

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of October 20, 2024 -

Sunday School	35
Sunday Morning Service	50
Sunday Evening Service	18
Wednesday Eve., 10/23/24 Service	11

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of October 20, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	\$ 2,352.76
Auditorium A/C Replacement Fund	190.20
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 10/20/24:	\$ 2,542.96

- Week of October 13, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	\$ 605.55
Auditorium A/C Replacement Fund	150.20
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 10/13/24:	\$ 755.75

- Week of October 6, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	\$ 2,538.48
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 10/06/24:	\$ 2,538.48

- Week of September 29, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	\$ 515.11
Auditorium A/C Replacement Fund	150.20
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/29/24:	\$ 665.31

- Week of September 22, 2024 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings	\$ 1,514.41
Auditorium A/C Replacement Fund	170.20
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 09/22/24:	\$ 1,684.61

Average amount of **Undesignated** Offerings needed for church operating expenses **EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,600.00**



WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. Admit that you are a sinner.
2. Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.
3. Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.
4. You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).
5. By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, Who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.



AND THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH...

- October 20, 2024 -

Denise Bynum ----- by Letter

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Debra Carlton, Mickie Shatwell, Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianists
 Derek Quinnelly ----- Greeter
 Kim Phillips; Shirley White/LeAnna White; Berdena Bergman/Debra Carlton; Daniel Avery/GiGi Avery; & Keith Shufelt ----- Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars ----- Outreach
 Keith Shufelt ----- Men's Prayer Group
 GinaMarie Shufelt ----- Ladies Bible Study/Flowers
 Seth White ----- Sound/Video
 Larry Byars, Derek Quinnelly, David Smith ----- Trustees

REMINDER

WE WELCOME OUR SPECIAL GUEST THIS WEEK -

DR. PHIL STRINGER

WHO WILL BE SPEAKING ON

Bible Prophecy
and *End Time Events*



SUNDAY, OCT. 27th - WED. OCT. 30th

TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE:

- Sunday, October 27th -
 - ☛ 9:45 AM Sunday School - **"How to Understand Bible Prophecy"**
 - ☛ 11:00 AM - **"The Rapture of the Church"**
 - ☛ 6:30 PM - **"The Tribulation"**
- Monday, October 28th @ 7 PM - **"The Marriage Supper of the Lamb"**
- Tuesday, October 29th @ 7 PM - **"The Return of the King"**
- Wednesday, October 30th @ 7 PM - **"The Millennial Reign Of Christ"**



DON'T MISS A SINGLE SERVICE!

- Nursery provided at every service for children through age 3 -



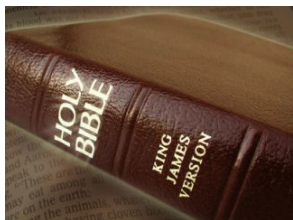
OUR VERY NEWEST -

Carter Leon Quinnelly

Born to Derek and Jessica Quinnelly

October 22, 2024

8 pounds, 2 ounces - 20" long



THE KING JAMES ONLY BAPTIST CIVIL WAR OVER INSPIRATION

*by Dr. Phil Stringer, Vice President
Dayspring Bible College & Seminary*

Actually, I don't like the term "**King James Only.**" It is a name given to us by our critics. I want everyone, in every language, to have the pure Word of God in their own tongue. But in this case, I use the term so that it is clear who I am talking about.

A civil war rages among independent Baptists about the "inspiration" of translations. I am not talking about the debate over which text of Scripture to use. Prominent preachers who preach the King James Bible and who defend it against its critics, are vigorously debating one another over the use of the term "**inspiration**" in describing the King James Bible. Sometimes the conflict is much hotter than a "vigorous debate." Good men, with deep loyalties to the King James Bible, are at odds with one another. Key terms are defined many different ways, motives are called into question and the doctrinal soundness of men is questioned.

Over the last few weeks I have been in many verbal conversations and email discussions over this issue.

