



## LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Ten Commandments at the Austin State Capitol<sup>1</sup>

Dear Friends and Fellow Laborers,

The following is from the First Amendment in the Bill of Rights:

***Congress shall make no law respecting  
an establishment of religion,  
or prohibiting the free exercise thereof . . .***

The purpose of what is known as the *Establishment Clause* was to prevent government from establishing a state religion and to prevent the government from interfering with a citizen's religious beliefs. Nowhere does it say that religion must be taken out of government.

The purpose of the clause was not to take religion out of government, but to keep government out of religion.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:TenCommandmentsAustinStateCapitol.jpg#mediaviewer/File:TenCommandmentsAustinStateCapitol.jpg>

The Founding Fathers of the United States were men who understood that freedom of religion was of paramount importance to a free society. These men had come from Britain and Europe, where religious wars ravaged their home countries. My own ancestors fled Ireland to find religious freedom in America.

Bloody persecutions were waged in England and Ireland between Catholics and Protestants, and then the Puritans of Oliver Cromwell against both the Catholics and Protestants. England had a state religion. Until Henry VIII, it was Catholicism. Then Henry VIII broke from the Catholic Church and created the Church of England with himself as head of the church. He confiscated all Catholic Church lands in his realm. Since the Catholic Church in England and Ireland was very wealthy, this engendered hatred for King Henry and his regime. To this day, Ireland is still divided between a Protestant north (which is still a part of the United Kingdom) and a Catholic south (which forms the sovereign nation of Ireland).

When Henry's Catholic daughter<sup>2</sup> came to the throne as Mary I in 1553, she began a mission of persecutions against the Protestants. Her ruthlessness earned her the epithet of "Bloody Mary."

In mainland Europe, there was war between Catholic and Protestant nations. This state sponsored religious warfare lasted for thirty years (1618–1648), and was one of the most destructive wars in European history. Millions died. The ravages of this carnage had to weigh heavily on the hearts and minds of those who crafted the foundations of a new and free nation.

The founders wanted to ensure that the people of this new country would not suffer the same depredations because of government-sponsored and -controlled religion. That is why they added the Establishment Clause into the Bill of Rights.



Sculpture in the U.S. House of Representatives<sup>3</sup>.

We are engaged in a war on God in the United States of America. God-hating men and women want God out of all aspects of society. They want God out of our families, towns, schools, public parks and monuments, military, graveyards, courts, and government. They want God out of every part of the fabric of our society.

Somehow these God haters have twisted the Establishment Clause into the concept of "Separation of Church and State," which means to them that the government, or government-funded facilities, can have no Christian symbols or practices allowed. This means they now use this clause to take down the Ten Commandments from courthouses and crosses from public schools. Carried to extremes, this means they will

<sup>2</sup> She was the daughter of Henry's first wife, Catherine of Aragon, a devout Catholic.

<sup>3</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moses#mediaviewer/File:Moses\\_bas-relief\\_in\\_the\\_U.S.\\_House\\_of\\_Representatives\\_chamber.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moses#mediaviewer/File:Moses_bas-relief_in_the_U.S._House_of_Representatives_chamber.jpg). Sculpture by Jean de Marco; photo by the Architect of the Capitol

have to tear up all the crosses at Arlington National Cemetery and chip the Ten Commandments symbol from doors inside the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., remove the frieze on the wall above the United States' Supreme Court Bench, and get rid of Moses with the Ten Commandments on display in the rotunda of the Library of Congress, etc.

But as all predators do, they will not go for the big guys yet. Instead they will attack the small and weak first to set legal precedent. This means attacking prayers in public schools and plaques with crosses honoring God on the sides of school buildings, such as in Midlothian, Texas<sup>4</sup>.

The Atheist group known as the *Freedom From Religion Foundation* claimed that plaques on the school buildings violated the Constitution. The plaques had two Christian crosses on them and the inscription:

*“Dedicated in the Year Of Our Lord 1997 To The Education of God’s Children And To Their Faithful Teachers In The Name Of The Holy Christian Church – Soli Deo Gloria.”*

The atheist organization complained about the Christian crosses and the references to God in the inscription, but said nothing about the Latin words, ‘Soli Deo Gloria.’ Perhaps their education level was not high enough to translate the Latin, which in English means, “*Glory to God.*”

Has the Constitution really been violated by these school plaques? Of course not. Nowhere has the government of the United States issued a law or regulation that says the Midlothian School District cannot put a plaque honoring God onto their school building. If the people of Midlothian, Texas, truly have freedom of religion, then they have every right to honor God any way they see fit, including honoring Him on their school buildings.

