

Christian Action Ministry Newsletter

Involving the Christian in Community Action

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By
Craig Lyman

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(see back page)**

Franklin Graham traveled to Vermont's largest city for the second stop of his Decision America Northeast Tour. The Champlain Valley Fairgrounds was filled with music followed by a message of hope and an impressive display of fireworks. On May 21, 2019 at 7:30 PM the event was underway, and despite the threatening weather, the atmosphere was electric. Some 3,400 people came from around the region to see the evangelical speaker give a life affirming message. Graham referred to Luke 19:1-10 where he shared the story of Zacchaeus—a man short in

stature who unashamedly climbed a tree to get a better view of Jesus, and how we desperately need to have the same kind of zeal, integrity, and enthusiasm as Zacchaeus.



Leading up to the event, expectations were high. There was an expectancy to see the

lost come to the saving knowledge of Christ, and of equal importance, to see the body of Christ unite across denominational and doctrinal differences. The turnout was phenomenal considering Vermont is the least churchd state in our nation.

Franklin gave an altar call and hundreds of people answered and committed their lives to Christ. Graham also called on believers to pray for our state and national leaders that he called out by name.

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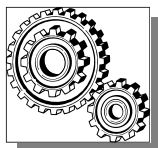


The Northeast is one of the most secular regions of our country. Many people there do not believe in God. Many more don't believe the Bible is accurate. Some even believe Jesus committed sins. Many only attend church at Christmas or Easter — if at all. **It's all part of a nationwide trend in our increasingly godless society.**

I just returned from preaching the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in seven cities across the Northeast, from Syracuse, New York, to Portland, Maine—ranked as the single most secular city in the nation.

More than 31,000 people heard the Gospel during the **Decision America Northeast Tour** from May 19–30. Hundreds stood up or walked forward to indicate making a decision for Christ.

We praise the Lord for moving powerfully across New England and New York. The Northeast desperately needs to turn back to God, as does our entire country. - **Franklin Graham**



**In the
Works**

A VT constitutional amendment to protect infanticide?? Why mince words?

Are you interested in becoming involved? CAM is looking for interested and active people to act as liaisons to their church,

From the fast guitar picking of Dennis Agajanian to the musical sounds of the Christian rocker, David Crowder, the music was inspiring throughout the night. Crowder performed favorites like "Come as You Are", "My Victory" and "Run Devil Run". Fireworks lit up the sky and were a personal favorite that always puts a smile on my face. The event was a love filled, Christ centered evening that projected nothing but VIRTUE. However, virtue was met with conflict. Protesters gathered at the Pearl Street entrance of the fairgrounds chanting and reciting slogans in hopes of deterring the crowd but it was all in vain. Local news coverage of the event gave as much time to the 20 or so protestors as they did to the 3,400 who attended the event. This was nothing short of virtue signaling. The protesters claimed that Gra-

ham's message was one of hate and divisiveness. Brothers and sisters, if you are even slightly familiar with the Scriptures you would know these signs mean that it's time to put on the full armor of God and begin the spiritual battle like never before.

Christians worldwide are being persecuted and killed at alarming rates. These events go largely under - reported by the mainstream media. As I write this, America is fighting for its very identity and Christians are on the firing lines. We are battling moral relativism along with political correctness which by design is meant to silence any critics. Christians are being portrayed as bigoted intolerant homophobes by the media and even elected leaders. Our viewpoints are being marginalized in the public square. Marriage is no longer just between a man and a woman, and

the door has been opened for all sorts of deviations. Gender has become fluid. There are now a reported 56 varieties of gender which puts Baskin Robbins to shame. Men are dominating women's sports, parents are being applauded for championing their child's sexual reassignment, 11 year old drag queens are celebrated and permitted to dance for money in front of audiences of grown men, abortion has been approved up to and even beyond birth, popularity grows for euthanasia and end of life "choices", and the pornography industry is more profitable than all professional sports combined. America is resembling a modern day Sodom and Gomorrah and this is only the beginning of what we will see from here on out. These are just part of the birth pangs that Jesus spoke about.

Much to my surprise Graham is

protested everywhere he goes. This man is a servant of God who oversees Samaritan's Purse, one of the largest private (non-government run) disaster relief charities in the world. Yet he is still mocked. His message is one of love, but it is being distorted by those who call good evil and evil is called good.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV) "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." Ask yourself... If not me, who? If not now, when? You have your full armor on. What will you do in the battle?

Craig Lyman is a Director of the Christian Action Ministry and attends Aspire Church in Williston

What does Post – Christianity mean?

Post-Christianity is the loss of the primacy of the Christian worldview in political affairs, especially in the Western world where Christianity had previously flourished, in favor of alternative worldviews such as secularism or nationalism.

As an example, Lawmakers in Vermont, both the House and Senate, have voted to amend the State Constitution to protect abortion at any stage of pregnancy for any reason, even on the day of birth. This has correctly earned the moniker "Birthday Abortion".

The amendment, called Proposal 5, aims to "recognize as a fundamental right - the freedom of reproductive choice - and to prohibit public entities from interfering with or restricting the right of an individual to terminate the individual's pregnancy."