I have been asked how these discussions are going. I have answered that I feel like a man trying to stand on an ice flow, in an ocean full of sharks while juggling baby elephants. A debate over the nature of the Bible generates deep emotions.

Good men are trying to defend the King James Bible the best way that they know how. They are tired of the evangelical and fundamentalist critics of the King James Bible. They are tired of self-absorbed, pseudo-scholars. They are tired of people with slander language skills mocking the scholars who were used of God to translate the King James Bible. ***I completely agree!***

Let me be crystal clear! I believe that the King James Bible is God's Word kept intact in English. There is not one word in the King James Bible that I would change. I would not change an italicized word.

I believe that the American republic was created by the influence of the King James Bible. I believe that the modern missions movement was created by the preaching of the King James Bible. I believe that both the fundamentalist movement and the independent Baptist movement were the product of the King James Bible.

I am not one of those preachers who believes that it is Christian liberty to attack the King James Bible but divisive to answer those attacks.

I believe that the evangelical and fundamentalist critics of the King James Bible should be answered. When I heard Elmer Fernandez say that the translators of the King James Bible were

evil and wicked men, I knew that he had to be opposed. When I read Calvin George's desperate attempts to belittle the King James Bible (in order to defend the Critical Text readings of the Reina Valera 1960), I understand that he has to be answered.

When I realize that the method of Bible teaching practiced by the professors of Bob Jones University and Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary is to go verse by verse and say "*a better translation would be. . .*," I understand that they are pseudo-scholars. The **least** of the Kings James translators was a greater scholar than any of them.

When I read that the translations sponsored by Charles Keen won't be King James equivalent (his term), I understand what he is up to and that he must be answered by those loyal to the Received Text.

When I see the long-ago disproven criticisms of the King James Bible on the various Trinitarian Bible Society websites—I realize that those loyal to the King James Bible must answer the Trinitarian Bible Society's foolish attacks on the King James Bible.

***I believe that the King James Bible is pure,
perfect and inerrant!***

However, I do **not** believe that the King James Bible is "inspired". That is not because I believe that there is any weakness or any inferiority in the King James Bible. There is nothing about the King James Bible that needs to be corrected or improved.

The Bible tells us what "inspiration" is! It defines itself. Many of my brethren use the term "inspiration" as a synonym for inerrant. But it means much more than that! Many of my brethren use the secular definition of the term "inspiration"—"to motivate or cause by supernatural influence" (Webster's Illustrated Contemporary Dictionary). But this definition falls far short of what the Bible says about its own "inspiration".

Many of our most famous doctrinal books offer a weak definition of "inspiration."

One prominent advocate of the King James Bible defines "inspiration" this way: "*By inspiration we mean the supernatural control by God over the production of the Old Testament and New Testaments.*" Another King James advocate defines "inspiration" as "*divine influence.*" These men would consider themselves as great advocates of the King James Bible and would describe most other teachers as weak or modernist.

Yet, their doctrine of "inspiration" is very weak. It was invented by modernists and spread by neo-evangelicals. Inspiration is much more than what they say it is.

If "inspiration" is really "divine influence" then many sermons, songs and books are "inspired." However, "Biblical inspiration" is much more than that.

"Inspiration" took place when God took control of a person and spoke His words through them or caused them to write down His words. "Inspiration" took place when God dictated His words to a person or even through an animal (Balaam's donkey).

You can't defend the King James Bible by weakening the

doctrine of "inspiration." In their zeal to advance the King James Bible, some men have adopted a liberal position about "inspiration."

Many of the brethren are quick to quote ***II Timothy 3:16 - "All Scripture is given by "inspiration" of God.***" This is, of course, true. God gave His words to men through the Greek, Aramaic and Hebrew languages. This verse means exactly what it says - ***and nothing more.***

However, the verse does **not** say that the words that God gave are preserved, transmitted, or translated by "inspiration". The verse means everything that it says but we have no right to add anything to it.

