

Bible Letters to the Public Editor

by

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and

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“Why do you write these letters?”

Early on I was asked this question by a neighbor who learned of my letters in the daily newspaper. I told him, “Because a lot of people are sitting on the fence, and I hope my letters will pull them to the right side of the fence.” These Bible letters are from a Catholic point of view—it’s the only view from which I am confident to write. St. Augustine (fourth century) said, “Only through the Catholic Church will I believe the Bible.” Even in the fourth century, there were Bible-believing problems.

If my letters were in a Catholic newspaper, I would be “preaching to the choir.” They already know all this. My letters are meant to reach Catholics who have stopped going to Mass and those who have never been to Mass. Mass is a weekly, even daily, form of Bible study through Epistles and Gospels, then homilies from priests. This booklet is a layman’s way of bringing the Catholic teachings of the Bible to the public. Because of what I read in the public newspapers, this is why I responded with my letters to and in these newspapers.

My father’s letters (H.A.P.) are also from the Catholic point of view. I learned of his letters in the public newspapers from my sister Kathy around the time I was ready to bring my newspaper letters to the public in this way. Although Dad didn’t make it a point to quote Scripture, our signatures could be switched on any letter because our minds are exactly the same in all moral and ethical issues.

Christ spoke to the Apostles, Jews and Gentiles through their customs and their knowledge for their understanding. That understanding is timeless and does not evolve for any reason. The Catholic Church continues that understanding, unchanged for two thousand years. That’s why for us, we think of standing there listening to Christ, then His Apostles in their real time, coming back to our present day with their New

Covenant teachings, with the minds of those who believed them, to apply that to our everyday lives regardless of the opinion of the evolving society.

Dan Arthur Pryor

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Acceptance of Abortion Shows Declining Morality

Many voters are undecided when it's election time. Moral integrity of a political party should be a high priority to the voter. The biggest moral issue is life in the womb.

Our nation's Founding Fathers say we all have the right to life. If life in the womb becomes you and me, then our right to life begins at conception.

Try this comparison: Show a politician cancer in reverse. Advanced stage to early visible stage to microscopic stage. Any politician would say it's all the same cancer. Show a politician human life in reverse. Old age to just born to microscopic stage. Is this not all the same life?

Both political parties invoke "their" God. Which one really follows God and his Word? Wisdom 7:1, "and in the womb of my mother I was fashioned to be flesh." Jeremiah 20:17, "who slew me not from the womb that my mother might have been my grave." Jeremiah 1:5, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you came forth from the womb I sanctified you."

Even before conception, God knew us as a person. To God it's all the same life.

I feel sorry for pro-choice politicians and all their voters when they meet "their" God. Acceptance of abortion is whittling away at morality. Put a frog in boiling water, it jumps out. Put a frog in warm water, turn up the heat slowly, it will cook itself.

Modernism, slowly, is voiding the Word of God.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 10/19/12

Obama Lacks Respect for Catholic Health Services

A cable news commentator recently said President Barack Obama's administration has called the Catholic health care system non-Catholic because they provide health care to all and not just Catholics. The Catholic health-care system cannot give in to the so-called compromise of the government because it would make them an accessory to serious sin. They would be connected to the insurance company they contract for service, that will provide employees with access to drugs that induce abortion.

In our court system, if someone is an accessory to a serious crime, wouldn't they be given a serious punishment even though their contribution did not commit the actual crime? It will be the same with God.

By not complying, the Catholic hospitals would total yearly fines in the millions of dollars. They would be driven out of the health care business. This wouldn't be a ripple effect; it would have a tidal wave effect.

The Obama administration fails to realize the worldwide impact the Catholic Church has in health care and charity. The Catholic Church is the largest private charitable organization in the world. Besides health care and charity in the U.S. it is spending millions of charity dollars worldwide. And they administer to all but will not compromise solid Catholic morals.

