

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH. PASTOR



# Gerald B. Collingsworth,

Pastor

# **AMERICA, THE FALLEN**

<u>Introduction:</u> I truly love America. When 'The Star Spangled Banner' is played, I still have tears in my eyes. When I think of the price our forefathers had to pay to unite this great nation, I become emotional.

The history of America spell-binds me as I think of George Washington and Valley Forge, Davy Crockett and the Alamo, and brother against brother at Gettysburg. Yes, a terrible price in pain and suffering, but all in mixture of putting the nation together.

What I have noticed in my life is the constant changing of historic

truth to make light of the sacrifices of our nation's heroes. The most obvious attack I have seen is the attack against our religious heritage. We now have removal of what our forefathers held so dear.

What are those things associated with the decline of America?

#### FIRST: A DISREGARD FOR THE BIBLE.

**JOHN 12:48** 

It is constantly being proven historically and scientifically accurate, yet ridiculed and scoffed at in our school systems while nudity, illicit sex, idolatry, Halloween, sodomy, and abortion are promoted.

Illustration: When I was a little boy I remember our house burning down. When my fifth grade public school teacher, who kept a Bible on her desk, heard about this, she hugged and prayed for me. Her name was Mrs. Brown. I never forgot her, but I dare say you will not find her character in public schools today.

# SECOND: A DESECRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY. HEBREWS 10:25

No institution is more needed than the local New Testament church. It is a place of refreshing and renewal. It is a place of thought and commitment.

You will find that the very place held so dearly by the early Christians was the House of God. Why? Because of its value and influence in the life of the individual.

## THIRD: A DEDICATION TO PLEASURE. II TIMOTHY 3:1-4

We are pleasure-mad. 'If it feels good I do it,' is the battle cry of every immoral and degenerate person in America today. Ball games, horse racing, stock cars, and cards with a can of beer is the common scene.

*Illustration:* Time and time again I have heard people talk about how many roller coasters that they have ridden. If that is the main cause of their life, and what you talk about most is what your life is about, then I trust that they believe in a roller

## **Quotable Quotes**

We do not want, as the newspapers say, a church that will move with the world. We want a church that will move the world.

Christianity is no mere religion - it is a life.

One of the nicest things about being a bachelor is that a man makes mistakes and never knows about it.

One of the marks of a well-fed soul is a well-read Bible.

It's always good to be careful when you give advice, because someone might take it.

Willingness to learn is the first step in knowing.

Backsliding usually begins with a dusty Bible.

You know children are growing up when they start asking questions that have answers.

A church is no more to be blamed for the bad people in it, than a hospital is to be blamed for the sick ones that are in it.

#### Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Upcoming Events!

Friday, August 11th, 7:00 PM Heritage Baptist Church Annual Ladies Retreat.

Special Speaker: Mrs. Libby Robinson Myers of Waycross, GA



#### A Prayer In Poetry

I said, 'Let me walk in the fields.' He said, 'Nay, walk in the town.' I said, 'There are no flowers there.' He said, 'No flowers, but a crown!'

I said, 'But the air is thick, And fogs are veiling the sun.' He answered, 'Souls are sick, There are souls in the dark, undone.'

I pleaded for time to be given. He said, 'Is it hard to decide? It will not seem hard in heaven To have followed the steps of your guide.'

Then into His hand went mine And into my heart came He. And I walk in the light divine The path I had feared to see.



'If spam can find me, how come nobody else can?'

Several doctors were consulting one another on what to do with a patient, while the patient was evesdropping on them. Later, his wife asked him what the doctors had decided. 'I don't know.' the man replied, 'They used medical terms that I didn't understand, but they said they would know for sure after the autopsy, whatever that means.



'I love the excitement and sense of danger in dating the bad boy, but I hate that he keeps chewing up my shoes.'

#### 5 Firsts To Success

Give God the first hour of each day, the first day of every week, the first portion of every paycheck, the first consideration in every decision. and the first place in your heart.

coaster god.

#### FOURTH: A DISSOLUTION OF FAMILY.

**JOSHUA 24:15** 

When I was a boy a united family was the norm. The family was made up with dad, mom and children. Today it is hard to find families that have not been split by divorce. In many homes you will find several children by a different father or fathers. What a disgrace!