No matter how pure and proper our motives are - we do not help the cause of the King James Bible by defining incorrectly a Biblical term or by inventing a new Biblical doctrine. Actually we help the critics of that King James Bible by using an argument that they can easily refute.

Virtually everyone in our movement, including me, has used the term "inspiration" carelessly at one time or another. It is time to start being careful.

Recently, I was communicating by email with the head of a translation project in a foreign country. He assured me that his translation was "inspired". I told him that I didn't think so.

He was just finishing ten years of his translation effort. Men who were "moved by the Holy Spirit" (II Peter 1:21) of God wrote down the Words as God gave them. They didn't need ten years. Can you imagine John spending ten years figuring out what to write down in the book of Revelation?

The translator had a team of sixteen national helpers - men who are "inspired" don't need a "team" of helpers. Can you imagine a team of sixteen helpers helping King Saul figure out what to say when the Holy Spirit took him over?

This gentleman is getting ready to release his second edition. Men who are "inspired" of God don't need a second edition. Can you imagine Balaam's donkey issuing a second edition of his words to Balaam?

The response of this translator was to call me a modernist!

The Words of God have been settled forever in Heaven. God gave some of them to Moses to record on earth. He gave some to Jeremiah, some to Paul, some to Peter and so on. They recorded the *exact* words that God gave them. God finished delivering His words to men as John finished the Book of Revelation. *That is how "inspiration" works!*

The translators of the King James Bible did not need to be "inspired". They already had God's "inspired" Words in front of them. They simply needed to faithfully and accurately translate the Words that had already been given by "inspiration". Translators today do not need to be "inspired." They already have God's "inspired" words available. They simply need to translate them correctly.

John Selden described the method of the King James translators. *"The translation in King James time took an excellent way. That part of the Bible was given to him who was most excellent in such*

a tongue (as the Apocrypha to Andrew Downes) and then they met together and one read that translation the rest holding in their hands some Bible either of the learned tongues or French, Italian, Spanish, etc. If they found any fault they spoke, if not, they read on."

This was not the method of King Saul, Malachi, Isaiah, Matthew or Balaam's donkey when they were being "inspired" of the Lord. It is an example of men being used of God to *preserve and transmit* His Word.

I know that many men use the word "inspired" to describe the King James Bible because they want to defend it against its many attackers. But the King James Bible doesn't need that kind of help from us. It stands up to its attackers just fine. They always fade away and the King James Bible goes on. It doesn't need us to invent a new definition of "inspiration" or to weaken the doctrine of divine "inspiration" the way that the secular writers do.

There seem to be three prominent positions among those who use the term "inspired" to describe the King James Bible:

1. Some teach that God repeated the miracle of "inspiration" in 1611. They believe that the English language is the only language that currently has an "inspired Bible." Their concept of missions is to preach and teach from the English Bible to the whole world. This destroys most mission works.

This is an easy doctrine to maintain, if you are only concerned for white, Anglo-Saxon people.

Of course, there is not the slightest hint of any such doctrine anywhere in the King James Bible.

2. The second group teaches the miracle of "inspiration" took place in 1611 in English and continues to take place in other languages today. They teach that you can recognize an "inspired" Bible if it is used by large "soul-winning" churches.

For those brethren, soul-winning is not based upon doctrine, doctrine is based upon soul winning. Since most of the Bibles in use around the world are Critical Text Versions and contradict the King James Bible, they assume that God gave one set of words in English and differing words in other languages. Their doctrine of "inspiration" justifies liberal translations.

They usually teach that only a Bible produced by a modern miracle of "inspiration" can be used to lead someone to Christ. Consequently, they would put their stamp of approval on hundreds of modernist translations.

But you can't protect the King James Bible by undermining the basis for Scriptural revelation.

