



Lesson 71

The Two Horns

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There are many things this Movement has had to unlearn. Since FFA left the Movement, and even before that, it was clear that many things we believed when they were the leaders weren't true. One of those things we have to unlearn is the understanding of the horns of the lamblike beast in Revelation. In this lesson, we are going to look at the two horns and see how our old understanding of them is false; then we'll understand what the new correct view of the two horns is.

The Two Horns

Republicanism and Protestantism

In Revelation chapter 13 two beasts are introduced which represent two powers. The first one, like a leopard, is a symbol of the Papacy. The other one is a beast with two lamb-like horns- we can say that it is a lamb with two horns. This nation was created peacefully compared to the other nations that we see in Revelation and Daniel, we can see that from the facts that it came up out of the barren ground and that it has horns like an innocent lamb. The power represented by this symbol is the United States. The two horns of the United States represent Republicanism and Protestantism. Those two things are the fundamental aspects to the United States.

The Protestant Horn

The Great Awakenings

The Great Awakenings were a series of Christian revivals that swept through Britain and America. The First Great Awakening took place from the 1730's to the 1770's. It came during a time when religion was becoming less and less popular and people began to stop going to church. The First Great Awakening took place primarily among the Dutch Reformed, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Baptists, some Anglicans, and Calvinists. Those who accepted it were called "new lights" and those who didn't were called "old lights". This awakening separated America into two groups- liberal and conservative. The Second Great Awakening took place from the late 1700's to the early 1800's. Although it was less widespread than the First Great Awakening, it had the same effect. It divided the United States into two camps- one that supported slavery and the other that didn't.

Protestantism splitting over slavery

The three most prominent Protestant churches that split over slavery were the Methodist, Baptist, and Presbyterian churches. The Presbyterian church was the first to split over slavery. In 1801, the "Plan of Union" was agreed upon. The Plan of Union was an agreement between Congressional churches and Presbyterian churches to support each other, and work together in evangelizing the country. The plan let Presbyterian churches borrow ministers from Congressional churches, and vice-versa; as a result, the Presbyterian churches became flooded with Congressional ministers. Conservative Presbyterians didn't like this, so in 1837 they did something about it. In 1837, the Presbyterian General Assembly took place. Conservative Presbyterians, called the old school, had a majority in the assembly over the liberal Presbyterians, called the new school. A vote took place on whether the Presbyterian church would continue to uphold the Plan of Union, but the conservatives repealed it. This excluded thousands of Congressionalists from the church. Angry, the Congressionalists left the convention and formed their own; and the liberal Presbyterians followed. Later the Congressionalists became Presbyterians. This officially marked the split between old school Presbyterians and new school Presbyterians, and although not directly over slavery, it was a reason the old school stopped liking the Congressionalists because they were against slavery, and the old school was more pro-slavery. The next church to split was the Methodist church. The Methodist church had been clear cut in calling for abolition, but they began to compromise. The Methodist church went from calling for abolition when it began, to calling for "gradual emancipation" in 1800, to letting churches make their own rules "regarding buying and selling slaves" in 1808, to finally saying that the church had no "right, wish or intention to interfere" with slavery in 1836. In 1840, they rejected 10,000 abolitionist petitions. In 1844, Northern Methodists finally fought back at a Methodist General Conference. They argued against a slave owning bishop, saying that slave owners shouldn't have such power. The debate lasted for days, but finally a vote took place that said the bishop couldn't keep his office. Southern Methodists then threatened to leave, so the situation was handed over to a committee. The committee allowed each church to decide whether they would stay or leave; and at the end, the Methodist church split in two. The last of these three major churches to split was the Baptist church. The Baptist church had tried to avoid the question of slavery for many years, and that worked until 1840. In 1840, an American Baptist Anti-Slavery Convention brought the issue of slavery up. The church argued over it for

four years. In 1844, the Baptist church refused to let a slave owner become a missionary. A few months later Alabama asked if slave owners could become missionaries but the answer was no. This angered Baptist slave owners so they called a meeting with southern Baptists to decide what to do. Their decision was to split from the church, like Paul and John Mark split up, and to form their own convention. In 1845, the split was made official when the new Southern Baptist Convention was approved of. This was the last of the three major churches to split over slavery.

