



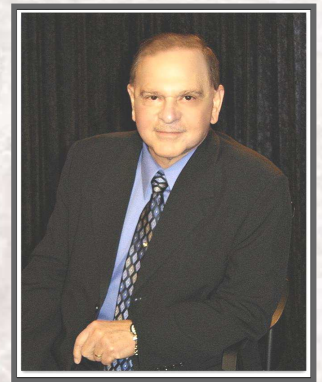
the
Informer
newsletter

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | PARAGON CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE
INT'L & PCAI CLERGY ASSOCIATION | JUNE 2023 – ISSUE 6

LEADERS DON'T SACRIFICE THEIR FAMILIES FOR MINISTRY

*By Dr. Henry A. Harbuck /
PCAI International General Overseer*

Many well-intentioned men and women have burned themselves out trying to “please” God. Ultimately, these parents often suffer divorce, runaway children, or other tragic consequences because of their absence from the home. Should a Christian leader “burn-out” as a sacrifice unto God? Absolutely not! God doesn’t need your obsessive-compulsive personality to help Him. This is a big mistake. Somewhere we have been taught that “burning out” for God is all that matters. However, this type of behavior only leads to spiritual and physical exhaustion. Unfortunately, this mind-set springs from an unrealistic expectation that “self” must be sacrificed to please God. If you are one of these, be careful. Set realistic boundaries for yourself, and stay focused. This “burn-out” mentality is often found in those who lived a debauched (corrupted) life before they became Christians. This type of person knows they cannot repay God for His goodness (grace), nonetheless, they keep trying. ♥



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OFFICE HOURS: 9:00AM to 4:00PM

Narrative of a Soldier and Prayer Warrior



Excerpt from article by Dr. Daniel O.C., Deeper Life Christian Center Pastor

**“Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord our God. They have bowed down and fallen; but we have risen and stand upright. Save, Lord! May the King answer us when we call.”
(Psalm 20:7-9)**

Some find their strength in their weapons and wisdom, but our miracle-deliverance can never be won by men. Our

boast is in Adonai Yahweh our God, Who makes us strong and gives us victory! Our enemies will not prevail. They will only collapse and perish in defeat while we will rise up, full of courage.

Give us victory our King, O Yahweh! The day we call on You, answer us in Jesus mighty name, Amen!
To talk with God, no breath is lost, talk on.
To walk with God, no strength is lost, walk on.
To wait on God, no time is lost, wait on.

He who kneels before God will stand against Satan and his hosts. I AM A SOLDIER

AND A PRAYER WARRIOR. The devil cannot defeat me. People cannot disillusion me. Weather cannot weary me. Sickness cannot stop me. Battles cannot beat me. Money cannot buy me. Devilish Group organizations and Corporations cannot silence me. Hell cannot handle me.

I AM A SOLDIER, A PRAYER WARRIOR. Even death cannot destroy me. For when my Commander calls me from this battlefield, He will promote me to a captain, and then bring me back to rule this world with Him.

I AM A SOLDIER, A PRAYER WARRIOR in this army

and I am marching, claiming victory. I will not give up. I will not turn around. I AM A SOLDIER, A PRAYER Warrior and God has my back in Jesus’ mighty name, Amen!

Saints of God Most High, we are called to be “PRAYER WARRIORS but not PROBLEM WORRIERS!” ♥



God is Linking and Connecting His End Time Bride

By Rev. Mike Taylor, Raphah Ministries President

**“Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years.”
(Revelation 20:1-2)**

To deceive is to cause someone to believe something that is not true, typically in order to gain some personal advantage. In Revelation chapter 20 the bible tells us

that God will cast Satan into the bottomless pit and shut him up so that he should deceive the nations no more. We also read that when a thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations again.

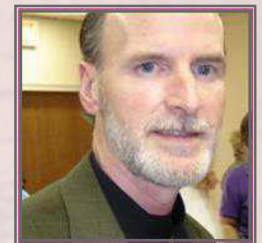
The deceiving spirit is alive and well in our world today. Jesus warned us that this spirit would be ruling in the last days. Man, today is controlled by the lust for power and mammon. Mammon is wealth regarded as an evil influence or false object of worship. Money is not evil, but the love of money is evil. Many today lust for control, power, and money.