Were there any complaints from students or parents? No.

You see how ridiculous this is? Because the intent and meaning of the Establishment Clause in the Bill of Rights has been twisted and re-interpreted by God haters, God’s presence in the schools responsible for teaching our children the morals and values of a Christian nation is being attacked and quickly eroded away.

These attacks are replicated all over the United States. The *Freedom from Religion Foundation* is rabidly aggressive and goes after anyone they think can be bullied and intimidated into submission.

*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: (1 Peter 5:8)*

This evil must be fought. The Bible says that we are to resist the Lion. Some do. Superintendent Jerome Stewart did not. He caved in and boarded up the plaques; but citizens of Midlothian are fighting back and seek to restore the plaques.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.truthrevolt.org/news/tx-school-district-removes-plaques-honoring-god>

Americans who believe in God must stand up and fight back. Whether it is a group of cheerleaders who want to pray before they cheer at a football game<sup>5</sup> or a town council that wants to open with prayer to God<sup>6</sup>, all must fight this growing cancer.

Without God our nation is doomed. We all know that the U.S. (part of modern-day Israel) is to be punished for her sins. But does that mean that we are to just roll over, give up, and let the inevitable take its course? God does not want us to be fatalists, standing by while our nation burns. That is not what the Bible shows us.

When all of Israel was following Baal, a young Manassite named Gideon chose to follow God.

*And it came to pass the same night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy father's young bullock, even the second bullock of seven years old, and throw down the altar of Baal that thy father hath, and cut down the grove that is by it: And build an altar unto the LORD thy God upon the top of this rock, in the ordered place, and take the second bullock, and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the grove which thou shalt cut down. Then Gideon took ten men of his servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him: and so it was, because he feared his father's household, and the men of the city, that he could not do it by day, that he did it by night. And when the men of the city arose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was cast down, and the grove was cut down that was by it, and the second bullock was offered upon the altar (to God) that was built. (Judges 6:25-28)*

Because of Gideon's bravery and obedience, Israel was saved from the Midianites and Amalekites. God listens to the prayers of those willing to stand for Him. It was true in the days of Gideon and it is true today. There is no reason we should not be praying for those who stand up for God—whether it is a group of cheerleaders who want to honor Him in prayer or a city in West Texas that wants to honor God with plaques at their school. If they are willing to stand up for God, we should be willing to stand up for them at the Judgment Seat of Heaven.

The Bible tells us that God hears and acts on the prayers of His Saints.

*The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (James 5:16)*

As time grows ever closer to the end, it is important that we are a praying church. Our prayers should not stop at only ourselves, families, and fellow church members, but should extend to all those who are willing to stand up for God in all our communities. We should remember those who are fighting to pray at football games, keep plaques that honor God, or want to open their city council meeting by invoking the help of our God.

These fellow Americans are honoring God in the best way they understand. We should be standing with them.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nPjZXb-DCo>

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/05/05/supreme-court-prayer\\_n\\_5266930.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/05/05/supreme-court-prayer_n_5266930.html)

As of the writing of this letter, I am out of the hospital and recuperating at home. I had a bout with congestive heart failure, but now am back to work, though only light work. Please pray for me, that I change my diet, exercise more, and learn to better manage stress (a big problem for me).

Please continue to pray for the Work of God we are doing here in Southeast Asia. I must make changes to my lifestyle or I will be headed back to the hospital. Maybe next time I will not come out. Please pray that God sends us more young people to train to be the foundation of the churches in Burma and in Thailand. One of the best teachers to the brethren can be the example of our converted young people.

And don't forget to pray for Gloria, my helpmeet in the Lord. She is taking care of her eighty-nine-year-old mother (who came for the Feast, fell, fractured her hip, and needed an operation, and cannot walk), as well as her 98-year-old aunt Gerda (who has been with us for two and a half years). Gloria, too, is juggling many plates, while still trying to keep up with all the Legacy responsibilities.

We know that many of you are also going through trials, and so we also pray for all of you!

Thank you for your prayers, e-mails, and words of encouragement.

Until next letter,

Serving Our Lord Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Leon Sexton', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

T. Leon Sexton

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