

Republicans christian conservatives are talking religion to obtain for society the very thing they themselves are unwilling to be or do: Moral, Compassionate, Just, Loving, Charitable, Principled, Helpful, Generous, Forgiving, every Christian grace or virtue for the attributes of satan. By the establishing of christian religion—it prohibits the free exercise of minority denominations and other religions. **To undue Protestantism is the Goal of Protestants—placing the state above the conscience and the church above the word of God. This is the Image to the beast. Your freedom of religion is soon if not now denied by the state and the church.**

<https://youtu.be/lSa3YIEhAsw?si=4nfGUrcVcUMdcxFq>

Yet this very class put forth the claim that the fast-spreading corruption is largely attributable to the desecration of the so-called “Christian sabbath,” and that the enforcement of Sunday observance would greatly improve the morals of society. This claim is especially urged in America, where the doctrine of the true Sabbath has been most widely preached. Here the temperance work, one of the most prominent and important of moral reforms, is often combined with the Sunday movement, and the advocates of the latter represent themselves as laboring to promote the highest interest of society; and those who refuse to unite with them are denounced as the enemies of temperance and reform. ***But the fact that a movement to establish error is connected with a work which is in itself good, is not an argument in favor of the error.*** We may disguise poison by mingling it with wholesome food, but we do not change its nature. On the contrary, it is rendered more dangerous, as it is more likely to be taken unawares. It is one of Satan's devices to combine with falsehood just enough truth to give it plausibility. ***The leaders of the Sunday movement may advocate reforms which the people need, principles which are in harmony with the Bible; yet while there is with these a requirement which is contrary to God's law, His servants cannot unite with them.*** Nothing can justify them in setting aside the commandments of God for the precepts of men. GC 587.1

Note: Nothing that will establish error—Temperance OR Abortion, Gay marriage, Immigration, Capitalism, anything connected to or results in religious laws such as a sunday law. Why? “. . . the cure must reach men individually, and must regenerate the heart.” DA 509.3

But today in the religious world there are multitudes who, as they believe, are working for the establishment of the kingdom of Christ as an earthly and temporal dominion. They desire to make our Lord the ruler of the kingdoms of this world, the ruler in its courts and camps, its legislative halls, its palaces and market places. **They expect Him to rule through legal enactments, enforced by human authority. Since Christ is not now here in person, they themselves will undertake**

to act in His stead, to execute the laws of His kingdom. The establishment of such a kingdom is what the Jews desired in the days of Christ. They would have received Jesus, had He been willing to establish a temporal dominion, to enforce what they regarded as the laws of God, and to make them the expositors of His will and the agents of His authority. But He said, “My kingdom is not of this world.” John 18:36. He would not accept the earthly throne. DA 509.2

The government under which Jesus lived was corrupt and oppressive; on every hand were crying abuses,—extortion, intolerance, and grinding cruelty. Yet the Saviour attempted no civil reforms. He attacked no national abuses, nor condemned the national enemies. He did not interfere with the authority or administration of those in power. He who was our example kept aloof from earthly governments. Not because He was indifferent to the woes of men, but because the remedy did not lie in merely human and external measures. To be efficient, the cure must reach men individually, and must regenerate the heart. DA 509.3

Not by the decisions of courts or councils or legislative assemblies, not by the patronage of worldly great men, is the kingdom of Christ established, but by the implanting of Christ's nature in humanity through the work of the Holy Spirit. “As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” John 1:12, 13. Here is the only power that can work the uplifting of mankind. And the human agency for the accomplishment of this work is the teaching and practicing of the word of God. DA 509.4

Note: The Principles of God’s government, the transcript of His character, the standard for His people must not be degraded by connection and used for political gain.