Many deceive by all means to go after power and control. Our world today is full of poor and ungodly leadership. Liars and corrupt heads of

state. We are headed for war and communism. Communism feeds off of class warfare and the government owning all the property. We are told that if we stay on this path, we will own nothing, but we will be happy. This is the deceiving spirit we are up against.

What is God’s answer to this? At some point the Lord will return and set up His kingdom on the earth, until then we are told to occupy. I believe God is linking and connecting His bride for such a time as this. His bride, his remnant, is being made ready for the future battle ahead. This is not a battle in the flesh.

We are called to do a work in the end times. We are to overcome the darkness with our light. The light of Christ. We must partner with God to replace ungodly leaders and replace them with people who



care about people. The main linking, I sense now is around family and a few others that we meet or talk to on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis. God is always after the hearts and souls of men. It is harvest time. The end of the age. Jesus will return soon; we must stay ready for His coming but stay active on the field until He does.

I am excited about the future. I have no fear. This will be very challenging and perilous times but we are being made ready for the challenge. The enemy will fight us, but I read the book, we win. ♥

Excerpt from Christian Law Association Publications

Prepare Controversy

Those who love America are often startled to see the continuing moral decay of our nation. In 2023, people are openly advocating what would have been unthinkable in the past. Thankfully our Bible-believing churches still believe in the absolute truth of the Bible, and our pastors still proclaim Biblical truth.

But there is a danger! In many cases, we simply assume that our current church members know and agree with our positions. But in these days, many people who appreciate attending an uplifting worship service, unbeknownst to the pastor, do not share many of the church's core beliefs.

It is vitally important for the church's legal documents to be updated so they clearly explain the church's belief system, especially on controversial issues. Suppose you believe that a member should not teach Sunday school any longer because of not sharing the church's view on important issues. If those issues aren't clearly spelled out in writing, the church could face legal jeopardy when asking that teacher to step down.

While none of us wishes for controversy, it is wise to be as prepared as we can be in case we find ourselves in the midst of it. □

Be Careful with Church Apps

It has become cliché to say, "There's an app for that," but it certainly seems to be true. Many churches, especially during the pandemic, began to encourage giving through both websites and apps to make it possible for their members to continue supporting the Lord's work.

As church apps expand, some apps now allow users to sign documents electronically, and some churches wonder if this is an efficient modern way of handling liability release forms.

When it comes to using a church app for permissions like this, extreme caution is recommended. In the first place, you must be sure that your state considers electronic signatures to be valid for liability release forms. Secondly, you must be careful to understand the details of your state laws.

For example, many states required that the church has proof that the electronic signature was actually written by the person whose signature is given. In other words, the church needs to have proof that a minor didn't use the app and forge his parents' names thereby giving himself permission to attend events about which his parents knew nothing.

In some cases, the most practical way of ensuring that the signature was actually written by the parent is to retain hard copies of handwritten forms. This, of course, negates the convenience of the app for this particular purpose.

Be sure to look before you leap. If you have any questions about the legality of some aspects of your new church app, please contact Christian Law Associates first. □

Pray for America

The United States has a glorious history. Whether or not everyone likes to admit it, the Christian influence on the foundation of our nation is undeniable. The Pilgrims who settled in New England were clearly seeking religious liberty. And when we adopted the Constitution, religious liberty was included in the very first Amendment of the Bill of Rights.

Our Christian heritage is clearly under attack. From soft-spoken intellectuals who are ensconced in some of our most prestigious universities to lawbreaking protestors who terrorize some of our streets, there is a concerted effort to break down the Christian foundation of America and to replace it with an anti-God philosophy.

As our nation drifts further from its Christian heritage, the hidden anti-God agenda is being unmasked. More and more, we are seeing open hostility to the Christian faith. In times past, many of these people feel comfortable to classify people of faith as a part of some kind of unwanted fringe movement.

When God's people see this, they rightly think about praying for our nation. Prayer, of course, is commanded by God, and it is the duty of every Christian. But we should also remember that a call to prayer is also a call to cleanness. The Psalmist wrote pointedly that, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psalm 66:18).

When Peter wrote to the Christians of his day, he

urged them to be Godly people. Then he said, "For the time is come that judgement must begin at the house of God" (1 Peter 4:17). The commitment to personal holiness is vital. When we think about praying, we should be asking ourselves the question, "Am I clean before the Lord?"

