

A Child's Heritage

April 10, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush

President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC

Dear Mr. President,

Throughout history there are what are known as "defining moments." These are events that can mold and shape the destiny of a people. In the United States there have been many such times. Whether it was the framing of the Constitution, the Emancipation Proclamation, or the Supreme Court decision to allow abortion, our nation has been profoundly effected by its moral pronouncements.

Perhaps the greatest single decision effecting America and its culture today was rendered by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1962. In this decision, these great moral leaders determined that the Union Free School District in Hyde Park, New York had violated the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution because it facilitated the following prayer at the beginning of each school day. "Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers and our Country." (*Engel v. Vitale*, 370 U.S. 421).

In a very real sense these unelected justices reversed nearly two centuries of legislative and judicial pronouncements, not to mention several longstanding traditions that had played a significant role in American life since the founding of our nation. So appalling was the court's ruling that Representative Frank Becker of North Carolina called it "the most tragic decision in the history of the United States." Senator Sam Ervin likened it to the "segregation of God" from society.

Since *Engle v Vitale*, numerous rulings by our nation's highest court have affirmed that any expression of faith by children attending public schools now poses a imminent threat to our liberties and as such is a violation of our most sacred legal document, the Constitution. For example, in 1963 the High Court prohibited the reciting of the "Lord's Prayer" or the reading of Bible passages in public schools. In 1980 it banned the posting of the Ten Commandments. In 1985 it forbade "daily moments of silence" if during these moments students were invited to pray. Furthermore, in yet another attempt to protect our children from the potential dangers of faith, the High Court saw fit to outlaw prayers led by members of the clergy at public school graduation ceremonies. This particular piece of judicial wisdom was handed down in 1992.

Perhaps the greatest indignity is that today the overwhelming majority of high school students are absolutely convinced that the architects of our nation would have opposed the idea of spiritual values being taught in public schools, let alone the reading of the scriptures. Furthermore, if a teacher attempted to present a lesson showcasing how the framers of the Constitution felt about Christianity and the Bible, his or her career would be on a "fast track" to an unemployment line.

Mr. President, we at Blow the Trumpet want to know WHAT HAPPENED? Why have our leaders allowed our children to be abandoned and stripped of the great moral voices of the founding fathers? Anyone with an ounce of intellectual honesty knows that the heroes who built this nation never intended it to be this way. These were men of faith who saw Christianity and the Bible as absolutely essential to the survival of the republic. Furthermore, they never would have dreamed that their words would be invoked in defense of expelling the Creator of heaven and earth from our children's classrooms.

Today however, that is exactly what has happened. What was once a nation that cherished its faith has now become one that feels obligated to protect others from it. In the words of Justice John Paul Stevens: "School sponsorship of a religious message is impermissible because it sends the ancillary message to members of the audience who are non adherents that they are outsiders, not full members of the political community, and an accompanying message to adherents that they are insiders, favored members of the political community,"

Justice Stevens' words would be funny if they weren't so reckless. The irony here is that every single day in public schools across the country religious children are being sent that very message. Every day they are taught moral relativism in direct contradiction to their faith. Every day they are taught to believe they are not created in the very image of God Himself, but rather are the result of chance mutations over tens of millions of years. In a thousand ways young Christian children are given the message that they are outsiders and not full members of the political community. All this in the name of sensitivity. And where has it gotten us? Today, we have become a society hell bent on desecrating everything our founding fathers viewed as sacred. Our contemporary opinions regarding sex, marriage, family, honesty, integrity, culture and faith would have astonished these great men.

The apostle Paul once revealed that if God's people remove Him from their lives and try to navigate their own moral course, they will wind up making judgements that can only be described as depraved (Ro. 1:28-32). Today, Paul's words couldn't ring more true. While our children are being protected from God and His word, they are being taught that every sexual perversion is the moral equivalent of traditional relationships. They are being taught that Christianity is not any better than witchcraft. They are being taught that defiance to parents is a right that should be exercised. And what have we gained from this wisdom?

Today our children can tell you the words to a hundred vulgar song lyrics, but they can't recite the Ten Commandments. And why should they? Our leaders have sent the signal and America's kids have marched in lockstep in agreement. After all if God isn't good enough for our schools why should He be good enough for anything?

Mr. President, the great Moral Voice that inhabits eternity wants you to know that if this nation wants to issue a restraining order against Him and prohibit His virtue from

“infecting” their children, He will accommodate them. However, that great Moral Being also wants you to know that when He leaves, His departure will be total and complete, and the consequences will be catastrophic. First, our nation will lose its freedom, then it will lose its children, and finally it will lose its hope. Understand this, the price of returning America to prominence will be great. However, the price for continuing on the current path will be infinite.

Respectfully,

Blow the Trumpet