**The Protest denied the right of civil rulers to legislate in matters between the soul and God**, and declared with prophets and apostles, “We ought to obey God rather than men.” It rejected also the **arbitrary power of the church**, and set forth the unerring principle that all human teaching ***should be in subjection to the oracles of God***. The protesters had thrown off the yoke of man's supremacy, and had exalted Christ as supreme in the church, and his Word in the pulpit. **The power of conscience was set above the State, and the authority of the Holy Scriptures above the visible church**. The crown of Christ was uplifted above the pope's tiara and the emperor's diadem. The protesters had moreover affirmed their right to freely utter their convictions of truth. They would not only believe and obey, but

teach what the Word of God presents, and *they denied the right of priest or magistrate to interfere*. The Protest of Spires was a solemn witness against religious *intolerance*, and an assertion of the right of all men to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. {GC88 203.2}

"The principles contained in this celebrated Protest . . . constitute the *very essence of Protestantism*. Now this Protest opposes *two abuses* of man in *matters of faith*: the first is *the intrusion of the civil magistrate*, and the second the *arbitrary authority of the church*. Instead of these abuses, *Protestantism sets the power of conscience above the magistrate, and the authority of the word of God above the visible church*. In the *first* place, it rejects the *civil power in divine things*, and says with the prophets and apostles, 'We must obey God rather than man.' In presence of the crown of Charles the Fifth, it uplifts the crown of Jesus Christ. But it goes *farther*: it lays down the principle *that all human teaching should be subordinate to the oracles of God.*"—Ibid., b. 13, ch. 6. The protesters had moreover affirmed their right to utter freely their convictions of truth. They would not only believe and obey, but teach what the word of God presents, and *they denied the right of priest or magistrate to interfere*. The Protest of Spires was a solemn witness against religious intolerance, and an assertion of the right of all men to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. {GC 203.4}

The grand principle maintained by these Reformers—the same that had been held by the Waldenses, by Wycliffe, by John Huss, by Luther, Zwingli, and those who united with them—was the infallible authority of the Holy Scriptures as a rule of faith and practice. *They denied the right of popes, councils, Fathers, and kings, to control the conscience in matters of religion*. The Bible was their authority, and by its teaching they tested all doctrines and all claims. Faith in God and His word sustained these holy men as they yielded up their lives at the stake. "Be of good comfort," exclaimed Latimer to his fellow martyr as the flames were about to silence their voices, "we shall this day light such a candle, by God's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out."—Works of Hugh Latimer, vol. 1, p. xiii. {GC 249.1}

## ***When a Man Dies***

*By*

CARLYLE B. HAYNES

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## God Has Spoken

So God has spoken to man. He has spoken to man in His Son and in His Word. And the revelation of His truth for us is in the Bible, as it is nowhere else.

That being so, the question of the ultimate authority regarding truth is settled. The last and supreme word concerning God, man, life, death, and eternity has been spoken. That supreme authority is the Bible.

There are those who would have us believe that the source of final authority is to be found in human reason. They are wrong. I would not deprecate reason. It is valuable and altogether indispensable. To test the claims of any professed revelation, reason is necessary. It is wholly necessary in order to receive the revelation thus tested. Nevertheless, it is not the source of authority.

The reasoning faculties of mankind have been affected by the fall of the race. Sin has not left these untouched but has unsettled their delicate balance and accurate functioning. Absolute reliance cannot be placed on their operation. Even if this were not so, there is such a thing as truth and reality wholly apart from, and independent of, reason.

Truth is not what I *believe*. Truth is not even what I *know*. Truth is *fact*. I may not believe it. I may not know it. That does not change it. It is there nevertheless, waiting to be discovered and believed.

***Truth does not depend on the unsettled and changing opinions of men. It was truth before it was believed. It remains truth, whether it is believed or not.*** Reason does not originate or create it. It merely discovers it. Consequently, reason is not a source. Truth goes back beyond reason.

Others would have us believe that the church is the source of authority, particularly in matters of theology. They are wrong. **The church is the product of truth.** It does not *originate* it. **It came into being by accepting divine revelation.** It is not the source of that revelation. Truth goes beyond the church, is antecedent to it.