



Christian Citizenship

“You are the salt of the earth . . . You are the light of the world” (Mt. 5:13-16). One way to be salty and let our light shine is by being good citizens on earth. Our vocation as citizens of both the secular kingdom and God’s kingdom gives us the responsibility to proclaim God’s Word and care for our neighbors. We are called to engage the “public square” with our message of Christ’s mercy for all. Please pray for God’s will to be done... in Jesus’ name.

Invasion and Domestic Violence

When Americans won their independence from King George, they wanted to make sure his abusive behavior would not be repeated. King George had refused to defend the colonies from attack. It was declared that “he has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his protection and waging war against us.” The framers wanted the U.S. Constitution to create limits, checks, and balances so that the President could never act like a tyrannical king. In Article IV, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. government guarantees to every state in the union protection from invasion and domestic violence. Does this still hold true?

Todd Bensman serves as the Texas-based Senior National Security Fellow for the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS). For a decade prior to joining CIS, he led counterterrorism intelligence for the Texas Department of Safety’s Intelligence and Counterterrorism Division. As a journalist, he frequently reports from the southern border and inside Mexico and Central America. He has testified before Congress as an expert witness on border security matters. He writes:

“On a late spring night on the Rio Grande . . . I witnessed what could only be best described as a Normandy-like D-Day invasion, which had turned the order of the natural world on its head. It was May 2021. . . . I saw . . . an astonishing scene. Mexican cartel-piloted rafts were moving three, four, and five abreast toward American officers and soldiers standing on the Texas shoreline where they would land. . . . The rafts had been arriving wave after wave like this from the first day that a new U.S. president had taken office, night after night . . . The raft landings encountered no Normandy-like opposition on the Texas beaches. Badged uniformed Border Patrol agents, National Guard soldiers, and often local law

enforcement officers, all side arms holstered, acted as a welcoming committee.” When Bensman asked one of the Texas National Guard soldiers “what’s going to happen now,” the answer was, “just what you saw . . . I can’t do anything about it . . . we’re just here to count . . . all night.” (*Overrun: How Joe Biden Unleashed the Greatest Border Crisis in U.S. History* by Todd Bensman, 20-31.)

J.J. Carrell recently retired from the U.S. Border Patrol after a 24-year career as a Deputy Patrol Agent in Charge. He is the author of *Invaded: The Intentional Destruction of the American Immigration System*. In interviews with Dr. Naomi Wolf (DailyClout) and Seth Holehouse (Man in America), Carrell detailed the crisis at the U.S. southern border and the increasing concern that upwards of 100,000 SIAs are somewhere in the U.S. SIAs are special interest aliens who are terrorists or aligned with terrorists. In normal conditions, when an SIA is apprehended, everything stops. Law enforcement is notified up to the level of the FBI. The SIA is taken into custody or deported, and everyone knows where he is. Now, nothing prevents an orchestrated uprising of what might be embedded terrorists in our midst from taking place. (Sources: <https://naomiwolf.substack.com/p/is-israel-a-dress-rehearsal-for-the>) and <https://rumble.com/v3rt9xy-border-agents-shocking-data-terrorists-flooding-us-attacks-may-be-imminent.html>)

Working under the previous administration, Carrell knew firsthand that the border was within reach of being secure as the daily arrests had dwindled to the lowest numbers in Border Patrol history. On January 20, 2021, everything changed. Carrell documents how the once proud U.S. Border Patrol has been forced to participate in the unlawful smuggling of millions of illegal aliens to their final destinations across the U.S. Within the first two years of the Biden presidency, over 5,000,000 illegal aliens were arrested, and millions more fraudulently released into this country. Another 10,000,000 have absconded undetected. Carrell reports that the fiscal year 2023 set a new record of illegal alien arrests at over 3,200,000 with the majority being released into the U.S. He reports that the U.S. has now connected the faces of the Hamas terrorists with the faces of hundreds of thousands of SIAs—from countries such as China, Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Iran,

Venezuela, and Haiti— that have crossed into our nation.

What can we do? Be responsible, engaged citizens. Remind civil servants of the protection afforded us by the U.S. Constitution. Discuss with your neighbors the reason for national borders. Consider the difference between the “sojourners” and “aliens” described in the Old Testament and SIAs or illegal immigrants who have no intent to become citizens or assimilate under Constitutional laws, traditions, and values. Order the film *Sound of Freedom* to watch as a small group. Do not be naïve about human trafficking, child labor, and sexual slavery of women and children. Follow J.J. Carrell on Border Truth Substack and visit www.toddbensman.com.

Please pray for the Almighty God’s protective care in the face of invasion ... in Jesus’ name.

Christians and the State of Israel

There is much confusion within many Christian denominations about Israel and the Jews, especially with regard to the State of Israel in light of the current shameful and lamentable attacks by the terrorist organization named Hamas. Many Christians believe that the Jews have a biblical promise and expectation that the land will be given back to them in the end and some even believe that the Jews will ultimately be saved from eternal destruction, even if they continue to reject the Son of God as their Messiah and Savior.

As Lutheran Christians who are called to love our neighbor and as citizens of a free nation which is allied with Israel, we lament and decry these attacks as wrong and despicable. However, it is important for Christians to remember that the State of Israel is not the true Israel of God. The descendants of Abraham looked for God to fulfill His promise of a Savior and King. This Savior and King was the Son of God who was born of the Virgin Mary and given the name Jesus. And there is no other name under heaven by which man must be saved, according to the Scriptures.

Jesus said: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. But whoever does not believe will be condemned." That applies to all people, whether they are the physical descendants of Abraham or not. The true Israel of God is comprised of the spiritual children of Abraham, that is, those who like Abraham believe in the Promised Messiah, Jesus. While we lament the attacks on our nation's allies, we must not confuse the present-day State of Israel with the chosen people of God. This is an error that is continually promulgated by

Christian leaders and politicians and by Fox News hosts and anchors.

Here is what St. Peter says concerning not the state of Israel but the church: "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." Christians are the true Israel of God. We are the true spiritual descendants of those who were called out of Egypt. We are the chosen people of God, who believe in the name of the only-begotten Son, as it is written: "He came to his own and his own people did not receive him. But to those who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the *right to become children of God, who were born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man but of God.*"

We rightly pray for peace in the Middle East and an end to the vicious attacks by Hamas against the State of Israel. But our prayers should be even more fervent for the conversion of the Jews, as our old hymnbooks used to include: "Almighty and everlasting God, who lovest to show mercy, hear the prayers which we offer unto Thee for Thine ancient people, that, acknowledging Jesus Christ, who is the Light of truth, they may be delivered from their darkness; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord." (Written by Rev. Paul Beisel, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Iowa Falls, IA., following October 7.)

What can we do? As Jews and Arabs—men, women, and children—are dying in Israel and the Gaza Strip, we can bear in mind, that “there is grief enough for all” (Outspoken with Dr. Naomi Wolf, Substack, October 24. Dr. Wolf is Jewish. She has learned lessons of life among the Israeli and Palestinian people.)

Please pray for the conversion of God’s ancient people, that they be brought to faith in the Promised Seed of Abraham... in Jesus’ name.

Police State

Dinesh D’Souza never wanted America to get to a point where a film like this needed to be produced. Christian citizens of the U.S. need to see this film.

What can we do? Watch the trailer at www.policestatefilm.net. Order the DVD. Organize a group screening.

Please pray for God’s mercy... in Jesus’ name.

