

# Law Versus Opinion

We live in a society that is very different than most other countries in the world. The levels of freedoms that we enjoy makes us the envy of many oppressed souls.

We see in the Declaration of Independence the following: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, ..."

We see the purpose of government is for the securing of these rights.

Article. I. Section. 1. Of the United States Constitution says, "All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

Webster's American Dictionary of the English Language, online, gives the following definition.

Legislative, adjective 1. Giving or enacting laws; as a legislative body. 2. Capable of enacting laws; as legislative power. 3. Pertaining to the enacting of laws; suitable to laws; as legislative style. 4. Done by enacting; as a legislative act. So in our system of separate powers, it is not the job of the Executive or The Judicial branches of government to make laws. It is clearly the job of the Congress to make any and all such laws. Unfortunately, we have seen a perversion of our system in that the Supreme Court is legislating from the bench.

One of the remarkable details of our system of government is that we can elect the legislators, thereby we have accountability. In the case of the Supreme court, the justices are appointed, lifetime I may add, and therefore we are unable to safeguard any legislative actions they take.

Our forefathers, in their wisdom, knew this and created a system to protect us. That is why the Supreme Court, or any part of the judicial branch of government, has absolutely no constitutional authority to make any law.

In the matter of Roe Verses Wade, there was never law, only the opinion of the Court. It was the opinion of the Court that a woman had the right to have an abortion if the fetus was not viable, or able to live outside the womb.

I know that most, if not all of our church people share the opinion that a baby in the womb is alive and is precious. One may ask why even write this article when we all probably agree completely on this subject.

My answer is that we will be facing this issue in conversations with other people in the coming weeks. The feeling that the Supreme Court will be changing its opinion on the matter of abortion has already sparked protests across our nation.

Luke 1:41 tells us, "And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:" The Bible, God's Holy Word, calls the unborn a babe.

Psalm 139:13-14, "For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well." Me is a personal pronoun, and we are wonderfully made.

Jeremiah 1:5, "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

Understand that the Almighty God, the Creator of the Universe, creates us and has a purpose for us.

Psalm 127:3, "Lo, children are an heritage of the lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."

Job 31:15, "Did not he that made me in the womb make him? And did not one fashion us in the womb?"

These are just a few of the scriptures that show we have an identity while in the womb, it is a child in the womb.

The argument that is presented from the secular point of view is that we are taking away women's right. Quite frankly, a woman's right ends where another's right begins. A woman has no more right to kill a baby because it is inside her body than I have a right to kill someone because they are in my house.

We must sadly remember that with every successful abortion, I use the word successful with remorse, someone dies and about half are female.

The next point of attack usually starts with, "What if...." And then we have some situational details given. My question is, what if we decided to follow God and surrender to his will?

Psalm 127:3 tells us that children are a heritage and a reward. Children are a blessing, a precious gift from God, and

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A woman has no more right to kill a baby because it is inside her body than I have a right to kill someone because they are in my house.

## Theme Set for Lifeword Sunday

We are excited to announce the theme for Lifeword Sunday 2022:

### -NO BORDERS-

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations."

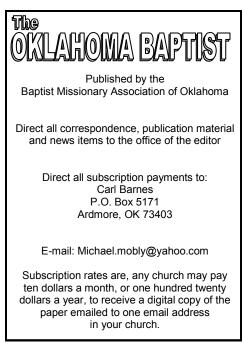
The gospel has NO BORDERS, God's kingdom has NO BORDERS and therefore, Lifeword has NO BORDERS!

Lifeword Sunday is a day for every church in the BMA to pray for, celebrate, and give to the ministry of Lifeword! The 2022 edition of Lifeword Sunday is scheduled for October 23!

Our mission is to make the name of Jesus known among the nations and to share His gospel of hope to a dying world.

We are all invited into a spiritual kingdom. There are no guards, fences, barriers, or restrictions in His kingdom. God's only requirement is faith in His Son as Jesus, our Savior.

