

A Call to Repentance & Awakening

An Open Letter to Christian pastors, leaders and activists
who assist the 'Progressive' movement in America

October 31, 2020

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation... (2 Corinthians 7:10 NIV)

Tip: To help substantiate claims in the letter, please click on links. See the Gospel Guard portal emerging on www.AmericanEvangelicals.org. We seek to substantiate concerns with data.

Surely we are not without error as this is a complex story and we are learning. We invite corrections and information. May this help to renew the Church, and thus the nation. Our prayer is for gospel truth, awakening and revival.

Preface: Jesus invites each of us to turn to him, in new ways. As we do, our nation will be restored. We, evangelical, Protestant and Catholic (all Christian) signatories below, know we are sinners saved by the atoning death of Jesus Christ. And, at times, believers who normally turn the other cheek are also called to overturn tables. This is a moment for such believers to speak truth to power.

We first raised a "Call to Repentance & Renewal" in 2016. We now see more concerning emergence of "faith leaders" promoting policies and politicians who advance human harms of abortion, threats of unjustly "stacking" our Supreme Court, drug and "sex worker" legalization, open borders, mass amnesty and voter fraud that would end America as a free republic. These projects would "fundamentally transform" our nation into the kind of dystopian "open society" and "permanent progressive majority" that our Founders urged and entrusted us to prevent.

Americans do not deserve a dark, lifeless monoculture run by unelected totalitarians. So, we wonder, why are you doing this? And, when will you stop? We urge 'progressive' evangelicals and Catholics, and allied anti-Christian activists using biblical language and optics but not biblical meanings and truths, to turn away from work that often advances a harmful political agenda. We ask you, as applicable, to return the money and repent before the Lord. We write as true friends who want the best for you, for Americans and for the world God loves. We ask you to turn from evil and do good.

We must reclaim the Church's witness in the world. Biblical truth and wisdom are the highest love for human beings. While God loves justice and mercy for all, many "social justice" campaigns are politically crafted and not the true gospel. Only the truth of our sin, both personal and systemic, and Jesus' atoning sacrifice for our salvation and rebirth, is true hope for persons and nations. The gospel charges all things with hope.

"I am the way, the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me." ~ Jesus, John 14:6

We are not here endorsing or denouncing a political candidate but reminding you of basic and timeless Christian morality. We are at an inflection point. And we look beyond two personalities to two very different platforms, visions and futures for our nation and world.

Stop the Harm: How ironic and stale for the very leaders whose ‘progressive’ policies are hurting minority communities to falsely label those with political differences as ‘racists.’ Under “progressive” leadership, Hispanics and African-Americans suffer the loss of work and income, rising urban violence and family disintegration including children targeted by abortionists for death. Under conservative leadership, families, religious liberties, second chances, jobs and opportunity zones are restoring countless lives and communities.

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. [taught](#), “In contrast to ethical relativism, Christianity sets forth a system of absolute moral values.” He [wrote](#), “We need to recapture the gospel glow of the early Christians who were non-conformists Their powerful gospel put an end to such barbaric evils as infanticide Finally, they captured the Roman Empire for Jesus Christ.”

We ask “faith leaders” assisting unjust, anti-Christian politicians and their funders:

- What justification would Jesus offer for ending the lives of unborn children and selling their [body parts](#) to the highest [bidder](#)?
- What governors, mayors and [District Attorneys](#) would Jesus appoint who enable rioting and looting, yet [harass](#), [fine](#) and [punish](#) Christian churches?
- What wise, loving biblical morality would Jesus declare to be ‘[hate-speech](#)’?

