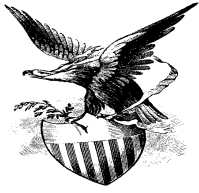


Light Brings Salt

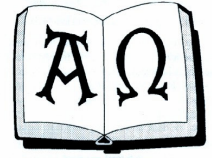
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Iron Range Bible Church

Dedicated to the Systematic Exposition of the Word of God
"Sanctify them in the truth: Your word is truth."



The Angry Left vs. Middle America

by Gary Bauer

In past reports, I have warned that the "angry Left" is not trying to win an election, it is trying to destroy the conservative movement. Once in power, it intends to use the force of big government to shut down Christian and conservative talk radio with the Fairness Doctrine. Pastors will be gagged by "hate crimes" legislation. Religious liberty will be further threatened when a new liberal Supreme Court majority redefines marriage in every state of the union.

Liberal labor bosses will get sweeping new powers, including stripping the right to a secret ballot from workers. Radical leftwing groups like ACORN and Planned Parenthood will get more of your tax dollars to promote left-wing candidates and causes. And all the while, "Big Media" will hail the "new Great Society" as "Joe the Plumber" is taxed to "spread the wealth" for socialized health care and "tax cuts" to those who don't pay income taxes.

But before any of this can become a reality, the Left must seize power at the ballot box. ACORN has been doing its part -- working overtime to register new voters -- real and imagined, including Mickey Mouse and a dead goldfish. It's efforts have seriously gummed up the process and are creating chaos for elections officials and poll workers in critical states. (This week, all nine Republican senators on the Judiciary Committee have signed a letter demanding an investigation into ACORN's activities. Why aren't any Democrats concerned?)

In recent weeks we have received many messages from McCain/Palin supporters telling us that their

yard signs have been torn down and ripped up. I have seen it in my own neighborhood in the Washington, D.C. suburbs. Today, there is a news report that the home of Minnesota Senator Norm Coleman was vandalized. His garage was spray painted with this ominous warning: "You are a criminal. Resign or else."

Yesterday five "Code Pink" protestors interrupted a speech by Karl Rove and tried to handcuff him in a citizen's arrest for "treason." Did anyone try to arrest Harry Reid for saying the war in Iraq was "lost?" Did anyone try to arrest John Murtha for calling our Marines "cold-blooded killers?"

Now one Washington, D.C. news outlet is reporting that police departments coast-to-coast are "preparing for possible civil unrest and riots" on election day. According to *The Hill*, "Some worry that if Barack Obama loses and there is suspicion of foul play in the election, violence could ensue. Others based the need for enhanced patrols on past riots and also on Internet rumors."

This is America, not some banana republic. We have been holding peaceful elections and respectful transitions of power for over 200 years. Yet, why are police suddenly worried about riots on election day? Who will be rioting? The angry Left. The same folks who stormed the streets during the Republican National Convention; who turn out to shout obscenities at our soldiers when they are deployed overseas; who regularly shout down conservative speakers on college campuses and who protest capitalism during major economic summits.

James Carville has already warned us that "it would be very, very, very dramatic out there if Obama loses." Carville said, "A lot of Democrats would have a great deal of angst and anger." Is that a threat?

Friends, I almost didn't write this article today. I worry that it might demoralize and frighten some of you. But we cannot live in a spirit of fear. Men and women of faith should not try to intimidate or shout down our opponents as the Left does. We should calmly, patiently, and respectfully talk to them. We should not try to handcuff anyone. We should pray for them. We shouldn't vandalize property. We should vote!

This is our country, too. We must not be intimidated. We have every right to be involved in the public process and to have our voices heard and respected. 📖

From Cogitations, the Newsletter of Dr Warren Vanhetloo

Intelligent Design (ID) is a more-than-decade-old movement that affirms that certain aspects of the physical universe *cannot* be explained in terms of mere mindless, directionless, accidental development— Darwinism —and these aspects therefore demand the work of an intelligent designer. These include irreducible complexity, the remarkable series of precisely convergent matters that make earth habitable, the origin of information in DNA, and the origin of life itself. It is also important to note the scientific failure of Darwinism. Paleontology-- fossils, --allegedly one its strongest “pillars,” provides none of the support claimed and much to the contrary, nor does embryology. Nor does genetics, the most recent focus of the search for hoped-for confirmatory evidence.