Maryknoll Missionary tells the story of an American journalist in China watching a frail Sister cleansing the gangrenous sores of wounded soldiers, "I wouldn't do that for a million dollars," the journalist remarked. Without pause in her work the Sister replied, "Neither would I."

The Courier News (New Jersey), 3/12/14

Hobby Lobby Ruling Still an Issue

Regarding “the slippery slope of Hobby ruling” (*Other Views*, July 3).

Columnist Leonard Pitts Jr. writes that most gynecologists don't equate the morning-after pill with abortion. Since when do gynecologists interpret science for us?

Ask their political side, and they will form an opinion based on their liberal or conservative values, as we all do. Science is fact and not opinion. At conception, the building blocks of life are joined and human life and formation has begun. At 18 to 25 days, the heart is beating.

Pitts' slippery-slope opinion is the height of liberal hypocrisy. It was the liberals in the 1960s who first got their way with “legal” abortion, saying that abortion would only be allowed in extreme situations and not on personal demand. Now abortion is allowed on personal demand. Some women treat pregnancy as an illness and have doctors rid them of their “illness” under the mask of women's health.

It's probably the conservatives who came up with the frog analogy. Put a frog in boiling water and it jumps out. Put a frog in warm water, turn up the heat slowly, and it will cook itself. That's what the liberals have done with abortion.

The Record (New Jersey), 7/11/14

Catholics and Atheists Can Agree on Right to Life

Concerning the Affordable Care Act, I believe the Catholic has common ground with the atheist with the right to life in the womb.

The ACA makes it civilly “lawful” to obtain abortion-inducing drugs through its system. An atheist can object to liberal society and their so-called “woman’s right” to end a pregnancy. An atheist should be mad as hell, rhetorically speaking for them, if they could comprehend as the doctor was about to end their life in the womb and cheat them from their only (perceived) existence, earthly life.

Catholic and atheist can agree; it’s a scientific fact that at the moment of conception the building blocks of life are joined and valuable human life has begun. Eyes develop 14 days after conception. After 18 days the heart is beating.

As to the potential suicide law in New Jersey, an atheist has cause to object to the law and thus agree with the Catholic. The eternal reason would not be the same but the choice would be the same. For the atheist there seems to be only life on earth, then nothing. So they wouldn’t want to miss any potential time here. Even with cancer they can take painkillers to be able to see and hear their loved ones as long as possible.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 10/23/14

This letter is also in Chapter 4: Suicide.

Abortion Should Be Treated as Medical Insurance Fraud

I'm responding to the Sept. 30 *Star-Ledger* editorial, "The importance of facts in the fetal research debate."

Okay, shame on those who spliced together parts of videos that are not related. Every group, even the religious, have crazy zealots who can't be contained. So what are the core values of the sensible majority of those who want to stop funding Planned Parenthood?

One reason is Planned Parenthood performs abortions at their clinics. The religious right politicians don't want government money connected to abortions.

Where do those politicians find their morals against abortion? The Bible. They find their resistance in Jeremiah 20:17, "Who slew me not from the womb, that my mother might have been my grave."

Plus, there is the first catechism of the Catholic Church, the Didache (circa approximately A.D. 60-90). Chapter 2:2, "Thou shalt not kill a child by abortion, neither shalt thou slay it when born."

Also, in the majority of abortions, there is no illness involved. To spend government money on elective treatment or elective surgical procedure with no disease or illness diagnosed should be considered medical insurance fraud.

For those who create human life and want to discard that life so casually, let them financially pay for it all—and good luck when they meet God.

The Express-Times (Pennsylvania), 10/7/15

Don't Confuse Pro-Life Positions

I have read this a few times lately, that pro-choice abortion people are now calling themselves pro-life. Pro-life abortion people? Sounds odd. They use pro-life with a narrow view of human life. Maybe they are pro-life in this way—from birth to peaceful self-induced death. Federal legal sin (sounds odd too) is overtaking the conservative values. Abortion, and now gay marriage and eventually assisted suicide, will be the federal law of this land and complete the civil moral breakdown of American society.

