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*"Have I not **commanded** you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your **God** will be **with you** wherever you go."*
Joshua 1:9

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

We love to read about God's miracles in the Bible, like how He *dramatically* saved Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego from the fiery furnace without a hair being burned. *But is God still doing miracles today?* One of the joys of producing *Issues in Education* is we get to speak with people who have experienced a miracle. **Have you ever spoken with someone who was run over by a speeding freight train?** We did.

Tragedy to Triumph #1200

Who could survive being run over by *a speeding freight train* going 55 mph? Only someone God miraculously saved! Suicide is a leading cause of death among young people and **Kristen Anderson** attempted suicide at age 17. Kristen Anderson, the author of *Life In Spite of Me – Extraordinary Hope After a Fatal Choice*, looked at the speeding train as it thundered down the tracks toward her, then incredibly *she lay face-down on the tracks* right in front of it. She clenched her fists, braced herself for the oncoming train and closed her eyes thinking the next time she would open her eyes would be in heaven but was amazed that she was still conscious as the train roared over her. The momentum of 33 train cars created a vacuum that pulled her up into the train. She put it this way:

My head and body lay between the tracks, my legs hung over the rail. I could feel the cold metal against my thighs, the ground shook so much that my whole body vibrated. The train was upon me, over me. Pain overwhelmed me. *The train roared.* The momentum of the cars pulled at me, as if the train were trying to suck me into itself. The wind tugged harder, wrenching at my jacket and yanking my hair upward. My body rose, lifting up. THEN, something even more powerful than the wind and the momentum of the train, another **Force** pushed me to the ground. The **Force** pushing me down hurt more than anything else. It's going to be over now. The pain is going to end. I'll be in heaven soon. **Then disbelief filled me.** I was looking at *my legs...lying about ten feet away.* This is a *horrible nightmare.* Blood. (She lost 8 pints of blood! Death usually comes after losing 5 pints.) The train cut off my legs. I cried, "Mom, MOM! M-O-O-M-M!"

[As she looked back she realized the **Force** was **God** saving her life because He had great plans for her.]

Kristen later said, "I would rather have lost my legs and find life and the *Life Giver*, than go through life whole and go to *hell*." Yes, she would have gone to hell without the Savior. But with Jesus Christ, Kristen went from the deepest despair to emerge victorious with a purpose and inspirational outreach ministry. Kristen said, "My heart smiled. *Maybe I can help other people.*"

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to **prosper** you and not harm you, plans to give you a **hope and a future.**" Jer 29:11* So even if you don't have any plans for your own life, you can KNOW that God has plans for you, and HOPE for you, that you have no *idea about*. But He knows. Kristen said, "When you feel God's intimate love for you **personally**, it changes you. It's life *transforming!* I walked straight out of the deepest depression and into a NEW LIFE – in the ever loving arms of Jesus."

Is Islam a Peaceful Religion? parts 1 & 2 #1198-1199

Many Americans naively assume all religions are basically the same and that Islam is a *peaceful* religion. That's what people believed who lived in Lebanon in 1975 before the Muslim take over. Then it became a *living hell* for Christians. **Brigitte Gabriel**, author of *Because They Hate – A Survivor of Islamic Terror Warns America*, says, "Lebanon was much like America – prosperous, open to all, a democratic nation. But their multiculturalism led to their downfall. Brigitte tells how horrible it was to live in a shelter for 7 years. **SEVEN YEARS** drinking polluted water and *eating grass* to stay alive! She had buried most of her friends. What had they done to deserve this, to be targeted by Jihad? Their only crime was that they were Christians. She learned the real meaning of *infidel*.

Americans have lots to learn about Islam. American universities pride themselves in providing Muslim students with prayer rooms and ceremonial footbaths, but denigrate Christianity and deny Christians any rights at all. They are unaware of what Sharia Law is and what it does to a nation. **Brigitte Gabriel**, author of *Because They*

Hate, speaks at universities about the threat Islam is to all our freedoms. Americans need to understand the danger and strategy of Islam **to this nation** and how our educational systems are playing right into their hands.