Interestingly enough, both groups spend a lot of time attacking fundamental Baptists who explain "inspiration" in any way different than themselves. But you can't imagine them refuting modernists or liberal Bible societies. Their venom is reserved for the English speaking brethren who use the same Bible that they do.

3. There is a third group that teaches what they call "**derivative inspiration.**" They are often very good brethren, devoted to the Bible. They understand that the miracle of "inspiration" only took place with the original earthly Scriptural penmen.

They teach that the Bible today has all the authority, influence, Holy Spirit power and purity of the original “inspired” Words of God. ***That is exactly what the Bible teaches about itself.***

Faithful copies of the Words given by “inspiration” have all the authority and Holy Spirit power of the originals. Faithful copies of Scripture ***are Scripture.***

Faithful translations of the Words given by “inspiration” have all the authority and Holy Spirit power of the originals. Faithful translations of Scripture are Scripture. However, the Bible calls this ***preservation*** not “derivative inspiration” (try finding that term in the King James Bible).

At least the teachers of “derivative inspiration” describe the original act of inspiration correctly, they describe the current state of the Bible correctly and it is possible for them to translate the Bible into other languages correctly. They are good brethren and I do not want to be separated from them.

However, their terminology is not Scriptural. Their teaching is easily confused with the other more dangerous teachings about “inspiration.”

You do not defend the Kings James Bible by weakening the Bible’s teaching about preservation. One Bible teacher called preserved words “cold, dead museum words.” ***What an insult to a sovereign God!***

Nothing could be a stronger statement about words than to say these words are ***“God’s preserved words.”*** God’s preservation maintains all the authority and Holy Spirit power that God originally placed on and in His words.

The doctrine of preservation is not a weak doctrine - it is a doctrine filled with Holy Spirit power! It does not need to be upgraded, improved or strengthened. It is the power of God in practice.

I am for everyone that preaches, practices and defends the words of the King James Bible. If my brethren do not use the exact terminology that I think reflects the teaching of Scripture, I will be a little disappointed in them, but I will not reject them. I do not expect perfection from men. I wish to be the friend of all those that honor the words of the King James Bible.

However, I do believe that this discussion has important consequences:

Using a Biblical term in a non-Biblical way opens a new avenue of attack for the enemies of the King James Bible. There is no reason to make it easier for them to make their unholy attacks.

Secondly, this debate is creating unfortunate confusion about the matter of Bible translations. Around the world dozens of projects are taking place. Believers are concerned about getting a faithful translation of the Bible in their national language. There is a revival of understanding the issue of the Received Text.

However, too many men are producing a first edition of a translation, calling it “inspired” and stopping right there. A proper translation requires a rigorous purification process (such as the one that took place with the King James Bible). A weak or secular definition of “inspiration” is hindering the most important work of Bible translation.

Thirdly, this debate causes people to miss the genuinely important debate going on about Scripture today. Some men who are loud advocates of the “inspiration” of the King James Bible are also strong *proponents* of a Critical Text Bible for the Spanish people and for other language groups.

It may be expedient politics to advocate a Received Text Bible for the English speaking world and a Critical Text Bible for the Spanish speaking world, but it is horrible doctrine. Why would a “King James man” want the Hispanic world to use a Bible that conflicts with the King James Bible in hundreds of places and thousands of words?

This is hypocritical and it has a great price attached to it. If you promote the Critical Text in ***any*** language you can no longer consistently oppose Critical Text Bibles in English. Sooner or later, your hypocrisy will catch up to you. There is simply ***no*** doctrinal or textual foundation to prevent such a change. No matter how loudly a man or a ministry proclaims their loyalty to the King James Bible today, if they advocate the Critical Text in other languages they will probably be using a Critical Text Bible in English in a few years.

No one can consistently claim to be a “King James preacher” and support the Reina Valera 1960 or the TBS Spanish Bible. No one can consistently claim to be a “King James preacher” and support the French Louis Segond Version (either the Bible Society version or the TBS version). The same is true for the Chinese Common Union Version (CUV) and a host of other foreign translations.