We conservatives are going to have to define ourselves clearly. We are pro-life from A to Z. Liberals are pro-life between A and Z.

Here is something not odd at all. I am sure the conservatives source their morals from the Bible more than the liberals. I don't know which side, conservative or liberal, Mark Twain was on, but he reportedly said, "It is not those parts of Scripture that are difficult to understand that most concern me but those parts that are unmistakably clear."

How are these two for clarity—Jeremiah 20:17, "because he did not kill me in the womb so my mother would have been my grave," and Jeremiah 1:4-5, "Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, before you were in the womb I knew you."

If these inspired words of God don't change the heart of a liberal in this (short) life than good luck when they meet God in the next (eternal) life.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 1/24/16

Contraception Ban Implicit in Bible

Responding to the letter to the editor, “Why contraception is a religious issue.” Funny how the writer says that nowhere in the Bible is contraception forbidden and then cites the best place where it is forbidden, although implicitly. The Bible is correct in two forms—explicit and implicit. Starting 2,000 years ago, the Catholic Church has the authority to interpret and teach the two forms. Onan was killed by God because he practiced a form of contraception (withdrawal). “And therefore the Lord slew him, because he did a detestable thing.”

Famous Protestants agree with the Catholic Church. Martin Luther called Onan a “malicious and incorrigible scoundrel” for his act. John Calvin, founder of Calvinism, called Onan’s act “monstrous.”

Galatians 5:19-20, Revelation 9:21 and Revelation 21:8 list, in order, no sorcery, no magic potions, no sorcerers. The historical and religious references for these three New Testament verses are about forbidding the use of potions that were commonly directed at preventing fertility or at achieving abortion.

The Morning Call (Pennsylvania), 2/3/16

The Harshness of Abortion

I'm responding to the *Star-Ledger* editorial of March 1, "Note to Texas: Abortion is already safe."

When I read the part about abortion almost never causes maternal death, I sadly laughed at the irony, because abortion almost always causes the death of human life before birth. Why should the human wall of a womb allow a pre-born boy or girl to be classified as expendable of their chance of full life?

We just got past Valentine's Day, which is usually represented by a traditional picture of a heart, meaning love. With that I remind you, after conception the human heart is formed and beating at three weeks, beating with the same purpose as our hearts do, to deliver oxygen for life.

"Out of sight, out of mind" has sanitized society to the harshness of abortion. Many women change their minds when an ultrasound shows the movement, gender and various stages up to complete infant formation before birth.

During a happy pregnancy, boy and girl names are chosen in anticipation. During an unhappy pregnancy, if boy and girl names are considered, maybe look at that as an inspiration from God. For in Isaiah 49:1 we hear: "The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name."

The Express-Times (Pennsylvania), 3/4/16

State Should Approve Bill to Restrict Abortions

Pennsylvania is considering a law to reduce abortion allowance from 24 weeks to 20 weeks. As a straight-line Catholic, I hope the Legislature passes HB 1948. If so, why stop there? The Catholic cause is to undo abortion law (*Roe v. Wade*). Abortion devalues the unborn as less than human compared to the mother and others already born.

Not so in the Catholic Church. Equal life starts at conception and is never less than the life of the mother or anyone else.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church references the Old Testament, Jeremiah 1:5, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you came forth from the womb I sanctified you.”

Another source of reference listed in the Catechism is from the Teaching of the Twelve Apostles, Chapter 2:2, “You shall not kill the embryo by abortion and shall not cause the newborn to perish.” The latest Catechism, promulgated by Pope John Paul II, states that this teaching of abortion “has not changed and remains unchanged.”

The Morning Call (Pennsylvania), 4/27/16

Science Says Life Begins at Conception

In the June 23 editorial, “Bill goes too far restricting abortion in Pa.,” one sentence in particular caught my conservative attention. The sentence indicated that a criterion in favor of abortion “should be based on the best-available science.”