Of course, the word abortion does not appear in the bill, instead the phrase "reproductive choice" is used to make it look like something it is not. The same bill must be voted on again in the next legislative session. And if it passes in the 2020 legislative session, must be passed by a full vote of citizens in 2022. The time is here to pray and to act before Vermont becomes the first state to enshrine abortion in its Constitution and codify the sacrifice of its children. Let us pray that Vermont citizens will not approve this heinous addition to its Constitution, thus showing more morality than the Legislature.

What does the Second Amendment Mean?

By

Dick Trudell

There is only one version of the Second Amendment, but there are many modern interpretations of its meaning. There are only 27 words, so it shouldn't be that complicated, but there are those who would like to remove it from the Constitution, others who want to reword it, and those who want its meaning to reflect their biases, instead of reading from an originalist perspective of what the Founding Fathers meant in the 1790s when it was written.

Militia - General Washington's troops were made up of a group of citizens, some with training, with some foreign-trained officers, who in turn trained those citizens. The Militia Act of 1903 finally put the common meaning of the word into writing;

"That the militia shall consist of every able-bodied male citizen of the respective States, Territories, and the District of Columbia, and every able-bodied male of foreign birth who has declared his intention to become a citizen, who is more than eighteen and less than forty-five years of age and shall be divided into two classes-the organized militia, to be known as the National Guard, Guard of the State, Territory, or District of Columbia, or by such other designations

as may be given them by the laws of the respective States or Territories, and the remainder to be known as the Reserve Militia."

Others incorrectly insist the militia only means the armed services of the United States, whereas the Constitution in Article 1 Section 7 names the Army, the Navy, and the Militia as separate entities. So the militia is able bodied males between 18 and 45 (ages have changed as life spans increased), and the reserve militia (everybody else).

Well regulated - A well regulated piece of machinery meant it was operating correctly. A well regulated militia is ready and able to fight. It doesn't mean the state was issuing rules to the militia and telling what to do and how to train, but rather that the militia was "operating correctly: to complete its mission

So this brings up the question of the reserve militia (those not in the armed services or the national guard units). When I was growing up there was a certain status you obtained when your father bought you your first gun. There were gun safety classes taught in the schools to allow young men to start on the path to be become "well regulated" and of course

you had to register for the draft. We did not think of ourselves as the reserve militia, but rather that we had a duty to serve our country. Either we enlisted (as I did) or were drafted and became part of the Federal military, not the militia.

A well regulated militia - this is a prefatory clause. It is a goal followed by a reason and action to be taken.

Necessary - This should be an easy part to understand. There is evil and greed in the world and those not prepared to protect and defend themselves will become victims.

Security of a free State - This is another easy concept and ties in the "necessary" part of the amendment. This is the goal of a well regulated militia. If your State is not secure because it doesn't have a well regulated militia to defend it, you will be taken over by a despot as the history of the world easily shows. Reflect on the poor third world counties that have dictators who take control and build up their own loyal personal armies.

Right of the people - To protect yourself, your family and your State, you have a natural God given right, not one given

to you by government, nor can it be taken away by government. You have a natural right to self defense and to protect your family and your own community. Since women are now eligible to serve in the Federal military, they also constitute part of the reserve militia (but are not yet drafted).

To keep and bear arms - This means private ownership and keeping them in your home or on your person.

Shall not be infringed - This is the opposite of what the supporters of gun control want to do. Some are well-intentioned, but not educated in constitutional rights and the problems of an unarmed populace as opposed to a well regulated civilian militia. The Second Amendment is not about hunting as some will claim. It is about defense by the citizens. The elected representatives have now placed some restrictions on who can keep and bear arms. The Second Amendment is also about being able to protect yourself from a tyrannical government if one should ever arise.

Dick Trudell is a Vietnam Veteran and President of the Christian Action Ministry. He attends Vibrant Church in So Burlington.



"A well regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." *Second Amendment - Constitution of the United States*

"The militia is all of the people." - *George Mason, Founding Father, Constitutional Convention Delegate from Virginia*



What can I do?



*Faith without
works is dead*
James 2:17

e-mail : camnet@christianactionministry.com

www.christianactionministry.com

Post-Christian Metrics (Barna Research—2017)

To qualify as “post-Christian,” individuals had to meet nine or more of the following factors . “Highly post-Christian” individuals meet 13 or more of the factors.

- Do not believe in God
- Identify as atheist or agnostic
- Disagree that faith is important in their lives
- Have not prayed to God (in the last week)
- Have never made a commitment to Jesus
- Disagree the Bible is accurate
- Have not donated money to a church (in the last year)
- Have not attended a Christian church (in the last 6 months)
- Agree that Jesus committed sins
- Do not feel a responsibility to “share their faith”
- Have not read the Bible (in the last week)
- Have not volunteered at church (in the last week)
- Have not attended Sunday school (in the last week)
- Have not attended religious small group (in the last week)
- Bible engagement scale: low (have not read the Bible in the past week and disagree strongly or somewhat that the Bible is accurate)
- Not Born Again

Eight of the top 10 Post-Christian cities are in the Northeast or New England.

Portland, Maine is rated #1; the Burlington / Plattsburg area is rated #5.

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✉ CAM Network, Inc.
PO Box 1067
Williston, VT 05495



☎ (802) 598-3202
Call to confirm date
Next Meetings

July 9, 7:00 pm
Parkinson home
Hinesburg, Vt.
August 10, 7:00 pm
Vibrant Church
South Burlington, Vt.

**Making A Difference
In Vermont!**