“Tolerance [of evil] is not a spiritual gift; it is the distinguishing mark of postmodernism, and, sadly, it has permeated the very fiber of Christianity.” ~ Rev. Dr. John Stott

Consider some of the consequences of Progressive political activism in recent years:

1. A growth industry trafficking in human [baby organs](#) and body parts – funded and defended by the Democratic Party and enabled by complicit ministers.
2. The [abandonment](#) of a biblical view of marriage that protected and liberated children and adults from centuries of pagan slavery, [poverty](#), polygamy and non-life-giving sexuality.
3. The [Transgender](#) agenda imposed by Obama-government edict, including gender re-education to be forced on our citizens, businesses, schools, military and churches.
4. Increased minority unemployment, poverty and [violent](#) inner city lawlessness, with an accompanying [loss](#) of opportunity, self-determination and [family](#) stability.
5. Heightened racial [division](#) and tension, and the growing phenomenon of [paid demonstrators](#) being [recruited](#) and dispatched to instigate [protests](#) that often become [riots](#).
6. Open [borders](#) and ‘sanctuary’ cities increasing [drugs](#), [disease](#), [crime](#), [gangs](#) and [terrorism](#).
7. [Hostility](#) towards Judeo-Christian religious liberty in our [courts](#), [media](#) and [universities](#) including the suppression of conservative [speakers](#), [businesses](#), free thought and moral education.

8. The widespread, political use of government [agencies](#) to [intimidate](#) conservative and Christian groups that disagree with the current political establishment.

After such demoralization and pain, why would any religious leader ask Christians to embrace a “progressive” political agenda that is clearly anti-Christian? When Hillary Clinton stated during a 2015 [speech](#) at the Women in the World Summit that religious beliefs “have to be changed,” she was openly declaring war on Christian believers and the Church. And in 2020, Democrats Kamala Harris, Joe Biden and Democratic officials throughout America threaten the same.

“The framers of our Constitution meant we were to have freedom of religion, not freedom from religion.” ~ Rev. Billy Graham

Follow the Money: For many years, Soros’s ‘Open Society’ and other far-Left [foundations](#) have funded not only some of the most [disturbing](#) campaigns mentioned above (1-8) but also the Religious [Left](#), using and creating ostensibly evangelical and [Catholic](#) organizations to “message and mobilize” Christians into Progressive causes. They use the Marxist-Alinsky tactic of funding “ministers” who cherry-pick faith language to confuse and divide the Church’s morality, mission and vote.

As [documents confirm](#), and as Rev. [Jim Wallis](#) of [Sojourners eventually admitted](#), Leftist [foundations](#), following the lead of [billionaire](#) George [Soros’s](#) Open Society [Foundation](#), fund and “rent”* Christian ministers as “[mascots](#)” serving as surprising [validators](#) for their [causes](#). The consequent outcomes include harm to countless people, the Church, the family, race relations, the poor, the nation and the global Church including many martyrs.

Though many Christian ministries are struggling, a few of the Soros network “faith” and “[interfaith](#)” grantees include Jim [Wallis](#) of [Sojourners](#), [Richard Cizik’s](#) New Evangelical [Partnership](#), [Telos](#), [J Street](#) to malign Israel, “[Catholics in Alliance](#) for the Common Good, [Faithful America](#) and [Gamaliel](#), with [PICO and Faith in Action](#) who [assisted](#) the [visit](#) and [priorities](#) of [Pope Francis](#). Billions of additional dollars to “Christian [VOLAGs](#)” for large scale “refugee” and migrant [resettlement](#) came from the [Obama](#) administration. This is a short list.

2020 is now unfolding as a year of virus, rioting and disruption – and also a year of much prayer for truth, light and justice. Journalists recently exposed Soros-funded (OSF) “[Faithful America](#),” fiscally sponsored by the larger Faith in [Public](#) Life, organizes curious “petitions” of “thousands of faith leaders” to condemn and “[counter](#)” faithful and respected public Christians, including Supreme Court [nominee](#), now [Justice](#), Amy Coney [Barrett](#), and Franklin [Graham](#), President of Samaritan’s Purse. (Just as [Faithful America](#) previously [condemned](#) Hobby Lobby and Family Research Council.) Likewise, Open Society Foundation also appears connected to pedophilia-enabling Catholic Cardinal [McCarrick](#) via the non-profit “Shoulder-to-Shoulder” that appears to assist the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA).

A Money Engine: Open Society Foundation (OSF) partners and/or aligns with the giving of other enormous foundations such as Hewlett, Ford, e-Bay founder Pierre Omidyar’s ‘Democracy

Fund,' Tides, Gill, Gates, MacArthur, Arcus, Arabella, National Immigration Forum and New America Foundation that consistently fund hundreds of far-Left non-profits and projects.