The “best-available science” is clear about when human life begins, at conception, and therefore should be protected from death. After conception (day one) the new human life has inherited 23 chromosomes from each parent. That single cell contains the complex human genetics of every detail for human development—the child’s sex, hair and eye color, height, skin tone and what else. That development continues nonstop through the teen years to reach our full adult size. Who dares to draw a line of life or death during the period before birth, but liberal politicians and people?

All of us should respect and fear the word of God. The Bible has proof of God’s mind for human life before and after conception. “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you came forth from the womb I sanctified you” (Jeremiah 1:5). How will it be when each of these abortion-favoring people meet God?

The Express-Times (Pennsylvania), 6/26/16

Court's Status Hurt by Abortion Ruling

As I was reading *Your View*, “Court’s abortion ruling supports woman’s rights,” the last part of the last sentence in favor of abortion was the last straw for me—“the arc of the moral universe bending toward justice.”

Follow me on this. *Webster’s Dictionary* defines morality as “the quality of an action, as estimated by a standard of right and wrong.” The best standard of right and wrong comes from God and his New Testament.

How far our Supreme Court has fallen. In 1844, the court said in *Vidal v. Girard’s Executors*, “Where can the purest principals of morality be learned so clearly or so perfectly as from the New Testament?”

And the best governments of the world have based their morals on his revelations to us. President John Adams in 1798 wrote, “We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passion unbridled by morality and religion.... Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people.”

A comparison: Just as we have been off the financial gold standard for decades and our paper money is questionably worthless, so have the liberals been off the moral standard (the Bible) for decades and their moral virtues are questionably worthless.

The Morning Call (Pennsylvania), 7/10/16

Religion Best Way to Influence Society

Commenting on the letter, “Roe v. Wade decision cut crime rate”: Maybe the math is right: Abortion equals reduced crime rate. My comparison to such a finding is that intentional death in the womb to reduce crime seems as acceptable as American soldiers killed during World War II for world peace.

Let’s keep going with this. How about we make a law for unnatural selection of life or death in the womb to improve the quality of human life for whatever reason? I’m afraid to come up with more reasons for abortion because I fear offending God more than I fear anything on this earth.

Abortion in every state, gay marriage in every state. Look out, someday it’ll be suicide in every state. The reason for this direction is the public rejection of religious interpretation guiding society. I would rather turn to revealed religion (the Bible) influencing society.

Does this help some turn away from abortion? “The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name (Isaiah 49:1).”

The Morning Call (Pennsylvania), 10/14/16

Writings Show Christ's Abortion Warning

An Oct. 6 letter, “Stand up for woman’s reproductive rights,” had a hypocritical reference to Christ, realized only by those who study Christ. The writer mentions “unChrist-like” behavior of picketers outside a place for abortion care, among other services.

I could have ignored the claims of “endless barrage of racism, body shaming and homophobia” and “hateful conduct” by picketers. Most likely it’s just the typical liberal stretching of a molehill into a mountain. If those claims were the bigger truth there would be continuous arrests being made by the police.

What burns me is an abortion advocate invoking Christ while providing abortion care. When Christ sent the Apostles into the world he guaranteed their “remembrance of all things I have said to you” through the Holy Spirit.

The earliest written account of this remembrance is a detailed catechism called the Didache (circa A.D. 60-90), commonly called the Teaching of the Twelve Apostles. Chapter 2:2 states: “You shall not kill a child by abortion, nor shall you kill a child just born.”

The Express-Times (Pennsylvania), 10/15/16

Bush Supported Ban on Partial-Birth Abortion

I'm responding to the Nov. 9 letter, "Electing abortion opponents no guarantee of action." After George W. Bush was elected president he did something about his belief against abortion. He signed the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban in 2003, which was challenged in federal court. In 2007 the Supreme Court upheld what Bush signed into law.