#### FIFTH: A DELIBERATE ACCEPTANCE OF SIN.

You will never convince me that people truly believe that there is nothing wrong with same-sex marriages, cheating on their mate, smoking dope, that if you drink you won't get drunk.

Listen, listen! No person ever took a drink and said, 'I want to become an alcoholic.' No child ever said, 'I can't wait until I grow up so I can be a homosexual.'

'Fools make a mock at sin.' Proverbs 14:9.

#### SIXTH: A DIRECTION TO A RIGHT CAUSE.

**I SAMUEL 17:29** 

David asked. 'Is there not a cause?'

With all the misinformation given out by the school and media, then why don't you declare the cause of truth. Why not find out the truth for yourself? Without truth, there is no clear direction.

Conclusion: Family, Friends, Future. These three give me motivation to fight for the cause of Christ, Christianity and the church.

Question? What does the future hold for your family and friends?

#### **Prayer of Salvation**

If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven? If not, would you be willing to pray this prayer with me?

'Dear Jesus, I'm asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I'm trusting you, Jesus, as my Saviour. Thank you for saving me. Amen.' (Romans 10:9 and 10:13)



#### **Prayer of Service**

'Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?' (Acts 9:6)



Saturday July 1 Cookout Saturday July 8 Proper Etiquette Proverbs 31:14

I Cor. 14:40

Heritage Highlanders June 2017 Schedule Saturday July 15 Field Trip to Hale Farms

> Saturday July 22 I Sam. 16:7 Cleanliness: Inwardly and Outwardly Saturday July 29 Romans 10:13

Soulwinning

Counsel



Mrs. Francie Taylor

Who has your ear when it comes to counsel? Is it a person who is skilled in the understanding of the Word? Taking the advice of a friend who uses her feelings rather than the Word of God as her guide could damage your life. Look at a few things when considering counsel:

- 1. Look at the lifestyle of the counselor. The person who claims to be a Christian while living like the world may not provide consistent counseling, and you may get your 'ears tickled' with what you want to hear rather than what you need to hear.
- 2. Take a very hard look at the counsel being given. If it is not biblical, then you need to find another counselor.
- 3. Godly peers of your own age group may be excellent counselors, but there is wisdom in asking someone who is farther along in life than you. Many of my counselors are ten to twenty years older than I, giving me an opportunity to glean from their experience.

# Something to 'CROW' about!

- 1. Heritage Baptist Church has had someone saved and baptized every week for the last eleven (11) years in a row! Wow!
- 2. The buses are still rolling!
- 3. We hosted the Old-Fashioned, Real and Revisited, 'I Love America' conference June 19<sup>th</sup>—20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



A funny thing about our nation: July 4 is America's birthday, but April 15 is when it collects its presents.

#### **Sunday School Lesson**

A glossary of some religious terms as defined and used by Sunday School students:

**Adultery:** The sin of saying that you're older than you really are.

**Fast Days:** The days when you have to eat in a hurry.

**Hymn:** The bottom of a lady's dress.

**Redemption:** Getting things with Green Stamps.

**Salvation:** When the Crusaders wandered in the desert, they died of this.

The above may seem far-fetched, but actually is no worse than the Bible knowledge some folks have.

A teacher asked a student, 'If you had 16 jelly beans and your friend asked you for 10. how many jelly beans would you have?' 'Sixteen,' the student replied.



#### From our Pastor's Wife ... Mrs. Vida Collingsworth The Trials Of Faith Before going off to college, my pastor wisely said to me, 'Do not be surprised

if, before you graduate, you face a trial (or trials).' Just days before leaving for college, my church went through a split. Oh, how my heart was saddened to see this occur--I loved all parties involved; but Jesus taught me through that trial to Mrs. C in stand for the Man of God, and to stand for truth. It proved to be a very valuable lesson to this future pastor's wife!

Colorado In 1984

Then, just months before graduating from Hyles-Anderson College (and while on my honeymoon), I had a reaction to medication that caused my mouth and

the side of my face to be twisted. Dr. Streeter told me the medication caused a stroke. Here I was, a brand new bride, with only one semester left before I finished school, and my face was all twisted. To make matters worse, people were saying that my husband did it.

'Would my face stay like this?' I found I couldn't sing, and wondered how I would be able to do my student teaching. In my heart I wanted to hide, embarrassed by my physical appearance, and concerned that my wonderful husband was now saddled with more than he bargained for. It all seemed rather gloomy. What was I to do?