No not all Muslims are terrorists, any more than all Germans were Nazis. Not all Japanese were kamikazes! But a small minority controls the majority. Jihadists are every bit as dangerous as Nazis and Kamikazes. If just 1% of the jihadists living here become active in jihad, they could turn this nation into a **living hell**, a *nightmare* for Christians.

Mohammed was a taker of life, Jesus- the Giver of life. Mohammed was a man of war; Jesus is the Prince of Peace. Islam enslaves people; Jesus came to set the captives free. Allah wants you to give your son to die in Jihad; God gave His Son so you don't have to, but can have eternal life!

In this spiritual war, there are societal consequences for the religion this nation chooses and honors.

Do you have any idea of God's capabilities? Astronomers have guessed there are 10 thousand billion trillion stars in the universe. (Almost as much as our national debt!) God created the vastness and precision of space to show his limitless resources and infinite creativity. Want *proof* for the Creator? **Open your eyes!** Look around! God created the wonders of space and the miracle of the human body, a universe in itself, *to show His unfathomable capabilities.*

God is the Designer, Architect and Creator of **all that exists**, and He created it all from **NOTHING**. He didn't need *evolution* or any man-made idea. God created the blazing hot sun so bright we can't even look at it, yet HE created it, and the trillions of vastly bigger ones, by merely flicking them into space with **His Fingers**. We need to get the right perspective of WHO HE IS! God knows everything in earth and in heaven. **He works on a thousand levels all at the same time.** He hears your prayers. He knows every thought of every person who has ever lived. He can stop time and work in between time. He has an infinite amount of time to answer ALL the prayers of everyone in the world, all praying at the same time. He isn't you; He is God, who created you. We need a *new*, accurate vision of God, the **REAL GOD**. Not a Santa Claus. If you imagine a God apart from the God of the Bible, you have a *god of your own imagination*, an imaginary god, who is probably a lot like you -*very limited*. You have vastly underestimated the GREATNESS and grandeur of God. With God, NOTHING is impossible.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isa 55:8-9

Keys to a Stable Life #1201

Learning about the wonders of God's creation allows us to trust Him and give our lives balance. Without balance, joy is gone and stress and disease can result. Physician-physicist, **Richard Swenson**, author of *In Search of Balance- Keys to A Stable Life*, gives practical advice to restore balance and replace exhaustion with energy. Balance means living with an *eternal perspective* and setting aside things that distract us from our true purpose. **Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.** God stabilizes the ocean levels and keeps the earth at exactly the right distance from the blazing hot sun. **Rain** is a gift from God giving life to plants and food for animals. The universe is meticulously crafted and precisely, fine-tuned for our existence.

Develop a concept of God **from scripture**: God is patient and available to you. He has chosen to spend time with you and give you his attention. God will work all things out for your good. *God loves you just as you are*. You don't have to try to earn His love. God has included you in His family. You belong to Him. He will protect you.

Patriot Christian Clubs #1194

Because of the rampant propagation of socialism and disregard for the Constitution, **Bob Serrao** realized a crucial need for citizens to understand their Constitution. So he re-wrote it in today's English. For the first time, the 112th Congress opened with the reading of the Constitution. Clearly it said nothing about a so-called *separation of church and state*. Does that mean we've been **lied** to? That prayer, Bible reading, the Ten Commandments **ARE** *Constitutional* to be in the schools? Has this nation been turned into a pagan culture **based on a lie**? This nation was founded on a *bond* between church and state. *Issues in Education* received the Robert Dreyfus *Courageous Christian Leadership* award for 2010 by **E. Ray Moore**, of *Frontline Ministries*, because of a consistent, Biblical stand for Christians to get a Christian education.