Also during Bush's term, a federal Born Alive Infants Protection Act was signed into law in 2002. It assured continued life for an infant that was born instead of dying during a partial-birth abortion.

On the flip side of life, when Obama was an Illinois senator, he voted three times against an Illinois Born Alive Infant Protection Act. With his help, infants who survived partial-birth abortions were discarded to an Illinois hospital room to die from neglect. On the Illinois senate floor, Obama said it would be a "burden" to the mother's "original decision" to assess and treat the infant.

We all know where the Catholic mind is on the abortion issue. Life, from conception to natural death. President Bush was helping us to get there. What a close call it will be when President Obama leaves the White House. Lucky for Obama he wasn't one of those infants left to die on a cold hospital tray after sneaking past the abortion doctor's knife.

The Express-Times (Pennsylvania), 11/11/16

Require Burial, Civil Service after Abortions

The Dec. 16 *Express-Times* had a Texas news item about their healthcare facilities having to bury or cremate fetal remains. The Center for Reproductive Rights (code for “abortion rights”) sued the state to block this rule. I wonder why. Because the rule applies to both abortions and miscarriages, which hits these liberals where they work and how they live. I would like to see how the Texas rule spells out the burial treatment.

For Catholics, the miscarriage of a fetus is treated as the death of human life, with its soul going on to meet God. The fetal body is put in a casket, a Mass is offered, then body and casket are buried in a graveyard.

The abortion industry wants no remorse attached to their “work.” But God has instilled in all His Natural Law, to be guided by His Church. Nor would they give credibility to the Wisdom of Solomon in the Old Testament—“and in the womb of my mother I was fashioned to be flesh.”

So, I say let them make a civil law to compel the abortion industry to bury their “work” in a casket, preceded by a respectful civil ceremony, to give all those involved in abortion a pause for reflection somewhere new in their conscience.

The Express-Times (Pennsylvania), 12/23/16

Dear Abby Needs Some Sunday School

Some writers of personal help columns in media need a morality check when their moral advice is contrary to religious advice. Dear Abby is one of them. On Nov. 23, a first-year college student was asking Abby about bringing up the “sex talk” with her boyfriend after “things got a little heavy.” Part of Abby’s advice was “depending on how you were raised on premarital relations.” In this context, premarital relations are sexual relations before marriage. Later on in that same column Abby invokes “O Heavenly Father” in a Thanksgiving prayer. Dear Abby needs to consult a priest about moral advice according to God’s law which will supersede any civil law that is contrary to God’s law.

With that in mind, Abby should disregard any civil law that says unmarried consenting adults can have sex.

The Bible has clear teaching about such behavior. There are plenty of verses in the New Testament to back up true moral righteousness. Matthew 15:19, Mark 7:21, I Corinthians 6:9-10, Galatians 5:19-21 and Jude 1:7.

Sex outside of marriage is fornication. Today’s spelling of “fornication” comes from a Latin root word that means a brothel in the Roman Empire times. Look it up in the *Webster Dictionary*. The word “fornication” today is unmarried sex. We should all use the Bible as a moral compass. Think how much of sexually transmitted disease would be eliminated while also eliminating the problems of children being born out of wedlock.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 12/2/11

Biblical Morals Should Be Defended

Regarding “Arizona’s anti-gay bill vetoed” (Page A-1, Feb. 27): The number of Bible believers must be shrinking because secular society is getting its way more and more. At a slow but steady pace, society is making its way to self-autonomy with no need for organized religion. It believes in itself more than the proverbial word of God.

In the lifetime of the youngest generation all 50 states likely will have gay marriage. Look at the heat Arizona got for the bill that would have allowed religion the right to assert its moral values in the business world.

Remember the Ten Commandments? They were written about 4,000 years ago. Even our nation’s forefathers evoked God in our Declaration of Independence. Religion needs to take back its place in our nation as a guiding force rather than being trapped within the four walls of a church.

