had gathered for a special Christmas service. They are grateful for Scripture/supply boxes received and will be using them as they witness in the community and feed the children.

The Constitution Defender



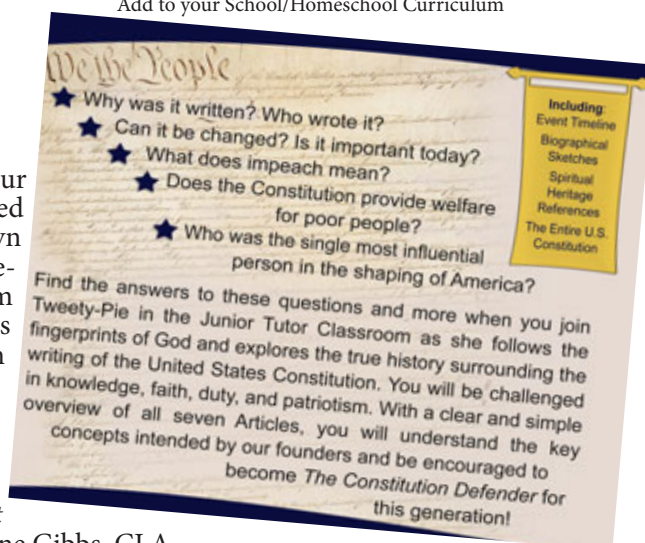
32 Pages
Full-text of Constitution
Biographical Sketches
Article Overviews
Historical Facts
Timeline
Spiritual Heritage
Illustrations and Diagrams
Hardback and Softback
Activity Guide Coming Soon!

PLAN NOW - Be a Constitution Defender!

Order for Patriotic Emphasis/Giveaways
(July 4th, Constitution Day, Voter Challenge, Camps, VBS)
Sponsor the Printing of *The Constitution Defender*
(Gifts for Elementary Students)
Request for your Church/School Library
Add to your School/Homeschool Curriculum

History is being erased, monuments desecrated, and flags burned. Respect for our national anthem and Pledge of Allegiance is mocked. The classroom has redacted Robert E. Lee and edited George Washington only to offer unit studies on Marilyn Monroe and the Beatles. Resolution writers fill the halls of Congress each day determined to bury our divinely blessed foundations, raise up a facade of socialism and communism and enslave future generations in wickedness and despair. It is the duty of Godly parents to teach their children to know and defend truth. With this tool, you can train up the next American Patriot for God's Glory.

Your book leaves me speechless! It is an absolutely clear and fundamental explanation of an often complicated document. - DAR Registrar
What a wonderful tutor book - really a work of art! - Reader
...your clever book...we appreciate all the work you did in writing and laying out each page. We will pray that many children will profit from it. - David & Glorianne Gibbs, CLA



NEWS BITS FROM HERE AND THERE

Reaching



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✿ **Burn and Ban** – While much of Australia burns down, a 10 year census reports the choice of “No Religion” is up 18.7% to 30.1%. Missionaries in Australia recently wrote: *Next year, kids in Queensland will be taught that they were not born male or female. Parents and birth certificates will be accused of being lies and myths. Even Christian schools and Christian home schooling are coming under repeated attack. State and Federal education authorities are trying to ban Christian education, close down Christian schools, and to stop Christian homeschooling.*

✿ **Venezuela** – Three more boxes arrived safely in Venezuela. It has been a joy and blessing this year to ship thousands of John and Romans booklets along with food and other helps to our brothers and sisters. The political and economic situation remains desperate in this country. An estimated 4.5 million have fled for other countries including several political exiles sheltering in the U.S. A vital election in January 2020 was under intense scrutiny as evidence revealed that the current President Maduro had met with at least 14 lawmakers who accepted bribes to vote against the opposition leader, Guidado. Provisions were made for lawmakers exiled in the U.S. to cast remote votes in hopes of securing a firm seat for Guidado. In the midst of such corruption and turmoil, churches are growing and many souls are being saved daily. Please continue to pray for the pastors and churches of Venezuela.

✿ **Religion under Attack** – Joe Biden and his liberal colleagues would leave churches and Synagogues unarmed and vulnerable to the evil that is core to their beliefs. Bernie Sanders raised \$34 million for his campaign in the last quarter of 2019. Please keep in mind the Democratic candidates are pro-abortion, anti-second Amendment, promoters of Sodomite agendas, and enemies of the United States of America Constitution. These people want to take down the Ten Commandments of God, remove Ancient Landmarks and ban the Truth of JESUS from the minds of children. Benjamin Rush said “The great enemy of the salvation of man, in my opinion, never invented a more effectual means of extirpating [removing] Christianity from the world than by persuading mankind that it was improper to read the Bible at schools.” Make no mistake you are looking at the enemies of The United States. (Below)