A God Given Government #1195

In our nation's haste to remove Christianity from our schools, we may have removed the basis for our freedoms and prosperity. Why do almost half of young Americans favor socialism? 1 in 6 Americans live in poverty. What's the connection between a poor education and poverty? On a recent test, American students scored 25th out of 34 countries. 62% of 12th graders can't read proficiently. **Jerome Corsi**, author of *America For Sale*, says, "Despite *billions* spent on public education, students are not being prepared to compete worldwide because liberal activism has replaced academics."

Obama Declares Defense of Marriage Act Unconstitutional!

In a stunning move that must have the Supreme Court wondering whether it still has *any role* in government, President Obama declared the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) unconstitutional and instructed the Justice Department to stop defending it in court. Attorney General Eric Holder announced, "The president and I have concluded that Section 3 of DOMA is not constitutional," and that "sexual orientation is an immutable characteristic." Ironically Obamacare is UN-Constitutional, while DOMA is Constitutional, and Obama is clearly violating his oath to uphold the Constitution. This is an *impeachable* offence – a *violation* of his oath of office.

Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask parts 1 & 2 #1196-1197

Are there questions that you hate to be asked? Ironically, they're the ones that most need to be answered. How do you know that an invisible God exists at all? How can you believe a Bible that's filled with contradictions? Inadequately prepared students are easily persuaded to give up their Christian beliefs in secular schools. **Mark Mittleberg**, author of *Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask*, gives a fascinating example of being invited to a skeptics meeting and having the right answers that enabled *skeptics to become believers*. How do you answer questions like, "Apart from God, is there such a thing as *absolute evil*?" And, "How can a loving, all powerful, God allow evil and suffering?" Ironically, people blame God for suffering and evil when the true culprit is **SIN**, this fallen age, and Satan. Biblical contradictions include differing accounts of *how many angels* were at the empty tomb and how Judas died. **Mark Mittleberg**, author of *Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask*, says, "How can all religions be the same when Buddha didn't believe in God and Jesus claimed to be God." Science teachers ask how anyone can believe *religion* in this scientific age. What about those who have never heard the gospel, will *they go to hell*?

Conquest of Our Nation #1190

What's happening to our schools? The most widely used history textbook in U.S. public schools was recently discovered to have been written by an American communist leader, reports **Phyllis Schlafly**, President of *Eagle Forum*. The author, Howard Zinn, admits he wrote it from a Marxist view of American history to persuade youth of the benefits of communism. But the problem is bigger than simply history textbooks written by communists and liberal professors. It's about a quiet Marxist revolution to take over America. How is the federal government taking control over local schools?

Dying To Live #1191

What did Jesus mean when he said, "We must *die to live*?" What does *self-sacrifice mean to this self-indulgent generation*? Evangelist **Clayton King**, author of *Dying to Live - Abandoning Yourself to God's Bold Paradox*, says dying to self is not an end but a beginning. Being a follower of Jesus is the highest calling known to mankind but requires self-discipline and self-sacrifice. Soldiers see their training as no sacrifice because they are doing it for a greater purpose. As Christians, our sacrifices and sufferings are nothing compared to the eternal treasure we are achieving.

A mother who sacrifices her career to educate her children is giving her *working* life for her child. When her child sees her sacrifice, they see how important a Godly education is, and it speaks volumes to them and others of the value of *Christian discipleship*. Putting a child in a public school says a *worldly education* is more valuable than a Godly education; *that there really is something valuable for them in learning the ways of the world*; learning to believe evolution, reading profane literature and being disciples of humanism and socialism. Handing your child over to the government is **discipleship**, and it is trusting *government workers* with the soul of your child. *It's like handing a stranger your credit card and trusting them not to misuse it.*

Learning the Ways of the World #1192

Why don't schools teach values and morals? Education today is totally based on man's worldly ways without God's wisdom. Schools teach situation ethics that break down the morals of students. Includes cuts from college president Brent Garrison on humanism, and Pastor Chuck Smith. Cuts from a professor asking students what they

would do if they were marooned without food or water. Could cannibalism be justified? 19-year-old high school graduate **Ted Shoebat** says his education was based on situation ethics, feminism, socialism and immorality.