There are no homosexual rights in the Bible. On the contrary, such activity is not condoned. The serious Christian politician needs to defend the morals of the Bible.

The Record (New Jersey), 3/9/14

Presbyterians Made a Mistake

Regarding “North Jersey Presbyterians tip scales on gay marriage” (Page A-1, March 20): The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has changed its definition of marriage beyond a man and a woman. Who is it that leads their church? God or society?

Starting in Genesis, the first book of the Bible, through all books and the last book, Revelation, marriage is for a man and a woman. There are zero examples of any gay marriage approvals.

Soon, the Catholic Church may be the only church that teaches the “word of God” on all moral and social issues. It will not bend from the weight of society leaning on it. One Presbyterian pastor was quoted as saying that the church (his) wasn’t “caving in to the culture.”

Christ himself has said that we cannot serve two worlds at the same time, his world and this world. That means we can’t have it both ways on such a serious issue. The pastor wants to include gays in religion. Fine, but do not shrink from the teaching manual, which is the Bible.

The Record (New Jersey), 3/26/15

When in Doubt, Just Follow the Word of God

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) recently changed their religious constitution to include same-sex marriage. It was noteworthy because they are the largest Protestant Church (1.8 million members) to allow gay marriage.

One of the pastors said he wants to welcome gay people and to reach young people as to the national view of same-sex marriage has changed. This pastor is joining a growing list of Protestant pastors who turn a blind eye to part of their teaching manual (the Bible). Let them read Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13 (OT) and Romans 1:26-27 (NT) to see if they decide to follow the Word of God or the word of society.

Christ Himself says that we cannot serve Him and this world at the same time, meaning, when such a serious issue is polarizing people we are to choose Him and His Word over the world, when the world is contrary to Him. WWJD? If Christ were here today instead of 2,000 years ago he would tell us what I saw on an outdoor sign of a Baptist church: "Read My Book. There will be a test. God." At death we will have a final test and the result will be irreversible. Prepare now to pass His final test.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 4/4/15

Religious People Correctly Oppose Gay Marriage

Regarding the letter to the editor, “Law gives excuse to discriminate against gays”: The writer has issue with the key word “discriminate” because many religious-minded retailers want no part of gay marriage. Religious-type business people live through religious faith first when society is in conflict with their faith. Otherwise, like-minded faith-based people would be right to regard them as weak in their religion.

Providing a coerced public service for a gay wedding from a private business would be contrary to what several early presidents believed. For example, James Madison wrote “Before any man can be considered as a member of civil society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governour of the Universe.”

After the Affordable Care Act was passed, many small and large retail businesses fought and won in court legal battles not to participate, in even the smallest way, in the Act because of their religious ideals. Hobby Lobby made national news with its legal victory against the health care law because it contained a religiously immoral component.

A source for their devotion is the Bible. That is, all of the Bible, not just the easy and loving parts of the Bible.

The Morning Call (Pennsylvania), 4/26/15

Supreme Court Ignores 4,000 Years of Biblical Restraint

Gay marriage will be the law of the land. The majority of U.S. adults will accept that because they value the mind of society over what little they know about the will of God. They have thrown away some 4,000 years of Biblical restraint.

Religion has been pushed further down the list of life importance because they see no tangible consequence for disregarding religious advice. When we are caught committing a lawful civil transgression there will be a visible penalty of punishment. But where is the religious penalty for disregarding the Bible and its clear punishment for homosexual activity in I Corinthians 6:9-10?

What if we each experienced a warning from God Himself? Why God waits for one final eternal judgment at death, instead of direct personal earthly warnings, we don't know. Why not believe the still accepted, inspired word of God?

In the Gospel of Luke is a warning when the rich man in hell asked Abraham to warn his brothers of hell. In Luke 16:29, "but Abraham said; they have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them."

We have the continuation of Moses and the prophets in the New Testaments. In a letter from Paul to Timothy, Paul writes "the Church is the pillar and ground of truth" (I Timothy 3:15).