✿ **Drones** – So, when is the last time you remember “No tensions” between Iran/Iraq and the U.S. Ah, maybe for a split second when they received their Billion dollar pallet load of money stolen from American Citizens. Who helped fund this murdering terrorist? Package delivery, high rise window washing, to medical and military applications are all part of Drone technology. Drones come in many shapes and sizes. This is now a 227 Billion dollar industry as of 2020! Already thousands of military operations have been carried out. Most recently the killing of Iranian Terrorist Soleimani. Tens and even thousands of swarms can conduct incredible tasks. Swarms of Drones are vital to security and surveillance missions. A pizza may be delivered to you by a drone or even a deadly concoction injected by insect size drones into the body or bodies of targets selected for elimination. Watch out world leaders. There may be a silent swarm near you. From Soleimani to the stars the drones are here. U.S. is back to the fulfilment of Bible prophecy!

✿ **Rush and FOX Can’t Say** – Who were the Barbary Pirates of President Thomas Jefferson? They were Muslims, murders and profiteers that were of the Devil. The Pillars of Islam require the declaration of one God, Allah, prayer 5 times a day facing and bowing toward Mecca, payment of an obligatory tax, fasting yearly during Ramadan, make a pilgrimage to Mecca, and most consider jihad the 6th pillar. Today, islamic terrorists are envious of their leader, Soleimani, now partying in eternal bliss with all his women (they believe) after his take down by American Forces. What they can’t tell you is that there is an eternal Hell waiting for those who reject Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. What they can’t tell you is that this is a spiritual warfare. What they can’t tell you is that this is a war for the soul of America that will take Divine Intervention to stop. Even Rush and FOX can’t tell you about the Devil and Hell and the consequences of sin. I am thankful for the conservative outlets that are willing to speak out about the D.C. sewer rats. However, we must not just look to the conservative talk, but know the Biblical Truth. In understanding who God, our Creator, is, we do not run *unrestrained and naked*. We have an adversary, the Devil, a roaring lion seeking who he may devour. It is only by His grace and mercy that a hedge of protection is built about us.



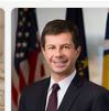
Joe Biden
Former VP (D)



Bernie Sanders
US senator (D)



Elizabeth
Warren
US senator (D)



Pete Buttigieg
Mayor (D)



Andrew Yang
Entrepreneur (D)



Michael
Bloomberg
Former mayor (D)



Amy Klobuchar
US senator (D)



Cory Booker
US senator (D)



Tom Steyer
Activist (D)



Tulsi Gabbard
US rep (D)



Michael Bennet
US senator (D)



John Delaney
Former US rep
(D)



Marianne
Williamson
Author (D)



Deval Patrick
Former gov (D)

PRO-ABORTION
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CONSTITUTION CHANGERS

PRO-SODOMITE AGENDA

GOVERNMENT-INDOCTRINATION
EDUCATION

Expanded Edition

Reaching

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NEWS BITS FROM HERE AND THERE



Teaching



BIBLICAL ALERT Podcast

✱ The Ballot Box – Do you remember Hillary—Who? So how did the smartest woman in the world get defeated, because the ballot box was rigged already in her favour, at least she thought so. By the way, that voter fraud was cast for the destruction of Biblical Values and The Constitution of the United States of America. These are perilous times and tragically far too many Christians are voting for baby killers that are anti-Israel and pro-LGBTQ. Make no mistake, the upcoming election will be a contested event in lieu of the democrats past loss.

Make your voice and vote count for Biblical truth. God's people should certainly vote for LIFE and precious babies (Prov.6:17). Let's stand against those who would attack God's design and sacredness of marriage (Gen.2:24). Remember God's promise to bless those who bless Israel. Then, it is obvious the candidates that uphold the Constitution of the United States and fiscal responsibility need our vote.

✱ God Haters – Christians and churches need to be up-to-date on the LGBTQ activists' goals in this upcoming election. Keep in mind that the murder of babies, homosexual agendas, and Israel are in the crosshairs of liberal voter fraud. That same crowd is outraged at the potential loss of their control over judicial appointments, which again impacts abortion and euthanasia. Be assured the sewer rats will be pouring out of the swamp on this one. ...God gave them over to a reprobate mind...being filled with all unrighteousness...haters of God... Romans 1:28-30

✱ Have we forgot Islam? - It is amazing how much the American voter can forget from one election to the next. The situation is heating up in Iran and Iraq. At this printing, it is uncertain how far the U.S. will go with the additional insertion of troops. Just a quick reminder that radical Islam is at war with the West.