The Trying of Her Faith #1193

The percentage of Christians in this current generation is expected to decline to only 4%. **Abby Nye**, a courageous Christian, a university student, and author of *Fish out of Water-Surviving & Thriving as a Christian on a Secular Campus*, tells how professors intimidate and convert Christians into humanism. As an example, Abby was told by her literature professor that the Bible is a book of myths and not a credible source in academia. Yet she was required to buy a Koran for her required class on Islam and not allow it to ever touch the floor. How can the Church in America hope to survive if 90% of Christian youth leave the faith?

From Tyranny to Freedom #1188

Most young people take their freedoms for granted. **Dr John Vandenberg**, author of *From Tyranny to Freedom*, vividly describes what it was like to live in Holland during the Nazi occupation. He tells of the terror of the SS troops knocking on the door in the middle of the night. Starvation became commonplace. Without heat, many people froze in their homes. Freedom is a gift from God. This is a story of suffering and hope. John tearfully describes going from *hell to heaven*, the day when the Allied Forces gave the Dutch their freedom. He came to America to meet his liberators and live the American dream. Let's not let it die.

Inspire Your Child to Learn #1189

How can parents inspire their child to have a *passion* for learning? How can you develop creativity and character in your child? How can you teach your child to think for themselves and not simply follow the crowd? **Kim d'Escoto**, as a public school teacher thought education should be left to the professional educators but now compares the benefits of home education to public school. **David and Kim d'Escoto**, authors of *The Little Book of Big Reasons to Home School*, say home schooling allows students to learn based on your child's specific interests while avoiding peer pressure and drugs. Jesus, the *Word who is God* (Jn 1:1), was home schooled but before that He created universes. Imagine Jesus as a carpenter building things out of wood, yet He is the incarnate **God** who created the entire universe in heaven and on earth. (Col 1:16) This is the quintessence of humility!

THE CONTINUING COLLAPSE JANUARY/FEBRUARY, by Bruce Shortt, author of *The Harsh True About Public Schools*.

No child, especially a *Christian child*, should be institutionalized in that **seething cauldron of spiritual, moral and intellectual pathology** known as *public schools*. Thousands of Wisconsin's schoolteachers are in violation of their contracts and *are lying* about being sick to fraudulently collect sick pay. As if this weren't enough, they are *abusing in children*, whose schools they have shut down, to serve as **props** for their **protests**. The average Wisconsin teacher is paid \$90,000 in salary and benefits yet protest putting a small percentage of their own money into their own retirement plan, and would rather impose further financial burdens on taxpayers. With a cost of \$11k per student you would think they would turn out well-educated students. But two-thirds of 8th graders cannot read at grade level, and nearly **25% of these expensively institutionalized 8th graders can not read this sentence.**

AND JUST WHAT ARE CHRISTIANS DOING? About 80% of Christian children are turned over to the priests of Ba'al in the synagogues of Satan called public schools. Of course, the last refuge of compromised Christians is, "*But our schools are different.*" But nothing about your schools are different if you are a Christian. Education is never *neutral*. All education is *religious*, in that it teaches a worldview, either Christian or *pagan*. So, it's time that Christians quit sinning *against their children* by institutionalizing them in the parochial schools of liberalism. It's time to stop the **looting of nearly \$1 trillion dollars** a year from taxpayers to give to special interest groups that constitute the education establishment. *Financial decline* may be the saving grace to end the most anti-Christian, soul-destroying factories in our culture – the so-called public schools. The end of this monolithic/socialistic monopoly may give **true educational reform a chance.**

HUMOR

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America. MARIA: Here it is. TEACHER: Correct. Now class, who discovered America? CLASS: Maria. TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested? HAROLD: A teacher! TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor? JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables. TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his? CLYDE: No, sir. It's the same dog.

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