Lifeword currently shares the gospel in 135 languages in 125 countries around





the world. Our goal is to reach 200 languages in the next five years. We are well on our way to reaching that goal.

Lifeword never asks for funding over the air; we are totally supported by the generosity of churches and individual donors. The tools and technology of media are excellent avenues for us to cross borders and cultures to bring hope to people desperate to know Him. Lifeword seeks to share Jesus in the heart languages of those viewing or listening to our message.

There is no place we are not willing to go. Our mission is to take the gospel to every tribe, every tongue, every culture, every race, in every nation.

Registration for Lifeword Sunday is now open at www.lifeword.org/lifeword -sunday.

Every church who registers will have their pastor entered into the Lifeword Sunday Giveaway which is a free MacBook Air!

We would love the opportunity to share what God is doing through Lifeword.

If your church would like to schedule Donny or another team member to come for a visit, you can contact Jennifer at jennifer@lifeword.org.

## Master's Builders Still Hard at Work

On May 12, eight Master's Builders traveled to Latch Missionary Baptist Church, just west of Gilmer, Texas. They were there to help build a much needed closet for storage in their Family Life center. The closet was 44'X3' with six double doors.

This will hold tables, chairs, game items, etc. and give the church much more usable space in their activities area.



We so enjoyed our time with this sweet church and pastor Leon Ross and wife Johnnie. They provided a delicious lunch meal and breakfast and break snacks. We all agreed that the lunch meal was one of the best we've had in a long time.

Thank you to Mary, Rachel, Debbie, Jo ,Johnnie and others that sent food. Y'all are Awesome!!

The Master's Builders plan to be at Jacksonville College in Jacksonville, TX, on June 6 to begin work. Please pray for our men as they work.

If you have questions about this ministry or if your church has building needs, please contact:

Mike Green at 972-935-3877 or David Axe at 903-918-0720. And Follow us on Facebook!

**Reporter- Nelda Malone** 

"? Was Just Thinkin

**By Narita Roady** 

"Full Surrender"

A couple was just returning home from vacation. It was around 9pm and not only were they exhausted, but the wife had been sick the whole trip. Work loomed ahead early the next morning so she went on to bed.

Just as sleep was overtaking her, she heard her husband frantically hollering from the kitchen. She rushed to his side to see their 10 year old cat Rudy with his head stuck in the disposal. The headless cat was frantically clawing the slick sink hoping to free himself.

The husband had disposed of some fish earlier and the temptation to possibly retrieve a snack was too much for Rudy.

She calmed the terrified pet while her husband attempted to dismantle the disposal.

To add to the chaos, their other cat was jumping in and out of the sink, licking Rudy's head for comfort, then biting his bottom out of fear. This definitely did not help matters.

Unable to take apart the disposal they tried greasing Rudy's head with Crisco and shampoo, hoping it would slip out but to no avail.

After exhausting all their ideas, they decided they needed professional help. At 11:00pm they began making calls: their plumber (no answer), the disposal company number (no answer), a 24 hour pest removal service (no answer), and finally 911 as poor Rudy's pink paw pads were turning a dusky shade of blue.

It was now midnight and two very caring and concerned officers arrived at the scene. One had the idea to use a saw to cut the plastic flange around Rudy's head. The bottom of the unit came off, revealing Rudy's head and allowing him to breath., but the plastic ring couldn't be cut without endangering their frightened pet.

The other officer suggested that they take

the sink out; lay it on its side and that would allow them to free pitiful Rudy.

Plumbing lines were capped off, pipes unscrewed, and within an hour the sink was removed. Laying the sink on the side offered no solution, Rudy was still stuck.

The next plan of action was to get Rudy to a veterinary clinic to sedate him. If he were limp surely he could be removed.

The officer offered to lead them to the clinic. The wife gets in the back seat with Rudy and the kitchen sink and the husband drives.

It was now 2:00 a.m. Rudy was not in good shape, his temperature was low and his oxygen level was half of what it should be. The vet announcing he was in shock, sedated him, and covered his neck and head with K-Y Jelly. Immediately Rudy's head slipped out of its sink prison.

