

Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

July—August, 2007 ☆ Vol. 17, Number 3

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David Barton September 21, 2007 at the Sheraton Inn

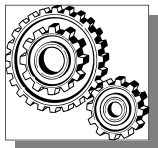
By
William Parkinson

Silence of the Lambs

Proposed legislation aimed at those who disagree with the homosexual lifestyle

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If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call 655-0280, email, or contact our website



In the Works

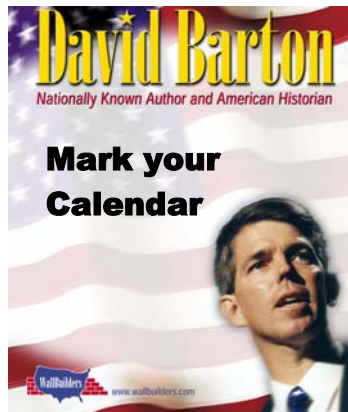
Bringing David Barton to Vermont in September

Bible Curriculum in Public Schools

Are you interested in becoming involved? CAM is looking for interested and active people to act as liaisons to their church, helping to keep the Christian community informed. Contact CAM at 372-6442.

As a lot of you know, CAM had David Barton scheduled to speak to us at the Sheraton a year ago. We were thrilled to have almost 700 people show up to hear David, but at the last minute storms in the Chicago area prevented his flight from coming to Burlington. We nervously went from thinking he'd be a half hour late, to an hour late, to realizing he couldn't make it at all. Rather than cancel and send everybody home we showed two of David's great videos, and the crowd was very gracious, most agreeing that although they missed not being able to see him in person, there was lots of great information and

good Christian fellowship to take away from the event. We were later told in all the years David has been speaking, and with hundreds of speaking en-



agements each year, this was only the second one he had missed. We seldom have a speaker of national prominence in our area, so we have arranged to get David to Vermont again. Last year we heard him speak

through videos on education and American political history. This year he will be speaking on the Founding Fathers and Islamic Terrorism, and the Role of Pastors and Christians in Civil Government, then taking questions from the audience.

For those of you who have not heard of David Barton, he is often on television and radio, has a large number of videos, and has authored many books. He has degrees from Oral Roberts University and Pensacola Christian College, and is the founder and president of Wallbuilders. He and his wife live in Aledo, Texas and have three children.

“Because of what America is and what America has done, a firmer courage, a higher hope, inspire the heart of all humanity.”

Calvin Coolidge

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A few of the books he has written include: *The Myth of Separation, Original Intent, American History in Black and White, The Bulletproof George Washington, Benjamin Rush, The Second Amendment, America's Godly Heritage, Keys to Good Government, A Spiritual Heritage Tour of the US Capitol, The Spirit of the American Revolution, and Restraining Judicial Activism.*

CAM worked hard putting together last year's event, and we felt rewarded by such a wonderful turnout. We are praying that this year's event will do even better and that none will be discouraged by David's not being able to come last year. He was at the Chicago airport with constant updates, expecting to be here right up to the end, but no flights were being allowed out. It is a great testimony to the strength of the Christian community in our area to be able

to bring out almost 700 people to hear a Christian speaker. This year, the hall will hold just over 1,000, and we'd love to see it full. Not only would that make it easier to attract future national speakers, it would send a message to our local media and politicians that the Christian community is alive and functioning here in Vermont. One local TV station did come last year, but since David wasn't able to be there, there was no report. Invite your friends and neighbors. It would be a fun event for Sunday School classes and home fellowships to do together. Home schoolers and history classes should consider it for a field trip. There will be a table with copies of David's books and videos for sale. We will have a drawing with signed copies of David's books awarded to the lucky winners. Pastors can request free bulletin inserts for their congregation with an announcement of the event and biography of David Barton.

You can also learn more about David at www.wallbuilders.com.

We could use a few helpers at the event to serve as ushers or to man the registration or book table. If you'd like to help, please give us a call.

David has done extensive historical research for his books and talks. His work inspired me to go back into the Vermont laws for a few Vermont examples. Did you know that in the Laws of Vermont 1798 it is written "...it is further enacted, that if any person shall publicly deny the being and existence of God, or of the Supreme Being ... shall be punished by fine not exceeding two hundred dollars"? In 1777, when we were the Republic of Vermont, 14 years before we became a state, the oath each Representative in the state assembly had to take included these words: "I do believe in one God, the Creator and Governor of the universe, the rewarder of the good

and punisher of the wicked. And I do acknowledge the scriptures of the old and new testament to be given by divine inspiration".

