
Kids' Prophecy Corner

Church and State

Part 2

Welcome to Kids' Prophecy Corner.

Today we will continue to look at the combining of Church and State in the United States.

We will look at How the evangelicals unite themselves from 1979 under the Moral Majority.

Then, we will look at its successor, the Christian Coalition.

Finally, we will look at prominent organizations that are very active today.

The story of Daniel 3 is the story of the fiery furnace. Nebuchadnezzar made a statue of gold and he wants everyone to bow down before it. But the 3 Hebrews boys don't. They are thrown out into the fiery furnace. But they don't burn although the furnace was heated 7 times more. And a 4th person joined them. After being called out of the furnace and inspected, Nebuchadnezzar recognized the God of heaven as a true God. He decided then, that all the people in Babylon must worship the true God. But there is a problem. In doing so, he forced all the people of the earth to worship God against their conscience. He should have let the people worship their gods or the true God. But God does not work like that. Instead, He wants people to choose freely whom they want to serve. He doesn't force it on anybody. So, Nebuchadnezzar did something bad. He went against the liberty of conscience of people.

In these and like words the king of Babylon endeavored to spread abroad before all the peoples of earth his conviction that the power and authority of the God of the Hebrews was worthy of supreme adoration. And God was pleased with the effort of the king to show Him reverence, and to make the royal confession of allegiance as widespread as was the Babylonian realm. {PK 510.3}

*It was right for the king to make public confession, and to seek to exalt the God of heaven above all other gods; but in endeavoring to force his subjects to make a similar confession of faith and to show similar reverence, Nebuchadnezzar was exceeding his right as a temporal sovereign. **He had no more rights, either civil or moral, to threaten men with death for not worshiping God, than he had to make the decree consigning to the flames all who refused to worship the golden image. God never compels the obedience of man. He leaves all free to choose whom they will serve.** {PK 510.4}*

The history of Daniel 3 has nothing to do with an issue of Sabbath versus Sunday, but it is an issue of freedom of conscience and the coming together of Church and State.

In the United States, the same mentality is growing where we see Christians who want to impose their ideologies to others whereas they have no right to do so.

In our previous presentation we talk about the civil war and how it was caused by slavery.

1863 is the midpoint between 1861 and 1865. In 1861, a motto is suggested. It is debated for 2 years and in 1863, the motto "In God We Trust" is chosen by Congress. In 1864 and 1865, it is placed on coins. In 1863, the National reform movement is created in order to recognize the nation as a Christian nation and imposing moral laws. 1865 is also the end of the civil war and the 13th amendment is passed.

If we take the number 151, it will bring us to the year 2014 which is a midpoint, symbolic midpoint between 9/11 and 2019. So, from 2001 to 2019, we are in a civil war.

Now, let us go to 1989.

The moral majority

1989 is the time of the end. From this point we can trace the development of a message, the rise of a dictator, the 45th president of the USA, Islam, etc.

In 1989, there is a group called the Moral Majority that is dissolved. The leader was Jerry Falwell. We also have a transition between two presidents Ronald Reagan and Georges Bush Senior.

Jerry Falwell is a Baptist leader. His career can be traced from the 1950's. But we want to focus on when the Moral Majority was created.

The **Moral Majority** was a prominent American political organization associated with the Christian right and Republican Party. It was founded in 1979 by Baptist minister Jerry Falwell Sr. and associates and dissolved in the late 1980s. It played a key role in the mobilization of conservative Christians as a political force and particularly in Republican presidential victories throughout the 1980s.

The Moral Majority was especially a Southern-oriented organization of the Christian Right.

This organization promotes their personal beliefs defined as **Christian conception of moral law**. They believed this represented the opinions of the majority of Americans (hence the movement's name).