Some of the people influenced by Dr. Ruckman have called me a modernist and a Bible corrector (even though they can’t identify one word of the King James Bible that I would change). Most recently, some have called me “a King James Bible hater.” Other men influenced by Dr. Ruckman have been much kinder to me.

I have also been called a Ruckmanite by advocates of the Critical Text. However, I have never been influenced by the writings or teachings of Dr. Ruckman (in the interest of full disclosure I met him once when I was fifteen).

Some Hispanic preachers refer to me by their pet nickname, “The Antichrist.” I am sure that they mean that in Christian love. However I am grateful to have many Hispanic preacher friends who love me in spite of my faults and limitations.

I am used to being called names. Somehow, I doubt that this article will end that experience. If you preach, practice and defend the words of the King James Bible, ***I am for you!***

I hope that we will all preach, practice and defend those blessed words wisely.

One missionary wrote, “As I understand the Scriptures, ‘inspiration’ is the process by which God directed and controlled the recording of His exact words for mankind. But after those words were recorded, God ceased to “inspire’. The process was completed and the message was recorded. God, from that point on, perfectly preserved exactly what He gave so that we would have every word exactly as He gave it. This is called preservation. So if you were to ask me if I believed the Bible is inspired, I would

answer by saying, ‘Yes, however, to be more theologically accurate, it was inspired and is now preserved.’”
Amen and Amen!

Actually, it seems that much of the “civil war” today is not really about doctrine at all. It seems to be about who is going to “speak for fundamental Baptists.” Again, let me be crystal clear. I am an independent Baptist. I do not recognize a pope, bishop, church councils or a Baptist Sanhedrin. I don’t believe in model churches or that anyone pastors to pastors. I have no headquarters! I have a Bible and that is my sole authority.

Finally, let me appeal for grace for and from all of us. The founders of fundamentalism, for all their wonderful accomplishments, were not clear or consistent on their definition of “inspiration” or their identification of the Biblical text. ***We are paying for that confusion now!***

Most of the leaders of the independent Baptist movement can be quoted several different ways on both the definition of “inspiration” and on textual issues.

Vigorous debate is appropriate and even beneficial. A “civil war” is not. Let us all find some grace in our hearts for those who love the Bible and strive to reach the souls of men!

Verbal, plenary “inspiration,” verbal, plenary preservation, verbal, plenary translation: any other doctrine of Scripture is just not enough. ■

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

☛ ***FIRST KNOWN CONVICTION OF THOUGHT CRIME IN MODERN BRITISH HISTORY*** - The following is excerpted from “Court Delivers,” *The European Conservative*, Oct. 16, 2024:

“An army veteran has today been convicted for praying silently near an abortion clinic. Adam Smith-Connor, who served in Afghanistan, was prosecuted for breaching a ban on protests within a buffer zone around a clinic in Bournemouth, Dorset, in November 2022. His head was bowed and hands were clasped as he prayed for his unborn son Jacob, whom he now regrets aborting more than two decades ago. Reporting on the case, the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) legal advocacy group said the conviction was ‘the first known conviction of a thoughtcrime in modern British history.’ It added that Smith-Connor must now pay £9,000 (€10,770) in legal costs to the prosecution, just for praying in his head for three minutes. ... The news comes as Keir Starmer’s Labour government is considering rolling out a ban on silent prayer outside abortion clinics. Ahead of the ruling, Lois McLatchie Miller, who is communications officer at ADF UK, described the case as ‘era-defining,’ adding: ‘Either you can be tried and convicted for the beliefs you hold in your head, or you can’t.’ It turns out that you can.”

[CONCLUSION: Smith-Connor was convicted for praying in a restricted place. The British government will answer to God for legalizing the murder of unborn children and for restricting the protest of those who are opposed to it. The man’s prayers for his dead son are unscriptural and ineffectual. He needs to be born again by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ and to learn the sound

doctrine of Scripture.]