The Catholic Church has been the unchanging and universal moral guideline for almost 2,000 years and still warns us of all spiritual and eternal consequence.

The Express-Times (Pennsylvania), 6/30/15

Pope, Priests Must Reinforce Moral Views

Gay marriage hides a little-known fact: The Bible condemns homosexual activity. See I Corinthians, 6:9-10. I doubt most Catholics today know those verses. Sermons at Mass should occasionally reflect the Catholic conscience versus the change-with-the-times mind of the world.

As liberal politicians and courts erode the mind of the religious faithful, the pulpit is the place to remind us what religion has steadily taught for centuries. In the Catholic world, it is known that since Vatican II many Catholics have become slack and do not want to adhere to all of the Church teaching on moral issues of today. That's because the tangible society is more appealing than the intangible religion.

President Obama is in favor of gay marriage and abortion, and the Supreme Court has decided to allow them. Pope Francis has spoken correctly about these issues, but the news media concentrate more on the pope's overall feel-good quotes. Pope Francis and priests during Mass sermons need to speak strongly about the Big 3—abortion, assisted suicide and gay marriage— so that slack Catholics are not confused by the feel-good mentality of society.

The Morning Call (Pennsylvania), 7/24/15

The Bible Is Clear on Same-Sex Unions

The political (religious) cartoon on Sept. 6 satirizes Kim Davis, the Kentucky county clerk.

The liberals' dictionary use of the word "bigotry" seems to be in the ballpark for them. But closely examine a definition of bigotry: "Blind attachment to a religious creed." The conservative can prove his religious point of opposition to gay marriage through the Bible while it's the liberal who is the ostrich with his irreligious head stuck in the sand.

Here they are. Look them up for the first time: I Corinthians 6:9-10 and Romans 1:26-27. As the newspapers have correctly stated, Pope Francis will not be changing Church doctrine on faith and morals.

Consider a reason why the Old Testament city of Sodom was destroyed and how that city spawned a word of perverse sexuality found in the New Testament and that word still means the same thing today.

That's the only reason needed for Pope Francis and the Catholic Church to believe that same-sex marriage is a grave sin as the other churches are falling like irreligious dominos. The Catholic Church is the only church that has been the standard bearer for morality since Christ and Peter.

The cartoon is trying to portray Christ as in favor of same-sex marriage. That's impossible, because the third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, inspired Paul to spell out same-sex immorality in Romans and I Corinthians and I Timothy 1:9-10.

The Daily Record (New Jersey), 9/11/15

America Must Follow the Laws of the Bible

Referring to the letter to the editor, “Kim Davis stance unacceptable”: What caught my attention the most was that all laws should be obeyed. Good point all the way around. Imagine if that were applied to the Bible. Minus that application is why there is this moral chaos.

Davis has raised a storm beyond her Biblical moral stance versus gay marriage. But who can honestly argue about the directness of Romans 1:26-27?

One way liberals try to uphold gay marriage is with a certain saying of Christ. They misuse the Bible and cite him saying to love our neighbors as ourselves. This is not the great commandment. See Matthew 22:34-40. Loving our neighbor is a similar one to the great and first commandment of love for God completely. And they stumble when they combine to say to love God by loving our neighbor.

Is there only one way to live the Bible? Sure is. Read Paul in Ephesians 4:5, 13 - One faith for us all and to meet in the unity of the faith.

I say there is only one faith in the Catholic Church and Pope Francis because only they go all of the way back to Christ and Peter.

The Morning Call (Pennsylvania), 9/26/15

Read Carefully, Bible Offers All the Answers

Recently someone wrote in to say, “Biblical passages can be deceiving.” The inspired Word of God cannot be deceiving. The Bible and Christ are the same source. John 1:14 states, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” God and the Bible are timeless and not contradictory. Those who cherry-pick from Scripture “do so to their own destruction,” from II Peter 3:16. Timeless interpretation of the Bible has the highest moral value on the issue of same-sex marriage.