✱ Pseudo Christians – My wife predicted several years ago that the King James Bible will be labeled 'hate speech'. Not only for those that use the King James Bible but also for the believer that still holds to Biblical separation, hostilities are on the rise. A so-called "over-commitment" to the scriptures has been labeled 'mean spiritedness' and has produced in many churches a false view of Biblical separation. ...they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures unto their own destruction. 2Peter 3:16. Once the slide down this slippery slope begins, it is almost impossible to change course. A little leaven will leaven the whole lump.

Listen each day to the Biblical Alert Podcast. Go to our website www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org for immediate access.

A recent Podcast issued the following Alert:

Warning - Vision Ahead! It is true, "Where there is no vision the people perish..." Do we have Vision 20/20?

So here we go. This may be an assault on the spiritual senses, possibly an attack on carnality, worldliness and rebellion. So, buckle up for a bumpy ride.

"How dare you, you, you.....legalistic holier than thou!" Now that we've got that out of our system, let's begin an exploration into our Vision 20/20. I pray we can see clearly the Eternal.

The world has gone to great lengths in effort to preserve wildlife and environment. I grew up fishing, mostly salt water. From the fisherman, chef and scientist we all want pure water, clean rivers and oceans. One activist said, "I want to make sure we preserve these fish, oysters, crabs as pure as possible for my children and their children." Did you catch that (no pun intended) that statement, I mean? Let me help you. He said, "preserve" and "pure". That marine biologist and chef made a profound and vitally spiritually observation. Did he know that? Probably not. But as Bible believers, we must occupy till Jesus comes. In doing so, are we concerned about preserving in purity anything for our children and their children?

Our Vision must include: Scriptural authority and absolutes, standing even under tremendous pressure or praise of men, and staying with the old paths and sanctifying the present.

William Jennings Bryan stated, "The Bible holds up before us ideals that are within sight of the weakest and the lowest, yet so high that the best and noblest are kept with their faces turned ever upward. It carries the call of the Saviour to the remotest corners of the earth. On its pages are written the assurances of the present and our hopes for the future."

We must have Vision 20/20 - keeping our eyes on the Lord Jesus Christ.



Nuggets of Gold

- "And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: All that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it." Zach. 12:3
- D.C. *Corrupt-o-crats* can murder babies but have no stomach to stop terrorists.
- A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both.
- It is only the fear of God that delivers us from the fear of man.
- Peace and Justice are two sides of the same coin. -Eisenhower

Watch videos at vimeo.com/channels/tweetypie



Junior Tutor



Take an online Spiritual heritage tour of Washington D.C. with Tweety-Pie in the Junior Tutor classroom. Catch her latest series, "Inscribed in Stone," visit The Lincoln Memorial, and STAND with Lincoln when he says "Under God."

Happy Birthday, Mr. President!

AND be sure to order the new Junior Tutor Book, *The Constitution Defender!* It is the perfect addition to your library, school, homeschool, or special patriotic event!

The Voice in the Wilderness



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t.h.i.n.c.
to help instruct future Christians
on these things



**Where is
Wisdom & Virtue?**

¹Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. ²For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. ³For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. ⁴He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. ⁵Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. ⁶Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. ⁷Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Proverbs 4:1-7

Where is wisdom and virtue? It could certainly be found amongst many of the founding fathers. One writer described these two characteristics as ones that "distinguished them from other men of their time - and from most men of any time." This uniqueness no doubt as another author explained "came principally from two places: 'the pulpit and the schoolroom.'" In America's founding era, the Bible was THE Book owned by most, the average colonist listened to over 7,000 sermons in a lifetime, church houses were political beacons, multiple languages were the common pre-requisite to college, history was the key to the past, and the rigors of education birthed brilliant and logical minds. The Rev. John Witherspoon in transforming Princeton brought lecture-style courses along with his required Morality study. In 1805 a historian wrote, "It must be acknowledged, that the religious and moral character of Americans yet stands on a higher grade of excellence and purity, than that of most other nations." Another clergy and historian William Gordon asserted, "[I]t is certainly a duty of the clergy to accommodate their discourses to the times; to preach against such sins as are most prevalent, and to recommend such virtues as are most wanted..." Conversely, it seems that if wisdom and virtue are lacking today, then that foundational teaching must have departed both the church and mainstream education. Millennials flock to the Bernie Sanders rallies for his "free" socialistic hand-outs and pursue one of the most popular majors - Psychology. The Barna Group, an expert research team, presented a list of current issues to pastors and asked whether they had or would preach on those topics. A staggering 90% affirmed that they had not nor would address those issues in the pulpit. With our heads stuck in the sands of self-imposed ignorance, this generation of Americans' search for wisdom and virtue is lost in those sands of time when, sadly, it was once in the grasp of their one schoolroom text when they took to heart, "In Adam's fall, we sinned all; Thy life to mend, this Book attend."