With such a crushing vacuum of supporting evidence, evolution nevertheless is the dominant philosophy of the educational and scientific ruling elite-- those in government-funded university professorships and institution directorships. The vested interest of these individuals in maintaining their status and salaries has often led them to tyrannical opposition, including suppression, intimidation, discrimination, slander, and threats against those who dare to have the audacity to even suggest that Darwinism may be flawed. The most innocuous hints that

Darwinism could and should be tested and challenged (rather than being merely dogmatically accepted on the basis of authoritarian decrees of the *intelligentsia*) have resulted in professors being fired, teachers being reprimanded, editors being dismissed, and school boards threatened with lawsuits.

Rather than refute ID (and creationists) with facts, evidence, and proof, the standard response by the Darwinian “priesthood” to such challenges is ridicule and suppression by force. It would seem, would it not, that if the Darwinists really have the facts on their side, they would welcome any opportunity to present the facts for all to see and evaluate for themselves, and thereby discredit the critics of Darwinism? But the Darwinists, judging from their actions, wish their view imposed on others by force, rather than that their minds be won over by evidence and argument. Curious, indeed.

Logic further compels the conclusion that if an intelligence created DNA, or designed the flagellum of micro-organisms, or placed earth in its remarkably ideal position to support life and facilitate scientific investigation of the universe, then that intelligence must be exceedingly intelligent indeed, and unprecedentedly powerful, and there is no English word to describe such an intelligence except “God.” No, God is a *necessary* deduction if ID’s claims are true. And ID advocates should not pretend otherwise. 📖

The once-great Democratic Party

By Mark Alexander

Thomas Jefferson wrote, “The government is best which governs least,” and that sentiment was thematic in all of his writing about the role of government. So what happened to the Party of Jefferson, the once-great Democratic Party, the champion of limited government?

Jefferson, who authored our Declaration of Independence, led the Anti-Federalist movement against the ratification of the Constitution, because he feared that those elected to lead our nation would forgo their higher calling to “support

and defend the Constitution,” and become pawns for special interests, using those constituencies to perpetuate their office and further centralize government power.

Nowhere was he more concerned about this degradation of public integrity than in regard to the judiciary. Jefferson feared it would become the “despotic branch,” undermining and altering the proposed constitution by judicial diktat rather than its prescribed method.

Jefferson’s opponent, James Madison, arguing for ratification of our Constitution, which he authored, believed that individual and states’ rights would endure: “Ambitious encroachments of the federal government, on the authority of the State governments... would be signals of general alarm... But what degree of madness could ever drive the federal government to such an extremity.” (*Federalist No. 46*)

By 1792, however, Madison himself had joined his fellow Virginian, Jefferson, in opposition to the Federalist Party.

Jefferson’s intellect and his insights into the nature of man were astounding, so much so that 170 years later another famous Democrat, John F. Kennedy, welcomed the 49 Nobel Prize recipients to the White House saying, “I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent and of human knowledge that has ever been gathered together at the White House—with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone.”

Jefferson’s concerns about the degraded integrity of public men have never been clearer than in the current presidential cycle. At no point in history has the differential in “Presidential Character” between the two leading candidates been more clear.

But this election is much more than a referendum on the two candidates, John Sidney McCain and Barack Hussein Obama; it is a referendum on the ability of a majority of Americans voters to discern between one candidate who possesses the presidential character and integrity of a statesman, and one who does not.

In fact, Obama could not even qualify for a basic security clearance if he was applying for a

government job because of his close association with unrepentant terrorists William Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn. These “useful idiots,” apologists for socialist political and economic agendas, used their radical celebrity to launch Barack Obama’s political career and are his mentors to this day.

No issue is more pressing in this election cycle than the one that concerned Jefferson most—that of the “Despotic Branch.”

Consider this: Five Supreme Court justices will be over 70 years of age in the first year of the next presidential term. Two of them, the most liberal, will be 76 and 89. The next president will thus determine whether the Supreme Court will abide by leftist ideology, or by their oath to support and defend our Constitution. It’s no exaggeration to say that the future of our nation hangs in the balance.