Moral fall

Ellen G. White described what happened to the Protestant churches in a different way than we just saw. She says, “the second angel’s message of Revelation 14 was first preached in the summer of 1844, and then it had a more direct application to the churches of the United States, where the warning of the judgement had been most widely proclaimed and most generally rejected, and where the declension in the churches had been most rapid ... The churches then [in 1844] experienced a moral fall, in consequence of their refusal of the light of the advent message;” *Great Controversy* 389.2. Here Ellen White says that the churches refused the message of the Millerites and because of that they fell. We previously saw that the issue of slavery is what split the churches apart at this time. Because of slavery and the rejection of the Millerite message the Protestant churches split apart and fell in the time around 1844. This is what it means to have a moral fall.

Protestant Horn broken

The Protestants in the United States had a moral fall in 1844. From Millerite history we know that the Protestant churches rejected the message for their time and split over slavery. We know that a house divided cannot stand so when the Protestant churches divided they fell. That is why we used to believe that in 1844 the first horn of the United States- the horn of Protestantism, was broken.

The Republican Horn

What is Republicanism?

The United States has two horns. The first horn is Protestantism and the second is Republicanism. We looked at the Protestant horn, now we are going to look at the Republican horn. *Great Controversy* 441.1 says, "...Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America and sought an asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance were many who determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty. Their views found place in the Declaration of Independence, which sets forth the great truth that "all men are created equal" and endowed with the inalienable right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." And the Constitution guarantees to the people the right of self-government, providing that representatives elected by the popular vote shall enact and administer the laws. Freedom of religious faith was also granted, every man being permitted to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. Republicanism and Protestantism became the fundamental principles of the nation. These principles are the secret of its power and prosperity. The oppressed and downtrodden throughout Christendom have turned to this land with interest and hope. Millions have sought its shores, and the United States has risen to a place among the most powerful nations of the earth." In this quote Ellen White tells us what Republicanism is; it is independence, equality, life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and the Constitution. So, when we talk about Republicanism this is what our understanding of it is.

The Patriot Act

The Republican horn of the United States can be represented by a number of things. One important thing to point out is that Republicanism is the government of the United States, it is not just the Republican party. Both Republicans and Democrats can influence the horn of republicanism. We used to connect the Patriot Act to the horn of Republicanism. The Patriot Act was signed into law on October 26, 2001 by George W. Bush in response to the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The full name is USA PATRIOT Act which is an acronym standing for "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism" act. This act, among other things, enabled the government to watch people more easily, collect people's data, and search people's houses and offices- all of this was supposed to be used to stop terrorist attacks before they happened. Many people don't like the act because they think it will enable the government to spy on them for no reason: they think it is in violation of the Constitution. In 2015, it was changed by Obama (and it is now called the USA Freedom Act); he put some restraints on the government (like not allowing them to collect people's data in bulk), but some people still don't like it. These characteristics of the Patriot Act of 2001 is why this Movement used to connect it to the United States' horn of Republicanism, because many people thought it violated the Constitution.

Republican horn broken

The USA PATRIOT Act was signed into law in October 2001, only a month after the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001. The Patriot Act allowed the government to legally spy on its citizens without a proper reason. This was something that you would see in a dictatorship- not a republic. The signing of the Patriot Act, we used to believe, effectively ended the republic of the United States- it broke the second horn. That was why we marked the passing of the Patriot Act in 2001 as the breaking of the Republican horn.

The Unbroken Horns

The Horns don't break

The horns of the United States' will never be broken. We have seen what used to be this Movement's understanding of the two horns. The first one is Protestantism, and we believed that horn was broken in 1844. The second horn is Republicanism; we believed that horn was broken in 2001. But this is not this Movement's understanding of the horns any more. *The Great Controversy* 444.2 says, "...The Constitution provides that 'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' and that 'no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.' Only in flagrant violation of these safeguards to the nation's liberty, can any religious observance be enforced by civil authority. But the inconsistency of such action is no greater than is represented in the symbol. It is the beast with lamblike horns—in profession pure, gentle, and harmless—that speaks as a dragon." Here we see the lamblike beast is professing to be pure, gentle, and harmless- it is professing to uphold the two horns of Republicanism and Protestantism; but it actually speaks like a dragon. At the Sunday Law, which will be about gender, will Evangelicals and Republicans say, "we are discriminating?" No, because they never stop professing Republicanism- they never stop professing the horns. So if Ellen White says the lamb professes Republicanism and Protestantism, which are the horns, then the horns never break. The United States will never stop professing to uphold Republicanism and Protestantism, so since the horns are a profession, the horns never break. We used to believe the horns broke; this is one of the false ideas that we have to unlearn. But it is with correct methodology that we see the horns don't break, because the United States doesn't stop professing to be innocent.