Some of their campaigns were:

- Promotion of a traditional family values (which are traditional values where the father is the breadwinner, the mother is the homemaker and the child grows in that environment)
- Opposition to media outlets accused of promoting an anti-family agenda
- Opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment (where man and woman can have equal rights) and Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (where arm bearing can be controlled)
- Opposition to state recognition or acceptance of homosexual acts
- Prohibition of abortion (ending pregnancy before the embryo or fetus can survive outside the uterus), including in cases involving incest or rape
- Support for Christian prayers in schools
- Proselytizing to Jews and other non-Christians for conversion to Christianity (force Jews and non-Christians to accept Christianity)

So, they believe that the opinion of the majority of the Americans should be represented. The majority of the citizens wants the US to be morally upright. This is why they chose this name. And they recognize themselves as the Christian right of the USA.

If you look at their logo, it is an elephant with 3 crosses, and they called it God's Own Party. We can compare it with the logo of the Republican party that is made of an elephant with 3 stars. So, they are the same.

In 1989, they are the one responsible to bringing Bush into the presidency, just as they did with Ronald Reagan in 1980.

In 1988, there was person who announced his intention to seek the Republican nomination for President of the United States. It is Pat Robertson. He is televangelist but the Moral Majority did not want to support him. He failed against Bush Senior.

So, with their association with the republican party, they brought God into the republican party.

In 1989, Bush came into office and the Moral majority is dissolved by Jerry Falwell in 1989 in Las Vegas. Jerry Falwell declared, "Our goal has been achieved...The religious right is solidly in place and ... religious conservatives in America are now in for the duration."

Before 1989, there were issues in the US like the segregation of black people, or about gender and equality. But in 1989, Jerry Falwell says, with the republican party in place they can move forward. He is confident, America can be a Christian nation.

Since the Moral Majority is formed in 1979, their agenda has never changed as they want to bring Church and State together.

The Christian Coalition

When the moral majority is dissolved, there is a new group that is formed. It is the Christian coalition. It is viewed as the successor of the moral majority.

Pat Robertson used the rest of his campaign resources to form his organization: the Christian Coalition. Americans for Robertson accumulated a mailing list of several million conservative Christians interested in politics. This mailing provided the basis of the new organization.

This organization has the same principle of the Moral Majority. It is against abortion and gay marriage. They are pro-family. And for them, the decline of morality in society is due to lack of spirituality. He also thinks that all the calamities upon the nation is because of gay people and because we are far away from God.

During the civil war, they have the same mentality. They thought that the civil was caused by the separation of Church and State.

During the 1950's there was a case known as Brown vs Board of Education where black children were segregated to go to public schools. The result was that black kids were able to go to public schools. During this time Jerry Falwell was very vocal. He thought that the jury didn't do the will of God by letting the black kids to go to public schools.

Sister White says that the spirit of the slave master has not gone away. And we see the same spirit resurrected with Jerry Falwell or others when they say calamities fall upon America.

In 9/11, we have the twin towers falling. There are two streams of information that are trying to explain what happened. One stream says it is because of immorality (abortion, gay people, the feminists) and because of a deep state inside the US government. Another stream says that it is the judgement of God because of Church and State. Where the State wants to bring God into their institution. And also, the role of Islam in Bible prophecy.

They say, God cannot bring peace if there is immorality and the only way he can prove it is by bringing calamity. The CIA or FBI are discredited, and people are told that they cannot trust their own institution. The civil war begins to bring down the institutions and bring dictatorship. And in doing so, they bring indirectly Church and State. But the constitution is there to protect the rights of the minority not the majority because the majority can protect themselves.

At 9/11 the Patriot Act is passed. There is a group called America for the Separation of Church and State. And they say that the patriot Act is an excuse to fight against the constitution. The Patriot Act allows the government to access all your phone records, your email records without your consent and they can use it against you. And that violates the privacy of the people.

In God we Trust

There is also the statement "In God we trust" that is starting to come into the schools. And it starts in the State of Mississippi.

In March 2001, the Governor of Mississippi Ronnie Musgrove signed a legislation where he demands that the motto "In God We Trust" to be displayed in every public-school classroom, as well as the school auditoriums and cafeterias, throughout the state.

After the September 11 attacks in 2001, many public schools across the United States posted "In God We Trust" framed posters in their "libraries, cafeterias and classrooms". The American Family Association supplied several 11-by-14-inch posters to school systems and vowed to defend any legal challenges to the displaying of the posters.