The Christian Law Association stands for religious liberty, and we are doing everything within our power to ensure the churches can continue the vital

mission of sharing the message of the Gospel. We battle daily so that the religious liberties enshrined in our Constitution will remain a part of our national fabric.

As we do our work, we ask for prayer. And we know that proper prayer is offered by Godly Christian people who are doing their best to have clean hearts. May the Lord help us to be the kind of people we need to be as we labor on behalf of America. □

Do you have a Child in a Public School

Many public schools celebrate Pride Month, and many of them create assignments that violate the parent's sincerely held religious views. If you find yourself in this situation, please remember that you have a Free Exercise claim to excuse your child from these assignments or others that fall into the same category, like Halloween or Muslim holidays.

[Continued on page 4](#)

Your Right in the Workplace

Considerable confusion exists about exactly what rights workers have when they work at businesses who celebrate Pride Month. There is an extremely important distinction between a passive requirement and an active requirement that compels a worker to do something specific.

For example, an employer who requires all employees to wear a Pride T-shirt is compelling an employee to advocate for a particular position. When this requirement violates the employee's sincerely held religious belief, a religious accommodation should be granted. Likewise, if an employer requires a graphic designer to create a logo with a Pride overlay, this is compelling certain actions by the employee, and a religious accommodation should allow an employee to opt out of this assignment.

On the other hand, if a company decides to decorate its break room with Pride-themed objects, this action is not compelling the employees themselves to promote this point of view. Workers who believe that their testimony would be compromised if friend and associates knew they worked for a firm that decorates for Pride month would not be able to file a successful religious liberty case because no action is being compelled from the workers.

These situations can be complex. If you have questions about the exact nature of your religious rights in the workplace, place contact the Christian Law Association office for assistance. □

Do you have a Child....continued from page 3

Parents have the right to suggest alternative assignments for their children who are opting out of such assignments. For example, you could suggest that your children read about people with disabilities. It might be helpful to provide a list of books, podcasts, or videos you would like your child to read or watch as the basis for alternative assignments.

You may want to consider contacting the school board for assistance to be sure the school administration upholds their duty not to violate your Constitutional rights by applying their opt-out policy.

Our children are extremely valuable. We encourage parents to take advantage of their legal rights to protect their children in every aspect of life. □

2023 Mileage Rate from IRS

Just recently, the IRS announced the 2023 annual update for mileage rates used for determining deductible costs.

- ⇒ **Business use of vehicle for 2023: This rate is now 65.5 cents per mile.**
- ⇒ **Medical use of vehicle: This rate is now 22 cents per mile.**
- ⇒ **Driving in service to charitable organizations: This rate is unchanged at 14 cents per mile.**



During the United States Civil War (1861-1865), hundreds of thousands of casualties occurred. In the years this awful war, it became customary for citizens to visit cemeteries to honor the service of the military personnel who died in the war. Originally known as Decoration Day and celebrated on May 30 each year, it became a time to officially remember fallen service members and to mourn their loss.

Now celebrated the last Monday of May, the purpose of Memorial Day remains unchanged. It is a day that we set aside to remember the men and women who paid the ultimate price to defend the freedom of the United States of America. It is fitting for us to honor the memory of these national heroes.

At the Christian Law Association, we honor the memory of every member of the military who gave up life so that we may enjoy the freedoms we sometimes take for granted. We are proud to legally defend the liberties of Godly Americans who live in a land whose freedoms still exist because some deemed liberty to be more valuable than their own lives. □

Church/Ministry Tax & Law Date to Remember

June 15, 2023: Quarterly estimated tax payments for certain employees and churches. Filing for certain ministers and self-employed workers

Ministers (who have not elected voluntary withholding) and self-employed workers must file their second quarterly estimated federal tax payment for 2023 by this date. A similar rule applies in many states to payments of estimated state taxes.

June 30, 2023: Review housing or parsonage allowance designations

Now is a good time to review the 2023 housing or parsonage allowances designated for all ministers on staff. If an allowance designated for 2023 is clearly below actual housing expenses, then the church board should consider declaring a larger portion of the minister's remaining compensation as a housing or parsonage allowance.

A church is free to designate any portion of a minister's compensation as a housing allowance, but remember that clergy who own their home cannot claim a housing allowance exclusion greater than the fair rental value of the home (furnished, including utilities). Therefore, the allowance ordinarily should not be significantly more than this amount.