

As we turned our attention to preaching from praise yesterday morning we began with this, “Since the middle ages we’ve been fighting our way back to the simplicity of The Faith through the knowledge of The Word of God.” The “we” there is The *Ekklesia*, those called out from God.

Then as we rounded the corner heading for the home stretch it was, “What we learn most from history is that most people don’t learn from history!” In fact, most people today don’t know the true history, of The Church, especially in The West, and because of that, of our country, because they are inseparably intertwined. What has been passed down has been both neglected, and in some cases, secularized, sanitized by various types of people who for varying reasons don’t want you to know the truth. As they say, often the ones who write the history decide what the history is. But the unmistakable truth is this, Protestant Christianity is the foundation of our nation!

In between the beginning and the home stretch yesterday we covered a lot of simple information that most Christians aren’t familiar with, as I said, for various reasons, but none of them good. In fact, that’s the same thing that Paul wrote to The Church at Galatia, “**These men zealously court you, but not in a good way. Instead, they want to isolate you, shut you out from us, so that you may be zealous for them.**” (Ga 4:17, Enhanced version) The motives may vary, but the cover-up is real, and it ain’t good! So it is somewhat incumbent on us, not only to come to know the whole truth, but to then bear witness to it.

So we backed up into the 1300s to talk about John Wycliffe, The Lollards, and why it is vitally important that people have access to Scripture because, as John wrote, Jesus “**has made us Kings & Priests unto God**”. (Rev 1:6) Peter called Believers “**a Royal Priesthood**”. (2Pe 2:9) That’s why, echoing the shouts of the patriots that day on the Lexington common in 1775, “**We have no king but Jesus!**” In America we don’t have a King, and we don’t need priests. Jesus is our King and The High Priest over our profession. We have direct access to His Throne!

This is not new nor is it radical. The fact is that this is what a majority of the people who came to America in the 16 & 1700s believed, and they were fleeing persecution and even death because they believed it! The fact is that they were overwhelmingly English and Scots-Irish Protestant Christians. Their faith and patience not only caused them to gain an inheritance in The Kingdom of God, it became the foundation on which the greatest country in the world is built. And it was built in the type of faith written down in The Mayflower Compact in 1620, “**In the Name of God, Amen..., for The Glory of God, and the Advancement of The Christian Faith...**” Or those who wrote, “**...with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.**”, and then signed their names to The Declaration of Independence in 1776. They weren’t playing, this wasn’t politics, it was faith, and it was life and death. They didn’t just put their money where their mouths were, they “bet the farm”! They put their lives on the line for what they believed. How many in our country now would dare to follow suit? Not many? So what happened? It’s at least partly because they don’t know the truth. They’ve been lied to!

I could go on and on, and I’m sure some think that’s what I did yesterday, but we need to get this down. We don’t need to be intimidated and we must not let nefarious people steal our heritage. And someone doesn’t have to be an Anglo-Saxon Protestant to enjoy the blessings of liberty. Just as with the Body of Christ, it doesn’t matter if you’re male or female, Jew or Greek, black or white, Hispanic or Korean. We are all partakers together of the grace of God that has been bestowed on our nation. We are “one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” Hallelujah!

Love never fails!