The couple went to the lobby while the staff frantically worked to save Rudy. At 3am the doctor came to the lobby to tell them he would be fine and could come home in a couple of days.

Rudy's little adventure cost them \$1100 in ER vet bills, follow up visits, a new sink and plumbing, new electrical wiring, and a new garbage disposal with a cover! A pretty valuable little kitty considering they got him for free!

As is probably obvious to everyone, is that if Rudy had just yielded and surrendered to those trying the help him the problem would have been resolved in the beginning.

Neither the stubborn kitty nor his owners would have had to suffer and gone through so much.

Oh how Rudy reminded me of my life and the times I fought against surrendering something in my life to God. I vividly remember the cost, pain and ordeal I went through by fighting His choice. I know there are times I was resisting God and did not even realize I was. Could this be the case with you too?

To be totally surrendered to God we must not only want God to accomplish His will in our life, but we must also have a passionate desire to fulfill His will.

Do you see the difference? If we only want God to work His purpose we are saying, "Okay, I am resigned to whatever you want."

While this is all fine and good I think we need to go a step further. When we want personally to carry out His wishes we then become a part of His divine design.

This makes us partners with God rather than spectators in His great work. Whatever we claim as our own ambition aspires us to greater commitment and effort.

Be sure of one thing, once you truly want to work hand in hand with God your dedication will be tried. Circumstances will very possibly take a frightening turn.

You say you surrender all, but what happens when it looks like those people and things dearest to your heart may be taken, harmed, or made to suffer?

Will you still want to fulfill His will? Times such as this are true testing grounds as we find we really weren't ready to hand everything over to God.

At this point we will all come to this fork in the road. We will choose one of two things; realize we haven't actually entrusted Him with all we have and willingly put everything in His hands or we begin to fight against the Lord, refusing to accept His way.

The first way, turning it all over to Him will seem the hardest way, but in reality it is the easiest. To take this path means we must acknowledge what we fear most and totally resign that possibility to God.

With this leap of faith, fears usually subside and we are overwhelmed with the assurance that God will only do what is best.

To take the second, longer way, means frustration, heartache, confusion and emotional turmoil.

("Full Surrender," cont on pg 7)

### **CBC Earns Military Friendly School Award**



Central Baptist College has once again earned the Military Friendly® School designation for the 2022-2023 year. Institutions earning the Military Friendly School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey.

More than 1,800 schools participated in the 2022-2023 survey with 665 earning the designation.

The 2022-2023 Military Friendly Schools list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

Methodology, criteria, and weightings were determined by Viqtory with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community.

Final ratings were determined by combining the institutions survey scores with the assessment of the institutions ability to meet thresholds for Student Retention, Graduation, Job Placement, Loan Repayment, Persistence (Degree Advancement or Transfer) and Loan Default rates for all students and, specifically, for student veterans.

CBC President Terry Kimbrow said, "It is an honor to earn the Military Friendly School designation for the 13th year in a row. Central Baptist College has a long tradition of working with students who serve or have served in the military. We are devoted to helping veteran students, and their families, realize their goal of obtaining their college degree. We will continue to do whatever it takes to honor their service to our country."

Military Friendly® National Director of Military Partnerships, Kayla Lopez

stated, Military Friendly® is committed to transparency and p r o v i d i n g consistent datadriven standards

in our process. This creates a competitive atmosphere that encourages institutions to consistently evolve and support their programs.

Award level schools have gone beyond that standard, Showing true commitment and dedication in their efforts. The Military Friendly® benchmark promotes positive educational outcomes and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the Military Community."

For more information about Central Baptist Colleges student veteran programs, visit CBCs website at: cbc.edu/military or contact admissions at cbc.edu or 501-329-6873 to speak with a CBC Admissions staff member.

#### About Military Friendly® Schools:

The Military Friendly® Schools list is created each year based on extensive research using public data sources for more than 8,800 schools nationwide, input from student veterans, and responses to the proprietary, datadriven Military Friendly Schools survey from participating institutions.