Non-profits need funding to fuel their activities, and normally Christian donors fund Christian projects. But the Left's money increasingly finds its way into mainstream "evangelical" and "Catholic" organizations, with strings attached, buying silence, compromise, biblical cherry-picking for far-Left policy and political advocacy. Though it was a public scandal when Rev. Jim Wallis of Sojourners was caught with Open Society (Soros) funding, grants that he first vociferously denied receiving, evangelical grantees increasingly appear in IRS 990s of these partnering foundations, including once-mainstream [ERLC](#), [EPPC](#), [EEN](#), [NAE](#), [YECA](#), [NRPE](#), The [Gathering](#), colleges, media and more. (Private funding cannot be determined without grantee transparency, but foundation funding can be seen on a foundation's IRS 990s. Check back often for on-going information, corrections, and hope of renewed focus on the gospel and Kingdom.)

The Pattern is one of odd indifference to timeless Christian values and voices standing for the sanctity of life, the Christ-centered gospel of sin and salvation, the gift of children, love of country, peace, security, freedom, Israel and sovereignty. Cowardice is often followed by subtle or overt assistance to "woke" trends and politicians now advancing the persecution of pastors and churches, infanticide and the sale of human organs of unborn children, sexualizing and "reorienting" children, rioting and looting of homes and cities, open borders, drug legalization, illegal voting. What weakens and demoralizes America advances power to "the open society agenda" and network, around the "stateless" world.

Citizens have every right to speak up for personal convictions, as this letter illustrates. Some contributors to, and signers of, this letter are supportive of the Trump/Pence administration, and have suffered derision, criticism and attacks, for it.

Evangelicals for Biden & Harris 2020: Though we do not know if or how private funding is involved (though some of their organizations are funded by OSF, Hewlett, Ford, Omidyar, NIF etc.), and surely for some advocacy derives from genuine conviction, we see the same pattern of curious "evangelicals" supporting presidential aspirants Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, despite evidence of 'pay-for-influence' foreign corruption, far-Left alliances with Communist China and domestic enemies, and the [observation](#) of Franklin Graham and Marjorie Dannenfelser that [Biden](#) and [Harris](#) are "the most pro-abortion presidential ticket in the history of our nation."

[Evangelicals](#) publicly assisting a Biden and Harris presidency, and/or often [denouncing](#) Trump and Pence, include Pres. Obama's faith advisor, Michael Wear, Al Sharpton, Joel Hunter, Richard Foster, Ron Sider, Richard Mouw, Tony Campolo, Doug Pagitt, Michael Curry, Frank Schaeffer, Russell Moore, David Neff, Steve Haas, David Gushee, Mark Galli, Fred Smith, Richard Cizik, William Barber, Miroslav Volf, Steve Garber, Karen Swallow Prior, Brenda Salter McNeil, Adam Taylor and Jim Wallis of Sojourners, Ray Bakke, John Perkins, Samuel Logan, Robert Fryling, Dennis Hollinger, Randall Balmer, Rob Schenck, John Huffman etc.

These same voices tended to be silent or affirming of the Obama/Biden/Clinton/Kerry initiatives such as attacks on Christian conscience and businesses, HHS opposing Little Sisters of the Poor,

the Iranian nuclear deal, the Paris Accord and Benghazi massacre, while they tend to amplify mainstream media's mocking portrayal of most evangelicals who stand for life and freedom.

Christian Worldview Voting: Barna Research indicates that more than 80 percent of *all* evangelical voters, not just “white evangelicals,” voted for Trump/Pence in 2016. These Christians did not “idolize” Donald Trump, but naturally chose the pro-life, pro-faith and pro-growth Republican platform that was, in fact, honored and advanced over these four years. Nonetheless, evangelical critics curiously refuse to acknowledge the logic of looking beyond two frontrunner personalities, to two very different visions and futures for our nation.