☛ ***IRISH TEACHER SENT BACK TO PRISON FOR REFUSING TO BOW TO TRANSGENDER IDEOLOGY*** - The following is excerpted from “Irish Teacher,” *Standing for Freedom*, Oct. 17, 2024:

“Irish schoolteacher Enoch Burke is one of many Christians who face persecution in Europe, in this case the Republic of Ireland, because he will not go along with the woke and trans mafia, which has been waging a full global propaganda campaign in the name of gender ideology. Going back to 2022 ... Burke was suspended and fired from his teaching job. He was issued a restraining order by the court barring him from entrance into Wilson’s Hospital School in Westmeath, Ireland. He was told his mere presence was ‘stressful’ and posed a public health and safety risk for children. What was his crime? Was Enoch Burke some kind of child predator or a deviant, one that needed to be imprisoned and kept away from children? No, Burke did something far worse than that by today’s moral standards. He refused to comply with the new rules of transgender ideology, refusing to play into the confusion by addressing his students by their preferred pronouns or using their chosen trans names. Instead, he committed the greatest sin imaginable: He has repeatedly told the truth. He even committed acts of blasphemy--again, today’s standards of blasphemy--by invoking Christian truth claims on gender and sexuality. Burke has already been fined over €250,000 (\$271,164) so far and has spent over 400 days in jail. Just last week, a High Court judge ordered him back to jail, in his words, ‘with great reluctance,’ because Burke refuses to comply with the original court order that prohibits him access to Wilson’s Hospital School’s campus.”

☛ ***FEDERAL COURT SAYS PARENTS HAVE RIGHT TO OPT CHILDREN OUT OF GENDER LESSONS*** - “A U.S. District Court judge has ruled that a teacher violated parents’ rights when she, without any notice or opportunity for the parents to opt out, read two books to first-grade students about gender ideology and told the children that parents guess a child’s gender at birth and sometimes make mistakes. The issue began March 31, 2022, when Megan Williams, a first-grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary School (part of the Mt. Lebanon School District in Pennsylvania) read two books - [When Aidan Became a Brother](#) and [Introducing Teddy: A Gentle Story about Gender and Friendship](#) - to children in her class for the purpose of teaching them about gender ideology.

Williams has a child who is the same age as the students in her class, though he goes to a different school district. Some of the students knew her son through youth sports. At age 5, Williams’s son began wearing dresses and would sometimes say ‘I am a girl.’ The same week that Williams chose to read the books to the students, her son had said he wanted to have a pronoun change....The record shows that when the parents presented their concerns to Bielewicz and the school district, they were largely ignored. No one investigated the complaints or even interviewed teachers’ aides from the class, and messages show that there was never any realistic consideration of punishing Williams. Rather the

principal and superintendent supported Williams and her decision to read the book and refused to create a written policy that would require that parents be notified of upcoming lessons on gender ideology and be given the chance to opt their children out. ... The plaintiffs filed suit claiming that the district had violated their right to direct the upbringing of their children, their right to the free exercise of religion, and their right to due process. U.S. District Court Judge Joy Flowers Conti has now ruled in favor of the plaintiffs.”

• **NEIMAN MARCUS SCRUBS THE WORD ‘CHRISTMAS’ FROM ICONIC 98-YEAR-OLD HOLIDAY GIFT CATALOG** - Dallas-based high-end retailer Neiman Marcus announced the change earlier this month the change in a press release. The catalog is now called “*The Holiday Book*” instead of “*The Christmas Book*.”

When the *Dallas Morning News* asked about the name change, a spokesperson said it was done for “inclusion.”

“The Holiday Book is a new name for what was formerly the Christmas Book, whose name was changed in the spirit of inclusivity as it welcomes customers of all backgrounds, religions and traditions to celebrate the season”, a spokesperson said.