If we are not a nation governed by a firm Constitution of laws, but a “Living Constitution,” which, as Jefferson noted, would be a “mere thing of wax in the hands of the judiciary which they may twist and shape into any form they please,” then we are a nation of men.

Conservatives and liberals can argue various policy points *ad nauseum*, but the real question is this: Are we a nation of laws or a nation of men? The terminus of nations that are governed by men rather than laws has, for the entirety of recorded history, been tyranny. In the last century alone, the plight of hundreds of millions under dictators such as Lenin, Stalin, Mussolini, Hitler, Mao, Pol Pot, Idi Amin, Saddam and, who would be next...

Jefferson understood this, as once did his Democratic Party.

The Patriot’s mission is to advocate for individual liberty and responsibility, the restoration of constitutional limits on government and the judiciary, and the promotion of free enterprise, national defense and traditional American values.

These principles used to be the centerpiece of the Democratic Party; they are now its antithesis.

A colleague recently sent me a parody on why we should elect Democrats: “I think the government will do a better job of spending my money than I

could. When we pull out of Afghanistan and Iraq, I know the Islamic terrorists will stop trying to kill us. I believe people who can't tell us if it will rain in two or three days can now tell us the polar ice caps will disappear in a century if we don't comply with Orwellian government economic oversight. English has no place being the official language in America. I'd rather pay \$4 for a gallon of gas than allow drilling for oil off the coasts of America or in that vast Alaskan wasteland, ANWR. 'Big Oil's' five-percent profit on a gallon of gas is obscene, but the government tax of 18 to 35 percent on the same gallon of gas is just fine."

The parody continues: "I believe businesses in America should not be allowed to make profit—it should be confiscated by the government so politicians and bureaucrats can redistribute that profit as they see fit. I believe guns cause crimes and murder, not the sociopaths using them, and, thus, should be confiscated. Besides, when someone threatens my family, I know the government can respond faster with a call to 911 than I can with a gun in my hand. It's a right to kill millions of babies while objecting to the death penalty for murderers. I believe five elitist liberal judges should rewrite the Constitution by diktat to suit Leftist agendas that could never pass proper amendment."

This caricature of the Democratic Party would be humorous if it did not, in fact, reflect its actual platform.

In his keynote speech at the Democratic National Convention this year, Virginia Senate candidate Mark Warner described the Republican Party: "It is made up of the Christian Coalition... It is made up of the right-to-lifers... It's made up of the NRA... It is made up of the home schoolers... It's made up of a whole coalition of people that have all sorts of differing views that I think most of us in this room would find threatening to what it means to be an American."

A few decades ago, that list of folks would have been welcome in the Democratic Party, not "threatening to what it means to be an American."

But today, that Party is fundamentally flawed in its platform, and it co-opts voter constituencies who, though they may be good people in general,

are fundamentally disabled in their understanding of our nation's founding principles and their civic roles and responsibilities.

The real question is not so much what has happened to the Party of Jefferson, but what has happened to "the people" who now call themselves Democrats?

Obama is not the problem, just its manifestation. The problem is that we are a nation with a collapsing foundation of broken families, where the faith of our founders has been replaced with the real "opiate of the masses," the mass media, and where ignorance has been institutionalized through our "public education apparatchiks."

Perhaps we are a nation where a majority of the electorate now identifies with the dysfunctional pathology of Obama than with the individual character and institutional principles that are the foundation of our Democratic Republic.

The good news is that in my home, and tens of millions like it, we still model for our children the principle of "third person" living: God first, others (including family, neighbors and country) second, and self third. It is our highest ambition for our children that they will invest their lives in service to others, that they will honor the blood and sacrifice of generations of Patriots before them and be steadfast in their determination to defend our Constitution and the liberties it embodies in order to extend freedom to the next generation.

We have not surrendered this political battle, any more than we have surrendered the cultural war in which we are now engaged.

Thomas Jefferson wrote, for posterity, "Honor, justice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them if we basely entail hereditary bondage on them."

Today, tragically, his once-noble Democratic Party has embraced bondage and servitude. 