

THE VANISHING CONSTITUTION

By

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How then shall we live without the protection of the constitution?

For the past half century there have been national efforts to “restore” the constitution to its original place in law and politics. Man-v patriots have spent their lives and fortunes trying to do this in order to leave a heritage of freedom to our children and grand children.

One who has fought valiantly along this line is retired Lt. Col. Archibald E. Roberts Director of Committee to Restore the Constitution. In his Special Bulletin of March 1995 he wrote: “Gone is the Constitution and its protective covenants. Gone are the courts and their shield to personal freedom. Gone is representative government and the sovereignty of the individual.” Elsewhere he writes, “The United Nations Charter is not a treaty. It is a constitution for a one-world dictatorship designed to replace by deceit and subterfuge the Constitution of the United States.”

Events in the past two years proves that indeed the Constitution is no longer in force to guarantee freedom of speech. Freedom of religion, freedom from unwarranted search and seizure, the right to a speedy trial by a jury of one’s peers, and other freedom’s as stated in the first ten amendments to the Constitution.

The Constitution was designed upon the principle that there is one moral standard for all mankind and that its principles would be held and applied by those who lived by that standard. But for the past century the moral character of the nation has been eroding, with that erosion accelerating over the past decade. Add to this the fact that our nation has been receiving millions of foreigners who do not share the moral concepts of our founding fathers. This deterioration of the moral standard has undermined the Constitution and it no longer stands as the foundation of law and freedom in our nation.

The Constitution cannot be restored unless and until the moral principles upon which it is based are restored in the majority of the people of the United States.

With all the information to which I am exposed, including scores of newsletters, newspapers and other sources, I do not see any signs of this happening in this generation. For all practical purposes the Constitution is gone, just as Col. Roberts said. It is history, a relic of the past.

What we Christians must do is to learn to live as did Jesus, the apostles, and the early Christians, none of whom ever had the protection and guaranteed rights of a Constitution.

This may seem like an impossibility to many who have revered the Constitution as if it were Divinely inspired and who hold it as the only means of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” To some, the Constitution has become their God to which they looked for salvation from the evil and oppression of our day. If, as they believe, the Constitution was given to us by God it should not be surprising if God should take it away, that we might learn once again to depend upon Him, rather than upon this instrument of paper and ink.

This is not to suggest that the Constitution is faulty and should be abandoned. The fault does not lie in the Constitution but in the sinful nature of those who have shaken off its restraints in order to advance their own agenda of lust and power. Free men must be able to govern themselves from the inside: that is, by their own commitment to the right moral standard. When that commitment is abandoned he must be governed from the outside by force of law. When those who administer the law are themselves committed to that standard, peace, justice and freedom may still prevail, but when the standard is displaced for the sake of a multicultural society, the foundation of law crumbles and with it the promise of peace, justice and freedom.

As the morals of the nation fall ever lower and lower, more and more laws are enacted to insure peace and safety, resulting in greater loss of justice and freedom. Some think that if we pass the right kind of legislation we will have a Christian nation. Not so! Those who hate the rules will never succeed in keeping them. Jesus said that it isn't enough to refrain from adultery, one must not even desire it (Matt. 5:27-28). It isn't good enough to resist killing a neighbor when you hate him, you mustn't hate him in the first place. (Matt. 5:21-22).

Jesus never suggested that his disciples were to try to force people to live like Christians. It can't be done. A Christian is one because of his faith. His actions are the result of his belief, not the other way around. Belief is not produced by forced behavior. This is not to say that you cannot legislate behavior, rather it is the reason for legislating behavior. Even Christians need regulation, for none of us have reached perfection, and still fall into temptation, or use poor judgment, or disagree about what course to follow. Rules are necessary. We must follow the rule to drive on the right side of the street or we will be crashing into each other. Without rules we couldn't function as a society.

And we have almost reached that point, where the government and the courts no longer recognize the moral bedrock upon which the Constitution was written.

The question is: Can we live the Christian life without the protection of the Constitution?

Indeed, we can. For almost eighteen centuries Christians lived by faith, established Godly homes, evangelized nations, served God, and left us examples of faith and discipleship, all without the benefit of a Constitution with its Bill of Rights. The Christian faith was established all over Europe and the British Isles before our Constitution was ever dreamed of. Had Martin Luther had the protection of our Constitution the Reformation might never have taken place. Jesus sent his disciples out to preach the gospel and to

announce the Kingdom of God, not to preserve and depend upon the laws of the Roman Empire, from which much of our Constitution is borrowed.

Christians should be the ones to set the example of how to live without any security or protection except that which is promised by God. As long as we live in this present age we are living in enemy territory, and we are to count our lives as nothing except to the extent that we are servants of Yahweh our God. Jesus said that we are to hate our lives in this world that we might attain eternal life in the next (John 12:25).

With or without the protection of the constitution, Christians are the only ones who have the guaranteed presence of God in all daily activities, the only ones who have an objective source of information upon which to base our convictions and actions, and the only ones who have the assurance that no matter what happens in this world there are great rewards in the perfect life in the world to come.

It is time for churches to stop dealing with the superficial problems and appealing to man's carnal nature by entertainment and social activities, and to begin establishing the members in a deep faith in the sovereignty and power of God, so that their dependence will be upon Him, and not upon the diminishing strength of the Constitution. Our strength is in Christ Jesus the Lord, not in the fallible works of man and his government, and certainly not in the amount of real estate that bears the church's name. Nothing in scripture indicates that either Jesus or the apostles had any interest in accumulating real estate for the sake of "saving souls."

Whatever happens politically or economically, we are citizens of God's Kingdom, and our lives are His, to be used according to His will and for His own purpose. Our task is to tell the world the good news of salvation and the blessed hope of eternal life in Christ, as life is promised ONLY to those in Christ, death being the final destiny for all others. (Rom. 6:23, John 3:16)

"Seeing that these things are thus all to be dissolved" what manner of persons ought you to be in all holy living and godliness" (2 Pet. 3:11).

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