The survey questions, methodology,

criteria and weighting were developed with the assistance of an in d e p e n d e n t research firm and an advisory council of educators and employers.

The survey is administered for free

and is open to all postsecondary schools that wish to participate. Criteria for consideration can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

CBC offers an Associate of Science degree in Military Technologies. To admitted students, CBC also offers the following benefits to our service men and women:

CBC has a School Certifying Official to process enrollment certifications for VA GI Bill Education, Federal Tuition Assistance, tuition discounts of up to 25% for qualifying soldiers and their dependents, free evaluations of AARTS/ SMARTS military transcript, and participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program.

In addition to the Military Technologies Associates degree, CBC offers over 40 degree programs. Twelve of these degree programs are offered in the (PACE) Professional Adult College Education program.

The PACE program offers the working adult the opportunity to work full time and obtain their college degree.

#### **About Viqtory**

Founded in 2001, VIQTORY is a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB) that connects the military community to civilian employment, educational and entrepreneurial opportunities through its G.I. Jobs and Military Friendly brands. VIQTORY and its brands are not a part of or endorsed by the U.S. Dept of Defense or any federal government entity.

Learn more about VIQTORY at www.viqtory.com.



## **Legacy Missionaries Honored**

Four missionary couples were recognized as the 2022 BMA Legacy Missionaries on Wednesday, April 20, in a ceremony at the BMA National Meeting in Springfield, MO.

These missionaries dedicated their lives to global missions and have impacted countless others.

Dr. John and Mrs. Shirley Ladd served in Mexico for 57 years. The Ladds constructed the Good Samaritan Clinic in Aquismon, Mexico, in 1978, and Dr. Ladd served as the medical director of the clinic until 2012.

The clinic is still serving the people of Mexico today and is staffed by local medical personnel.



Bro. Marvin and Mrs. Helen Loyd served throughout Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Guatemala from 1966 until 1993.

Their ministry included teaching school, volunteering in a medical clinic, assisting with church planting, flying supply planes to missionaries and locals, building a seminary, reaching primitive tribes, and more.

Bro. Dale and Mrs. Barbara Thornton served in Taiwan for 40 years.

The Thorntons moved to Taiwan in 1961 and worked alongside Jack and Latrell Bateman planting churches and discipling believers.

Although they faced multiple challenges, they remained faithful to God's calling, and God continued to bless their ministry even after they returned from the field in 2001.

Bro. Don and Mrs. Linda Newsom served in the Philippines from 1978 until God called them home to heaven. The Newsoms spent nearly half a century planting over 30 churches and caring for the children of their community.

Mrs. Linda passed away in 2012, and Bro. Don in 2021, and they are both buried in the country that they loved so well.

During the ceremony, President of Global Missions John David Smith posed this question: "How will you outlive your life?"

He shared that a legacy demands that we must live for things we are willing to die for, commit to others, and realize that we will not see the full effects of our efforts.

Smith stated, "In order to leave a legacy of eternal value after this life, we have to seek things of eternal value during this life."

The Ladds, Loyds, Thorntons, and Newsoms each leave a legacy in their respective fields as the Lord continues to work in the lives touched by these faithful men and women.

"That Reminds Me

**By Jesse Spurlock** 

#### "A Modern Dictator"

I'm sure when you saw my title you pictured some harsh ruler in some far away country. However, I had something a little closer to home in mind. The dictator I want to tell you about is sitting on my desk, with one big eye.

Sitting beside him is the actual brain of the outfit. I don't usually even look at the brains which apparently offends him, so he will make a weird noise once in awhile just to let me know he's still there and actually in charge.

Sometimes it is something like he is clearing his throat, which is enough for me to look his way. However, once in awhile the noise sounds serious and sends a shiver down my spine as I visualize major surgery.

But, apparently all he wanted was my attention because he will go back to a silent purr. I can almost hear him snicker and say, "Just kidding."