According to a 2003 joint poll by USA Today, CNN, and Gallup, 90% of Americans support the inscription "In God We Trust" on U.S. coins.

This shows how Americans are negligent about the combining of Church and State.

In 2006, on the 50th anniversary of its adoption, the Senate reaffirmed "In God We Trust" as the official national motto of the United States of America.

Florida adopted 'In God We Trust' as the official state motto, effective July 1, 2006.

In 2011 the House of Representatives passed an additional resolution reaffirming "In God We Trust" as the official motto of the United States.

In 2013, a federal court rejected the demand "In God We Trust" should be removed from American currency.

On January 31, 2014, in the name of religious freedom, the [Mississippi](#) senate voted to add the words, "In God We Trust" to the state seal and the change was made effective on July 1, 2014.

In 2015 the county police department of Jefferson County, Illinois announced that the words "In God We Trust" will be on police squad cars.

In 2015, the Freedom from Religion Foundation demanded that local authorities remove the motto from Texas Police Department patrol vehicles. In response, Police Chief Adrian Garcia told the organization, in a written letter, to "go fly a kite."

In March 2017, Act 911, made it a mandatory by law in Arkansas for schools to display posters with the national motto ("In God We Trust").

Also, in March, the same requirement was enacted in Kentucky schools for the 2019-2020 school year requiring the slogan to be displayed "in a prominent location."

In June 2019, the Bakersfield, California City Council voted 4-2 to put an "In God We Trust" sticker on the city's police and fire vehicles.

So, we can trace, In God We trust from 9/11 to 2019-20. Many states have been integrated the words in their motto, in public schools or in licence plates.

In 2008, Barack Obama is elected. The Religious party thought they have failed their mission by letting a black man and a democrat won the election. They tried to find a better republican candidate but at this point they haven't. From 2008, Obama has been criticized from the Christian right and they feel captive from him because he doesn't want to bring God into the state.

So, in 2012, when Donald Trump enters the republican party, they finally see in him a potential candidate. They traced his steps and realized he has the same conviction than the Christian rights.

In 1989, he is a racist. There was a case of a rape in Central Park, New York where 5 black young men has been accused. He supported the case and give money to the cause to make sure they stayed in prison. When they were released 11 years later, they were found non guilty.

He also has problem with gender. In this history, he is a very successful businessman, but he rented his apartments to working white men only. He doesn't rent to working woman.

This is also the year; he wants to bring back the death penalty into the USA.

So, in 2012, the republican party and the Cristian Right want to prepare him for the elections against Barack Obama.

There is also Steve Bannon who wants to bring back America to its glorious state by making America great again. And this is only possible if God is in the institution of the USA and the morality of the institution is under the control of the state. In 2014, Steve Bannon Spoke at a meeting held by the Vatican about fighting for "our beliefs among other things".

In 2014, it is the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg address. Obama gives an address. He recites the pledge of Allegiance given by Abraham Lincoln. This is where Abraham Lincoln added

the words “under God” to his speech. But Obama doesn’t add the words “under God”. He says “out of many one”

This create a strong criticism from the Christian right. And they claim that Obama doesn’t respect the roots of the USA.

In 2015, Obama legalize gay marriage as a provision of the constitution for them to have their rights. And this goes against the family’s values that the Christian Coalition or the Moral Majority want to promote. So that is too much for the Christian right. Jerry Falwell Junior comes into the scene and says Christians must vote for Donald Trump. Jerry Falwell has the mindset of his father and try to push the values of the Christian Right.

2016, is the presidential election and 81% of the evangelicals voted for Donald Trump. Most of them were middle class white American people. So, the Christian right is happy, because they were able to accomplish what they are looking for. Since then, they try to strengthen the union of church and state.

We also have Paula White who is the white house spiritual advisor of the president. And she said God has chosen Donald Trump to save the United States. She even said that if Trump is not re-elected, the citizen of the USA will be judge by God.

Project Blitz

In 2018, we have the organization of Project Blitz.