The “Holiday Book” will have over 100 pages of luxury goods.

“This year’s holiday activation and campaign is an invitation to embrace the magic of Neiman Marcus. The storytelling was inspired by the theatrical traditions and folklore during the period that the brand was founded,” said Nabil Aliffi, Chief Brand Officer, Neiman Marcus, in the press release.

Aliffi continued, “Through our comprehensive 360-degree marketing strategy, we will take our customers on a remarkable journey that transcends traditional shopping, immersing them in a world of fantasy both in-store and online. We invite our customers to step into this extraordinary realm, where every interaction is an opportunity to experience the excitement of the season, no matter how they choose to engage with us.”

An upset employee at the company’s Dallas headquarters complained to the *New York Post* that Neiman Marcus CEO Geoffroy van Raemdonck is more focused on DEI (diversity/equity/inclusion) than growth.

“If Geoffroy and his team put as much time into running the business as they did on expressing viewpoints about DEI, we would be buying Saks or launching an IPO,” the employee told *The Post*. “Instead, my job is at risk because of our business failure.”

The company did not actually explain the reason for the change to employees.

“We found out via the Dallas Morning News article,” another employee told the paper. “The book didn’t need a name change. Personal opinions about inclusion — from Geoffroy and his leadership team — changed this.”

• **KAMALA HARRIS’ ATTACK ON CHRISTIANS** - Kamala Harris recently made a patronizing stop at a Georgia church as part of the Democrats’ “souls to the polls” campaign. You’ve seen this play before, a Democrat making her rounds to black churches

during election season — all smiles, clapping off-beat to gospel music, trying to appear as though she cares about the congregation and, by extension, the Christian faith.

But don’t be fooled: Harris isn’t in the pews because she loves Jesus, believes the gospel, or cares about the welfare of the nation (Jeremiah 29:7). No, rather, her appearance in the Lord’s house is a classic example of political theater, merely leveraging faith for votes. Harris’ church schtick is richer than Nancy Pelosi’s investment portfolio, considering the former’s braggadocios history of hostility toward Christians.

As a senator, Harris attacked Trump’s judicial nominees (Paul Matey, Brian Buescher, and Peter Phipps) for being members of the Knights of Columbus, suggesting that anyone who affirms Catholic teachings on marriage and abortion is unfit for public office. Perhaps even more alarming, as California’s attorney general, Harris *personally* oversaw the persecution and raid of Catholic pro-life journalist David Daleiden, who had exposed Planned Parenthood’s sale of aborted baby body parts. *This was not an isolated incident - Harris consistently uses her position to target those who stand for biblical values.*

Her comments Tuesday in an interview with MSNBC’s Hallie Jackson further display her anti-Christian stance. Harris openly rejected religious exemptions for health care workers who believe abortion is morally wrong. That means, for example, she wants Catholic hospitals and other Christian practitioners to be *forced* to perform abortions despite their deeply held religious convictions. This is an undeniable assault on religious freedom, targeting anyone who refuses to bow to her cult of death.

Furthermore, Harris and running mate Tim Walz’s support for abortion until birth only highlights their willingness to attack the sanctity of life — one of the most foundational tenets of the Christian faith.

Harris’ policy positions are not just rhetoric; they reflect a deeply ingrained opposition to Christian values. For example, she has championed the Equality Act, which, under the guise of “anti-discrimination,” would force Christian schools, charities, and businesses to violate their beliefs on marriage, sexuality, and the sexes. Thankfully, this egregious piece of legislation failed to become law in 2021 due to a lack of bipartisan support in the Senate, but a Harris-Walz administration would likely bring it back — and might even support nuking the Senate filibuster to ram it through Congress.