The truly irritating thing about this dictator is he has a keyboard extended toward me. This is to give me the impression I actually control him. But he and I both know better.

Most of the time he will do whatever I ask, but ever so often he will unplug the keyboard just to see how long it will take me to figure out why he is not responding. He doesn't usually do that until after he has lulled me into the misconception that he is there for my every wish and command...and voila!

There I am hammering on the keyboard and nothing is happening on the screen. When I get pretty good at figuring that one out, he will do something else very insidious.

He will just quit responding and sit there will a small dash blinking away in that big ol' eye, waiting for me to try to figure this one out.

By now you know the dictator I'm

talking about is my computer. I know it's a dictator because just a few minutes ago it put out a message on the screen.

"There are unused un-used

icons on your display (or some such computer term), click on the bubble to clean up your display."

I'll do that later, I thought, and I clicked on the X to get rid of the bubble. The bubble disappeared and I started to continue my work. Nothing happened! Then, the bubble message popped back up.

"All right, all right," I exclaimed, as I clicked on the bubble.

My dictator proceeded to show me which icons I needed to remove. I obediently agreed. When I had done what he wanted, he let me go back to the work I wanted to do.

This is probably humorous to YOU,



because it happened to ME! I'm convinced some of these things are

permitted to come upon us so that we know we are not really in charge of our own destiny. We humans like to think we control everything around us, but there are lessons on every hand to tell us that's not the case.

Great illustrations were the Murrah Building bombing in 1995 and again in the 2001 September 11th attack. In those we were all shown how vulnerable and helpless we were.

For children of God it was just a reminder of something we already knew. James 4:14, "...for what is your life? It is even a vapour that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away."

But for those who were unsaved, it was such a blow that many of them have never gotten over it. Our answer was in Psalm 62:8.

"Trust in Him at all times ye people, pour out your heart before Him: God is a refuge for us."

## Lindsay Church Celebrating 70 Years

The Lindsay Missionary Baptist Church was organized June 17, 1952, having been a mission from the Missionary Baptist Church of Alex, OK.

Bro. P.D. Ballard led in the organization. There were 11 charter members with Bro. Ballard being called as pastor. Lots were purchased at 905 S. Main on which the church, a white wooden building, was built.

In 1963 plans were made to build a new church building which we have today, with two additions added later.

On Sunday, June 19, we will have our regular morning church services with Bro. Dennis Clark preaching in celebration of our 70th anniversary.

Dinner will be served following the services. Visitors are welcome. There will be no afternoon service.

Inetha Dacus

## "Full Surrender," continued from pg 3

Our emotions are never a reliable source especially not amidst intense moments. As a matter of fact they can hinder our ability to obey God. There will not be one minute of peace as we wear ourselves down trying to battle with the Lord.

In many cases after a long, difficult struggle, a child of God will be so worn down they relinquish to Him after all. It is important to understand surrendering to His will doesn't mean going 'belly up' and giving up. Nor does it mean a dour faced, pouting resignation.

Quite the contrary, it means we are embracing, welcoming and believing His will is most excellent. No wonder doing so bring such peace to our troubled souls.

Yes there will still be pain, suffering, and perhaps grief, but we will not be overcome or devastated by these feelings. His inner strength will uphold us.

Instead of being inclined to blame God, our thoughts will be of His goodness, mercy and compassion.

Yes, yielding to God spares us many problems and much heartache. When we place our fears and problems in His capable hands, we have given it to the one that is in control of all things. When we

cling to our troubles and worries, all hope ends as we can do nothing.

Think for a moment. Where does God have you right now? Are you 'stuck' like Rudy, hysterically trying to free yourself? What problem are you clutching right now that you have no power to resolve? What are you worrying about? Do you need to surrender something precious to God?

Your marriage, a prodigal child, a loved one's or your health, a broken friendship, unsaved friends or family, finances, church problems, or uncomfortable changes in your life?