Global Harm: Beyond “faith” fronts, the Money Engine funds thousands of other collaborators and projects that suggest a pattern and goal to demoralize and thus weaken America, [Europe](#) and many nations. Projects include [film](#) studios and hundreds of [media](#) outlets; attempts to [control](#) the [Internet](#); [racial](#) and [gender](#) “intersectionality” and agitation; [euthanasia](#); [drug](#) legalization and “injection zones;” [abortion](#) and the “[sex](#) worker” industry; Al [Gore's](#) Climate campaign; [pro-Palestinian](#), “Islamophobia” and [anti-Israel projects](#); and the [rights](#) of [Sharia advocates](#).

We love Jesus Christ and his Body of believers, his Church, in the world. We seek a return to biblical truth and the Holy Spirit, our source of unity and strength. We love our nation and the many nations in which we serve. Fleeing 17th century persecution, founded in Christian faith and liberty, the true America is more just, generative and loving than the “new America” of [stateless](#) and “post-American” social engineers. [Global](#) Socialism is a system of control over the lives of others. It is *regressive*. It sends us backwards. The hostility of the ‘progressive’ political agenda to biblical faith is foreign to the Spirit of Jesus.

Request: We ask those who intentionally, or unwittingly, aid the destructive ‘progressive’ agenda to ignore rhetoric and consider the actual *consequences* of such projects and policies. Please stop inviting Christians to assist efforts to de-Christianize and thus dehumanize the nation for which our ancestors lived and died. Repent, refuse the money and turn away from those who attack the Church and harm people. In social media, let your friends know you have changed your mind, and heart. Let's pursue truth, through which unity will again be possible.

Only the gospel restores hope. Let us return to the gospel of Jesus and the whole counsel of Scripture that yields the highest love for people, and good for cultures. Let's stimulate not pride and entitlement, but humility and gratitude. Let's see the image of God in people and enable, not Socialism, but the virtuous cycle of faith, responsibility, creativity, work, wealth and greater voluntary generosity for the poor in need. Let's commit to healing, wisdom and awakening.

Let's do justice to America's true story, and future. Though imperfect and struggling, the American Experiment is a great forward leap in human dignity and actual progress. Abiding in Christ, the tree will once again flourish.

To believers in every nation, now is the time to pray, to speak and to act with Godly courage. If America falls, the mission of the global Church also suffers. We are bound together. Let us stand together. We write as evangelical and Catholic followers of Jesus Christ, stewards of the nation he has placed us in, and fellow workers for the Kingdom of God, in the world he so loves.

*“Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand,
the spines of others are often stiffened.” Rev. Billy Graham*

*** Below are signers of the 2016 letter (some have not seen this updated 2020 version)**

Signatories: * Affiliations for identification purposes only

Dr. Jim Garlow	President, Well Versed World ~ Spokesperson
Dr. Alveda King	Civil Rights for the Unborn; Priests for Life
Kelly Monroe Kullberg	Author, <i>Finding God Beyond Harvard</i>
Dr. Everett Piper	Author, <i>Not A Daycare</i> ; Speaker
Eric Metaxas	Author, <i>Bonhoeffer</i> ; and, <i>If You Can Keep It</i>
Mark Gonzales	Hispanic Action Network
Matt Bennett	Christian Union, Founder & President
Herman Martir	Asian Action Network, President
Hayden Ludwig	Investigative Reporter, Capital Research Center
Sandy Rios	American Family Assoc., Dir., Government Affairs
Kevin Freeman	National Security Investment Consultant Institute
Hon. Bob McEwen	Fmr. U.S. House of Representatives (R-OH)
Hon. Steve Largent	NFL Hall of Fame; Fmr., U.S. House (R-OK)
Kay Coles James	President, The Heritage Foundation
Lt. Gen. Wm. “Jerry” Boykin	Founder, Kingdom Warriors Ministry
Maj. Gen. Paul E. Vallely	US Army (Ret), Stand Up America/Glacial Forum
Bishop Harry R Jackson, Jr.	High Impact Leadership Coalition
George Barna	Researcher and author
Mat Staver	Liberty Counsel, Founder & Chairman
Fr. Frank Pavone	Priests for Life, National Director
Dave Dias	Foundations of Freedom, Founder
Robert Schwarzwald	Regent University, Senior Lecturer
Carlton Smith	Architekton Global, President, Cleveland, Ohio
Dr. Wayne Grudem	Phoenix Seminary, Professor of Theology
Dran Reese	Salt and Light Council, President