In this line of progression, we can see how people integrates Church and State to make Christianity the religion of the United States. They are vocal in the history of 1989, they are vocal in the history of 9/11, they are vocal in the history of 2014, they are vocal in the history of 2018, they are vocal in the history of 2019-2020 with their support of Trump against his impeachment and the 2020 presidential elections. We can pass a thread on all these waymarks. We can see also how in God We trust can be traced from 9/11.

So, when we arrive in 2019, it also has to do with “In God We Trust”. So, we have to understand which movement is behind the bringing together of Church and State.

Project Blitz is a coalition of Christian groups who wants to take control of the government throw conservative voice and they want to play a role in refining religion Liberty. In 2018, they are in forefront in propagating the work of Donald Trump. In their playbook they take 4 steps to redefine the religious liberty in the United States.

- 1- Spread the motto “In God We trust” throughout the whole country. It should be done through buildings, police cars and schools. In schools, they are trying to pass bills in each state. They want the state to declare that public schools should be able to publish the words “In God We Trust” in their billboards.
So far, 29 states passed the bill. So, in each of these 29 states, the schools must display the phrase “In God We trust” in their billboards and prominent places.
They also want people to be educated in biblical teachings regardless the religious background of a person. They should also teach the American Heritage as a Christian nation.

- 2- They also want to push the Bible in American history by promoting Biblical feasts in the different States. By doing so, they want religion freedom to be recognized, also the Christian heritage week, recognizing the importance of the Bible in their history and recognizing Christmas day.
- 3- They also have a family agenda.
 - They want States to promote and recognize only heterosexual marriage.;
 - Ban the change of gender. If you are a boy, you must remain a boy, if you are a girl, you remain a girl. So, they do not support transgender.
 - They also want only parents with a mom and a dad or a man and a woman couple to adopt children. No gay people. So, they want to discriminate. And they claim it is a way to protect your religious right, religious freedom.
- 4- All these changes will bring a bringing together of Church and State.

So far, they have been able to accomplish point one in several states as well as an increase on the discrimination of gay people, and if there is any crisis or depression in the USA, they are being blamed for it. Also, some colleges and universities start not allowing gay people into their school. So, they use their conviction to suppress the rights of a minority.

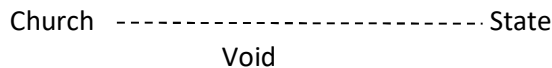
Attached to project Blitz there is the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation (CPCF). It was formed by the same persons who created project Blitz. They uphold family value and religious liberty in the USA. Their work is to go is they go to go public squares or public parks and hold prayer meetings, prayers and Bible Studies.

The co-founder CEO, Lea Carawan, was interviewed in 2014 by Right Wing Watch and she declares that the separation of Church and States is a liberal plan to ruin America and will be the death knell for our nation. For her separation of church and state is that:

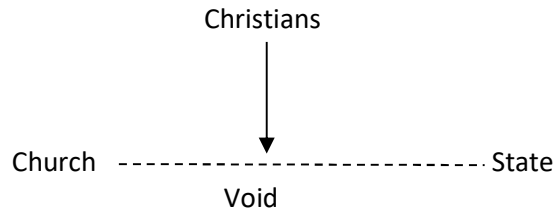
she said. "If the church of God, if the Christians do not engage in the public square and do not see that as their responsibility, their right and responsibility, then those that do not believe like us will absolutely fill the void.

<https://www.rightwingwatch.org/post/congressional-prayer-caucus-foundation-leader-church-state-separation-the-death-knell-for-our-nation/>

So, she says there is the church here, there is the state here but in between, there is a void that needs to be occupied.



She says, it is the right of the Christians to occupy this empty space between Church and State by doing public prayers in the public squares.



For her, if this place is taken by other people, it means that power is taken away from the USA.

she says : **But if we do not protect it in our generation, if we buy this lie and we back out of the public square like we have for a decade or several decades now, we will find that we no longer have a free Republic. The threat is very real.**”

There is another group called American United for the Separation of Church and State (AUSC) who says that church and state must be separate. The church cannot legislate her values toward the state. And the state cannot use its power to legislate anything toward the church. They have the correct view, but she thinks they are wrong.