Deep in your heart you know what is giving you such misery. Which fork in the road will you take? Will you give these things completely, unreservedly to God or will you stubbornly hold on and keep tormenting yourself. Are you struggling as you read this? Listen, God is speaking to you now.

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:10



## Law vs Opinion continued from pg 1

should be treated as such.

In all likelihood we will see individual states determine if or when an abortion will be allowed or legal. Conservative states will typically have much more restrictive laws and liberal states will allow more opportunity to obtain an abortion. Just as a point of reference, you will not find anywhere in the constitution that we have the right to take another life.

Another thing to consider is the cruel and barbaric manner in which abortions are performed. If we did to a puppy or a kitten what is done to a baby, we would be arrested for cruelty to an animal. Stay strong in the battle and stand for those who cannot stand for themselves.

On another note, primary season is upon us. One of the most difficult tasks that we have is "to weed through" the political ads and attacks to know who to vote for.

The Oklahoma Second Amendment Association, the state's leading liberty group, has candidates fill out surveys and grades them based on voting records, and the surveys. Oklahomans for Health and Parental Rights is another liberty group that focuses on health-related issues and parental rights.

Both of these groups grade and endorse candidates. While no group is perfect, these two groups help us to know which candidates are favorable to protecting our riahts.

Learn where candidates stand on the issues, including financial issues. Are they tax and spend or do they believe in limited government. You can go to ok2a.org and look under the endorsed candidates to find who is endorsed and what grade candidates made on the survey.

Okhpr.com also has a wealth of information, but the I am not as familiar with navigating their site.

I use these sources, as well as where they stand on financial issues to make my choices.

Remember, we can all have our opinions on who the best choice is, just make sure your criteria are biblically based. If I can be of any assistance, feel free to contact me.

## **Latest News From New Generation**

Greetings again from Norman, Oklahoma. We continue in our outreach to the community with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We are continuing in our Sunday services, both on line and in the building. We are changing our Wednesday evening service to in-home Bible studies.

Bro. Luis and Melissa Santos will be hosting one in their home, with a focus on ministering in a Hispanic context. Bro. Chris Lorenz will be hosting one in his home with more of a focus on folks in his neighborhood.

Chris has recently moved to Noble, OK and he has already made several

contacts there.

We continue to share the gospel in our community and have seen several professions of faith. Bro. Chris continues in his efforts to spread the gospel as a representative of EE (Evangelism Explosion).

He has been training folks in Oklahoma and Texas. He also has plans to return to Mexico for some additional training there.

We ask for your continued support and prayers as we labor here in Norman and elsewhere. Steve & Lynn Puckett

## **Latest News From Grace Harbor**

May was quite an exciting and eventful month. We welcomed four new covenant members into our church, and baptized one lady at our Family Sunday service.

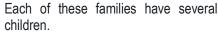
Last weekend, we hosted our annual Summer Park Event in the local park, and saw around 100 folks come through. Prior to this event, our folks went through a night of training and encouragement in sharing their faith with the lost and praying for the needs of those we would come in contact with at the park.

At the event, several folks had the opportunity to share the Gospel with people they came in contact with.

Another really exciting development is that we have been able to come in contact with a community of Afghan Refugees living in very close proximity to

our church.

There are about five Afghan families that we have the chance to meet who were forced to f I e e f r o m Afghanistan in August of 2021.



I have personally been able to spend a lot of time with each of them, both in their homes (in a nearby apartment complex) and in taking them to the park and the grocery store.

There is a language barrier that makes communication a challenge, but God opens doors both through allowing technology to help communicate, and one of their 10 year sons having a familiarity with the English language.

Each of these families are devout Muslim families, and it is clear that our mission with them is to find ways to speak and share the Gospel with them.

They are incredibly generous and hospitable, so there are doors being opened!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Southeast District Youth Camp June 6-10 Camp Goddard Sulphur, OK

Kids Camp

Cedar Hills Binger, OK

SOAR BMAA Youth Conference June 29-July 1 Dallas, TX

> BMAO State Youth Camp July 18-22 Cedar Hills Binger, OK