Dr. Jay Richards	The Catholic University of America
Linda Cattani	Cleveland Right to Life
Daniel Smithwick	Nehemiah Institute
Dean Broyles, Esq.	National Center for Law & Policy, President
Elizabeth Yore, Esq.	YourChildren; child protection advocate
Dr. E. Calvin Beisner	Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation
Deborah Beisner	Portrait artist, Imago Dei
Kitty Allen	Executive Consultant, Columbus, Ohio
William Millis	High Point, North Carolina
David Kullberg	Author, <i>Breaking Babel</i> ; writer and consultant
Dave Welch	U.S. Pastor Council, President
Diego Rodriguez	Publisher, Dominion Books
Bob Williamson	The Williamson Group
Dr. Frank Wright	D. James Kennedy Ministries, President
Dr. Ted Baehr	MOVIEGUIDE®, Publisher
Vishal Mangalwadi	Revelation Movement, Founder
Tim Wildmon	American Family Association, President
Pastor Fred Berry	Azusa Street Mission
Sam Sorbo	Actress, author and radio show host
Steve Strang	<i>Charisma Media</i> , Founder and President
Nancy Schulze	The American Prayer Initiative
Peggy Dau	Voice of the Martyrs
Jason Benham	Entrepreneur, author and speaker
David Benham	Entrepreneur, author and speaker
Rebecca Hagelin	Author and consultant
David Barton	Author and speaker
Dr. Lance Wallnau	Speaker, leadership consultant
Mariam Bell	Former National Policy Director for Charles Colson
Stephen E. Reiter	DXM360 Advisory & Integration Services, CEO
Jeremy Story	Campus Renewal, President
Patricia David	The Wesleyan Resistance

Dr. Gerson Moreno-Riano	Regent University, Executive Vice President
George Grant	Parish Presbyterian Church, Pastor
Dr. Jay Grimstead	Coalition On Revival
Jerry Nordskog	Nordskog Publishing, President and Publisher
Bryan Hickox	Bryan Hickox Pictures, Inc., President & CEO
Charles Limandri	Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund, President
Archbishop Wm. Paul Mikler	Communio Christiana
Pastor Jim Franklin	Cornerstone Church, Fresno CA, Senior Pastor
Pastor Steve Riggle	Grace Church, Houston TX, Senior Pastor
Samuel B. Casey	Jubilee Campaign, Managing Director
Rick Scarborough	Vision America, President
Dr. John D. Morris	Institute for Creation Research, President Emeritus
Dr. Benny Tate	Rock Springs Church, Senior Pastor
Dudley Rutherford	Shepherd Church, Porter Ranch, CA; Pastor
Dr. Larry Lamb	Cielo Vista Church, El Paso, TX, Lead Pastor
Chip Weiant	Pregnancy Decision Health Center, Board
Dr. James Yanney	Charleston, South Carolina
Kevin Jessip	Global Strategic Alliance, Founder and President
Bill Blankschaen	<i>You Will Be Made to Care</i> , co-author
Andrea Lafferty	Traditional Values Coalition
Chuck Hurley, Esq.	Family Leader, Vice-President & Chief Counsel
Molly Smith	Cleveland Right to Life, President; <i>From the Median</i>
John Becker, CTP, MBA	State Representative, Ohio's 65th District House
Jacqui Fetsko	Lake County Right to Life, Exec. Director
Michael Phillips	The Jesus Alliance, President
Paula Westwood	Right to Life, Cincinnati OH, Exec. Dir.
Steve Smothermon	Pastor of Legacy Church (Albuquerque)
Pastor Tim Throckmorton	Family Research Council, former Senior Pastor
Dr. Glenn Sunshine	Author, teacher and speaker
Rich Bott	Bott Radio Network
John Zmirak	Author; <i>The Stream</i>