“The folks that are funding this, that are behind this progressive movement for decades, they understand that they must remove God from the culture, from the conversation or break the connection, the nexus between God and our rights,” she said.

So, in 2019-2020, we can see we have two streams of information: The Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation (CPCF) and the American United for the Separation of Church and State (AUSC). And they have different definition of what is means to separate church and state. It is interesting to see Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation (CPCF) are very influenced in the government, there are senators in their movement, so it is easy to pass bill. So, this movement is very vocal.

Another organization is called WallBuilders. WallBuilders is an organization dedicated to presenting America’s forgotten history and heroes, with an emphasis on the moral, religious, and constitutional foundation on which America was built – a foundation which, in recent years, has been seriously attacked and undermined.

So, they want to bring history through moral and religion. They are as much active as project Blitz and the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation to bring church and state together. Even Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson are involved in this organization. In their universities, they are training young generation to be well educated in politics and other areas and who are conservatives and deeply rooted in faith.

So, the work of all those conservative Christian organizations is very active. But this is only one side of the work, the work of the daughters, if we use the symbols of Revelation. We can also trace the work of the mother – the papacy - which is separate and distinct.

In 1979, it is a first time a pope has been allowed to visit Washington DC. Before when a president met a pope, they will meet in different cities or hotel rooms. But never at the center at the American government Because they have been suspicious of the papacy ever since they came out of Europe. The pope is John Paul II.

In 1981-82, after Reagan and John Paul II recovered from their assassination attempts, they start working together.

In 1989, the union of the papacy and the USA takes down the Soviet Union. This is when it impacts the USA. This is our 10 year-history.

And in this 10-year period we also have the role of the moral majority working with the government. So, we see how their work are separate and distinct. We have the daughters from 1979 to 1989. You have John Paul II from that same time period. So, they both do a separate work but both relevant to our time of the end.

In closing we can see how the Conservatives Christians are pursuing the same mistakes that Nebuchadnezzar did. They want to force people to follow their morality. They want to dictate the conscience of the people. And the republican party are following along by becoming more radical.

Although we have not talk in detail about the work of the republican party, they are many key players in the bringing of church and state.

In 2009, with have the Tea party movement that is formed. It is composed of right wing, conservatives, populists' people who come together against Obama Agenda.

There is also Steve Bannon, that does all he can to make the republican party more radical. In 2014, he doesn't want any republicans to side with Obama.

He has a 3 steps agenda: first, make sure all republicans are faithful to their party. Second, make sure the 3 branches of the Government are under the control of Trump. Third, extend this work worldwide.

He starts in January 2013, by bringing together 2 other allies: Jeff Session and Steven Miller who is the driving force behind all Trump Immigration policies.

And in 2014, they get rid of republican House Majority Leader Eric Cantor who wants to work with Obama on the subject of immigration. This is the beginning of the rise of Donald Trump. And then, they were part of Donald Trump's government. Today, only Steven Miller work with Trump.

In 2014, Steve Bannon is at a meeting at the Vatican. He is catholic. And his says, "godlessness and libertarianism have "sapped the strength of the Judeo-Christian West to defend its ideals," <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2017/1/31/14439908/steve-bannon-worldview-visa-ban>

He believes that since, the fall of the Soviet Union in 1989-1991, the USA went off track regarding capitalism. He wants to go back to the growth of the USA in the 1950's where people were more conservative Judeo- Christians. He says that all of those capitalists were strong believers in the Judeo-Christian West.

On the subject of abortion, he says that We're the voice of the anti-abortion movement, the voice of the traditional marriage movement, and I can tell you we're winning victory after victory after victory.

In July 2018, former Attorney General Jeff Sessions created a Religious Liberty Task Force to use religion to discriminate against certain people especially LGBTQ.

<https://www.vox.com/identities/2018/7/31/17631110/jeff-sessions-religious-liberty-task-force-memo-christian-nationalism>

All that look very political, but it is deeply religious. They are fighting for to enforce the morality of Jewish Christian West. They try to protect an America which is white, conservative, traditional marriage-based and Judeo-Christian. And this is why they work so well with the White Conservative Evangelical Christians.