I had two choices: #1-to quit, and feel sorry for myself; or #2-to go on. I decided to go on. I continued to go soulwinning, and continued to attend church. I had to die to self. I could not allow myself to dwell on my physical appearance. I did not know if this condition would last or not. This truly was a trial like I had never known before, but it taught me to trust in the Lord more than ever—to rejoice in Him.

#### The Father Of The Army



In June 1775, when George Washington accepted the daunting assignment of commanding Congress' forces in the fight for American independence from Britain, he was already a seasoned veteran. During the 1750s, while in his 20s, as colonel of the Virginia Regiment, he'd learned hard lessons in leadership fighting the French and their Indian allies in savage frontier skirmishes.

That experience was crucial during the Revolutionary War, when Washington faced the far greater challenge of maintaining the armed struggle against the British Empire with an army that was typically understrength, underfunded, and all too often unappreciated by the politicians and civilians for whom it fought.

For eight long years of punishing campaigning, Washington inspired the officers and men of the Continental Army through his personal example of courage, determination and integrity, always sharing their hardships and dangers.

The worst situations brought out the best in Washington's character. Most famously, despite a discouraging series of defeats around New York in 1776, before that year was

over he re-crossed the Delaware River in a devastating counterattack, scoring victories at Trenton and soon after at Princeton that revived the patriot cause.

As first president, George Washington remains celebrated as the father of his country. By forging the Continental Army into a tough, well-trained force of professionals, he deserves equal recognition as the true father of the U.S. Army.

P. S. The Purple Heart was invented and awarded by General George Washington.



Dear Pastor and Mrs. C, We just wanted to say thank you for helping us dedicate Anna Belle back to God. We are so blessed to have you two in our lives to help guide and train her for the Lord. The dedication service was such a

blessing to our hearts, and a wonderful reminder for the days to come of Who Anna Belle really belongs to.

We are so excited to see what God has in store for Anna Belle and can't wait to see how God will use her for His work.

Words cannot express how thankful we are for you both and everything you've done for us. Thank you.

Love in Christ, The Fricks

#### Dear Pastor Collingsworth,



Thank you so much or your kind hospitality during the "I Love America" Conference.

Your people were so friendly, the food was

great, and the preaching was excellent, and just what I needed!

Keep up the wonderful work in Mogadore!

Thank you for your friendship. Let me know if I can be of any service to you.

Your friend in Massillon,

**Brother Cecil Thayer** 

P.S. I enjoy the monthly newsletters. Keep them coming!

#### Kim Kline's Easy No-Bake S'Mores Bars

8 tbsp. (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened 1 cup packed light brown sugar

1 tsp .pure vanilla extract 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1 cup whole wheat flour (or all-purpose flour)

1 1/2 cups chocolate chips 1 tsp. flaky sea salt or 1/2

1 tsp. flaky sea salt or 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk 1 1/2 cups mini

marshmallows

Line a 13-x-9-inch baking pan with foil or parchment so it extends up the sides and spray lightly with nonstick spray.

In a stand mixer (or a large bowl with a handheld mixer) beat the butter, sugar, and vanilla until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Beat in the graham cracker crumbs, flour, and salt Beat in the condensed milk. With a wooden spoon, stir in 1 cup of the chocolate chips and 1 cup of the marshmallows.

Transfer the mixture to the prepared pan and use a spatula to press into an even layer. Sprinkle the surface with the remaining 1/2 cup chocolate chips and 11/2 cup marshmallows, pressing gently to adhere. Cover with plastic wrap and chill until firm.

Use the foil to lift the bars out of the pan in one piece. Cut into small, bite-sized squares. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to five days

# Some food for thought ...or...

# Seed From The Silo

#### Castro's Cuba Still Lives

He outlasted 10 presidents. He defiantly and relentlessly stood up to Washington. He nearly pushed the superpowers to war He fomented and supported revolutions from the Americas all the way to Africa. And despite - or perhaps because of - all this, he became an international celebrity, a larger-than-life icon, a darling of the left and all those who rightly thundered against the excesses of anti-communist dictators like Batista and Somoza and Pinochet, but never failed to rationalize or defend the brutal records of communist dictators like Fidel Castro. Castro is gone, but his cult lives on.