Please come out and show your support for Christian principles. David is a great speaker and this is a rare opportunity to hear in person from a national authority on these important issues. There will be an offering taken, but the event is free and open to all—until the hall is full! There is plenty of free parking right on site. Call 372-6442 or 862-3427 for reservations; it will help us with our planning. People will be welcome at the door, but having advance reservations will make our job easier. See you there on Friday, September 21, 2007 at the Sheraton Inn in South Burlington at 7:00 PM.

William Parkinson is one of the founding members of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Trinity Baptist Church.

“God loves America. When you consider what He went through to bring our forebearers to this magnificent land, and when you realize what He accomplished in bringing forth a new nation on this continent—a government founded on Christian principles and dedicated to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—you have to realize that He had a dramatic vision and purpose for this nation.”

James Kennedy

Silence of the Lambs

by
Craig Lyman

There are forces at work to muzzle you and me, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our First Amendment Rights to freedom of religion and freedom of speech have never been more in jeopardy than they are today. Our own Congress tried to stifle us with the bill HR 984, which in affect would have put a gag order on any grassroots activism from organizations such as American Family Assoc., Focus on the Family, and the National Right to Life Committee that warn their readers of legislation that would adversely affect our rights and beliefs as Christians. It seems our Congress doesn't want to hear from their constituents. There's an agenda being carried out in Washington to ignore the voice of the people which is extremely problematic. Thankfully, this bill has been defeated because of many concerned citizens who made their voices heard...but the problems don't end there.

There's yet more dangerous legislation in the works, HR1592 & S1105, which are known as "Hate Crime Laws". On the surface these laws sound good, but for many reasons this is bad news for Bible believing Christians. Is there a need for these laws? We already have laws that protect us from defamation of character, libel, and slander. Do we need more? Could it be that homosexual activists' real motivation is to silence the church and the word of God from criticizing their lifestyle in the public arena?

The argument then turns to protection from violent crimes. "Hate Crime laws" are redundant by definition because all violent crimes are motivated by hate in some degree and should be punished accordingly, regardless of the reason. Laws should penalize behavior, not opinions, and certainly not speech (which violates our constitutional first amendment rights). The media continues to stress the dire need for these "hate crime laws" and to the unassuming public it all sounds good, but this is subjective law, not objective law. It tries to read the mind and redefines what constitutes a crime to begin with. Our government should never be allowed to determine what acceptable or unacceptable speech is.

"Hate Crime laws" would also elevate the protection for certain groups of people, including but not limited to homosexuals and Muslims. The 14th Amendment promises equal protection under the law to all our citizens. Is this just crying wolf? All we need to do is look to countries where these laws are already in effect. In Australia two men were prosecuted for a "hate crime" because they held a seminar to educate Christians about Muslim beliefs. In Canada multiple persons have been convicted of "hate propaganda" (any speech that is critical of homosexual behavior), while extreme hostility towards religious objections to homosexual behavior are permissible. In Sweden a pastor was convicted by a trial court and sentenced to jail

time after preaching a sermon; and right here in America, General Peter Pace, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was fired because he publicly expressed moral opposition to homosexual behavior. Was this a "hate crime" or just plain old censorship?

We have two options; to speak out in opposition or remain silent until silence is enforced. Is this crying wolf, or is this bill the wolf in sheep's clothing? In Mark 8:38 Jesus said, "If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." We must pick up our cross and carry it daily, and on this day I myself could be opening the door to persecution on behalf of Jesus Christ by writing these words.

In Matthew 23:13 (NLV), Jesus speaks sharp words to the proud religious law-keepers. "It is bad for you, teachers of the Law and proud religious law-keepers, you who pretend to be someone you are not! You keep men from going into the holy nation of heaven. You are not going in yourselves, and you do not allow those to go in who are about to go in."

Craig Lyman is a Board Member of Christian Action Ministry and attends Maranatha Christian Church

What can I do?



Faith without works is dead
James 2:17

e-mail : camnet@surfglobal.net

www.christianactionministry.com

The Bible Curriculum in Public Schools

Are you a parent interested in working on the Bible Curriculum in Public Schools? There is a need for parents to assist in gathering petitions and making a presentation to their school board requesting the inclusion of the curriculum at their school. Information and training will be provided for those who are willing to serve. Experience nationwide has shown that local input and effort has been successful in starting the program in our schools. To date 395 school districts in 37 states have included this curriculum into their programs.

Contact Marion Clegg at 802-888-2071 or impactvt@comcast.net

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Next Meetings
August 13, 7:00 pm
Open Doors&World Outreach
Essex, Vt.
Sept 10, 7:00 pm
Community Bible Church
So. Burlington, Vt.

**Making A Difference
in
Vermont!**



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