Professing everything's good

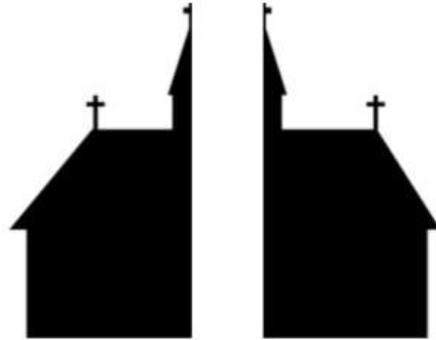
Even though the horns don't break everything isn't fine. Protestantism and Republicanism are damaged- they are damaged and manipulated by people. Conservative Evangelical Protestants want everyone to worship God their way, which they believe is the right way. They want to take away people's freedom of conscience and this is an attack on the Protestant horn of the United States. Conservative politicians (which happen to be Republicans) want to take away people's Constitutional rights. An example of this is the fact that today lots of Republicans want to enact laws that will make it even harder for minorities to vote. They are attacking the Republican horn of the United States. We saw in the previous paragraph that instead of the horns breaking they stay intact, but the United States does the opposite things: the horns are just a profession. We can see that today, Protestants profess to follow the Bible, but they discriminate against and force people- all of which is against God's character. Republicans profess to uphold the Constitution, but they are not reading it correctly and so they are actually seeking to make laws that will take away people's rights. These two groups of people are doing the opposite of their profession.

The Sunday Law will look normal

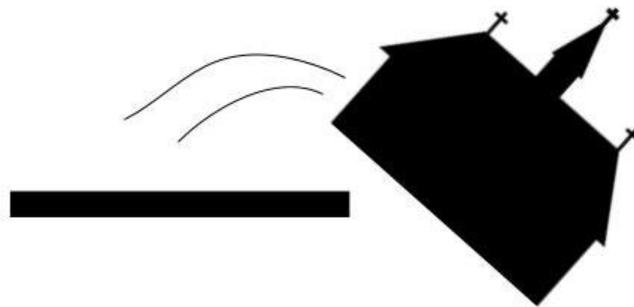
We know that a Sunday Law will be coming in the United States. We also know that it will be regarding gender equality. When the Sunday Law is passed, it will look normal. The United States won't stop professing its two horns. So even though it actually does stop upholding Republicanism and Protestantism, it won't be noticeable. The Sunday Law will be passed, destroying both Republicanism and Protestantism. Thus the United States, which still professes the characteristics of the two horns of a lamb, will speak as a dragon.

In summary:

The Protestant churches split over slavery in the 1700s and 1800s



EGW says that this split was a moral fall in GC 389.2



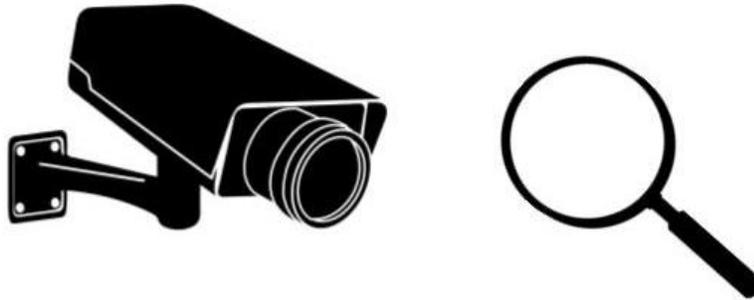
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horn



Republicanism is independence, equality, life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and the Constitution



The Patriot Act let the US government spy on people



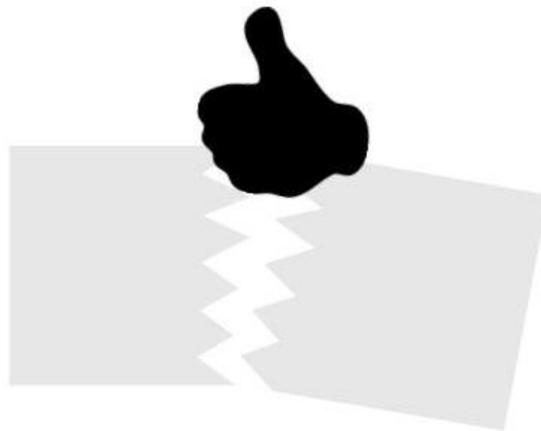
We used to say that the Patriot act was the breaking of the Republican horn



The horns are a profession of Republicanism and Protestantism, so since the US never stops professing, the horns never break



Conservatives will profess everything is good, but they are really tearing up Republicanism and Protestantism



At the Sunday Law everything will look normal, but it is only a profession to hide what conservatives are doing



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