In a 1957 manifesto, Castro and his followers vowed 'to put an end to a regime based on force (and) the violation of individual rights' - a 'regime of terror and dictatorship.' They called for 'free elections, a democratic regime, a constitutional government ... a free, democratic and just Cuba.'

In 1959, he promised to 'solve the substantial social problems of all Cubans in a climate of liberty, of respect for individual rights, of freedom of the press and thought, of democracy, of liberty to elect their own government.'

Yet when he took power, Castro banned political parties and the free press, suspended elections and, as historian Derek Leebaert recalls, ordered machine-gun executions of several thousand opponents 'in what his lieutenant Antonio Jimenez termed 'the year of the firing squad.''

The killings never ended. University of Hawaii political scientist R.J. Rummel estimated that Castro killed between 35,000 and 141,000 of his countrymen. So much for ending 'a regime of terror and dictatorship.'

However, Castro's actions as dictator came as no surprise to those who knew him as a young man. He was marked by 'a violent personality' from the beginning, historian Paul Johnson details. At 20, he participated in an armed invasion and revolution in the Dominican Republic. At 21, he helped organize deadly riots in Colombia that claimed 3,000 lives. That same year, he was in a gun battle with Cuban police and accused of murdering the Minister of Sport, Johnson adds.

As for his promise of individual rights, liberty, and social and economic progress, a report produced by the International Labor Organization in 1957 - two years before Castro's revolution -noted, 'The average wage for an eight-hour day in Cuba ... is higher than for workers in Belgium, Denmark, France and Germany.'

'When Castro took power, GDP per capita for Cuba was some \$2,067 a year,' Tim Worstall of the Adam Smith Institute writes. That's about the same size as the per-capita GDPs of Ecuador, Jamaica and Panama in 1959. 'By 1999,' he points out, 'Cuba had advanced hardly at all, to \$2,307.' That's a 1.1 percent increase - over 40 years. In the same time span, Ecuador saw a 92 percent increase in GDP, Jamaica a 44 percent increase and Panama a 141 percent increase.

What Kind Of Seed Are You Sowing?

# The Lessons of Tithing Tithing teaches at least eight great spiritual lessons:

- 1. Dependence upon God in every phase of life.
- 2. Reverence for all that belongs to God.
- 3. The joy of helping in a worldwide mission program.
- 4. Concern for lost people everywhere.
- 5. Systematic handling of God's work.
- 6. Faith in God and His promises.
- 7. Liberality of heart and hand.
- 8. The proper place of money in one's

Below is a list of things we are thankful for. Unscramble the letters to find out the words.

OLVE NAMISAL
RAPNETS ATEHHL
HRUCCH VATOAILNS
ACTESREH EVEANH
ODG DOFO
MLIFAY COOHSL
SESJU RETOIERCNA

School, Recreation.

Ausweis.

Love, Parents, Church, Teachers, God, Family, Jesus, Animals, Health, Salvation, Heaven, Food,

# **Our Statement of Faith**

We accept the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice. *Psalm 12:6-7, I Peter 1:23* 

We believe in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Matt.* 28:19-20

We believe in the deity of Christ- His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily resurrection, His exaltation at God's right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillenial return.

I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:11

We believe that all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour. Romans 3:23

We believe that men are born again through faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

#### Acts 16:30-31, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 1:13, John 10:28

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world. *John 5:28-29, Luke 16:22-23, Rev. 20:11-15* 

We believe that Baptist churches were the first churches of Christianity and that Jesus founded a Baptist church. *John 1:35-37, Acts 1:22* 

# **Baptist Beliefs**

## **B**iblical Authority

- Autonomy of the Local Church
- Priesthood of ALL Believers
- Two ordinances Baptism & Communion
- I mmersed Church Membership
- S oul-liberty
- Two officers Pastors and Deacons
- S eparation of Church and State

# **Baptist Heritage**

- John the Baptist, Exalter of Christ
- Meno Simons (1496-1561), Dutch Anabaptist leader
- Roger Williams (1603-1683), Founded the first Baptist church in America in Providence, Rhode Island in 1638.
- John Clarke (1609-1676) was a Baptist preacher, medical doctor, and co-founder of the colony of Rhode Island. He was a driving force to get religious freedom into the charter of Rhode Island.
- **John Bunyan** (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*
- Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892), might be the greatest Baptist pastor
- John Franklyn Norris (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- Jack Frasure Hyles (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year

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