Just days before Harris’ performative Georgia church visit, she headlined a Wisconsin college rally and showed how reflexively she mocks Christianity. When two students chanted, “Jesus is Lord” and “Christ is King,” her response was to sneer, “*You’re at the wrong rally,*” followed by her witch-like cackle. It’s obvious she hates Christians — or at least the kind who don’t serve her political ambitions.

Christians must not be naive. It’s not enough for a parasitic politician to show up at our churches, making hollow references to faith. We can’t hand out our votes so easily (regardless of what Ray Ortlund might say). And if your church leaders invite a pagan

priestess like Harris (or your pastor endorses one), maybe it’s time to find a new church.

Kamala Harris has shown time and time again how willing she is to undermine everything faithful believers stand for. Christian, when you exercise your civic duty, don’t just remember who she is. Remember who you are: a redeemed slave to King Jesus. Christ is, indeed, King. Vote accordingly.

• **CHRISTIANS ARE ‘AFRAID’ TO APPLY THEIR FAITH TO POLITICS, STUDY FINDS** - Christians believe they should share biblical solutions to America’s cultural issues, but they feel unequipped or “afraid,” due to cultural pressure, a new poll has found.

“A Survey on Christian Cultural Engagement,” which polled 1,000 evangelical Christians, was commissioned by the Institute for Faith and Culture (IFC), founded and led by Rob Pacienza of Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church and Truths that Transform, and carried out by Lifeway Research.

Most said they have the chance to discuss biblical truths with those outside the church, who disagree with them, but only 30% seek out such opportunities. Roughly one in four Christians (27%) felt they had the necessary tools to carry out such a dialogue, and 31% described themselves as “reluctant” or “indifferent” about sharing their faith-centered views.

“It’s not just that some churches shy away from the public square. Actually, Christians do know that they should be involved in politics and government. They do know they should be involved in culture in every sphere of their life. But they’re afraid to do so for some reason,” said Lauren Cooley, executive director of IFC, on “Washington Watch with Tony Perkins” Wednesday.

“While our faith is to be a personal faith, deeply personal, it’s not to remain private. It’s to be shared with others” and with “different spheres of culture,” said Cooley.

“They know. They believe. But then they fail to act,” she said.

While the Bible exerted the greatest influence on how confessing Christians form their views of social problems, only half credited the Bible as the cornerstone of their worldview. One in three heeded social media influencers, their teachers, or their political party.

In a concerning development, 20% of evangelicals said the Bible is “not relevant for most daily decisions,” and 24% have given up trying to influence the culture. Fully 24% of Christians believe “God is unconcerned with if or how they vote.”

Some 80% of evangelical Christians admit they “have trouble understanding how to apply the Bible’s teaching to important questions in their life,” and 13% believe the Bible is “silent on most of the big questions our society is facing.”

Family Research Council President Tony Perkins said

the research presents “a troubling disconnect” in the lives of evangelical Christians. “While an overwhelming 93% of respondents believe it’s important to interpret the world through Scripture, and 87% believe the Bible speaks to modern issues, those beliefs have not translated into the hearers of the word becoming ‘doers of the Word,’ as the Apostle James instructs us” (James 1:22).

To solve this, preachers must use the pulpit to tell parishioners they must begin “connecting your biblical values to the way you live your life,” Cooley told Perkins.

“First, even though people want to have those tough conversations, they don’t necessarily feel equipped to” do so, said Cooley. That may be due to the fact that one in four evangelical Christians attends church less than once a month, and nearly one-third read the Bible no more than on a monthly basis. “But then we also found that people are just scared. We see so often that if you speak out on issues of our day and you speak with moral clarity, you get called names. You get demonized.”

She noted the terms “racist,” “sexist,” and “Christian nationalist” have become the preferred slanders of the anti-Christian Left.

“But the reality is, the reasons we talk about these issues is because we love others. We think that God’s design is what’s best for human flourishing,” Cooley reiterated.

“To be scared of being called names is really not a great reason why not to follow God’s word,” she concluded.