Homosexual acts are condemned in the New Testament. I Timothy 1:8-11 condemns Sodomites. The original Greek translation is referring to male homosexuals. I Corinthians 6:9 does the same thing. Romans 1:26-27 condemns homosexual acts both male and female. In the Old Testament, Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13 are against those actions also.

Even the pagan Greek philosopher Plato was against same-sex marriage. The Greeks had this problem more than 2,300 years ago. Plato’s last and longest work was “The Laws,” in which it was stated, “would be that no free born citizen should touch any but his own wedded wife and that there should be no sowing of unhallowed seed with concubines and no sterile and unnatural intercourse with males.”

The seriousness of sin has been the same in all centuries. The earthy retribution and sense of sin may change, but in the Word of God sin never changes. Modernism does not mean liberation from the unchanging moral gravity of sin.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 3/24/12

Orthodox Religious Clergy Have Spiritual Answers

Dear Abby is at it again. She is not sufficiently educated in moral matters to give her personal moral advice to her uncertain write-in readers. She should be directing them to orthodox religious clergy. Dear Abby was advising a mother about her gay son. Dear Abby disregards religious authority when she says that science declares that sexual orientation is not a choice.

Science has not found the gay gene and never will. She has no right to suggest that science ranks ahead of the Bible on moral and immoral issues. Dear Abby is clueless about the spiritual requirements for heaven, and her advice sounds like it comes directly from Hollywood. The mother didn't like the opinion of some religious people, and in reading the Bible she found it difficult to understand.

A medical doctor can have the life-saving solution for a patient who is physically dying. If that solution is too difficult to bear or not believable, the mother may not pass along the solution to her physically dying child. It is the same when the religious clergy has the life-saving solution for the spiritually dying, but because of the harshness of the solution the mother may not pass it along to her spiritually dying child.

Those who heard the Word of God before it was written understood it better because it was spoken with phrases that were common knowledge of their time. Over the centuries, phrases have changed, but the original meaning is preserved unchanged by orthodox religious clergy.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 5/11/12

Religious Ministers Should Stick to the Bible

How does a religious minister go against his Bible and teach on the side of civil law that is contrary to the Word of God?

Religious ministers need to stick with the Bible all the way, on moral issues and not get swept up with this tide of society and its emotional rhetoric on gay marriage. Such ministers are devoid of either theological research or theological intelligence.

Ministers are to separate themselves from society that is in conflict with God's law. From James 1:27: "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this...and to keep oneself undefiled from the world." And I Corinthians 6:9-10, "Do not be deceived: neither the immoral or idolaters nor adulterers nor of homosexual perversion will inherit the Kingdom of God."

God is not saying homosexual tendencies are sinful. God is saying homosexual acts are sinful. How can a minister have a clear conscience while attempting to ratify a marriage before God when a disorderly "love" will be occurring that is condemned in the Bible?

With the second coming of Christ, when time ceases and eternity begins, Bible law will rule Judgment Day. All opposing civil law will be shown to have been null and void always.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 8/16/13

When in Doubt, Trust in the Bible

Some people's opinions on gay issues stem from the wishes of society, with barely a nod to the Bible, usually just to criticize it. How can we know real morality without a divine conscience guiding us? Despite popular thinking, the Bible is the moral baseline to correct the whims of the populace.

Anything in the Bible, inspired by God, has to be rooted in pure good. With false interpretation and flawed use comes any resulting contrary opinion or action.

Two-plus centuries after our forefathers signed the Declaration of Independence, politicians are claiming the U.S. Constitution is an evolving document. Possibly, because the U.S. forefathers were fallible. But the Scripture writers were inspired by the infallible God.

Two thousand years ago, a divine messenger came to earth, Christ, and declared a New Covenant for the rest of time. Christ spoke to all, then through now and beyond, what the definition of morality is. Everyone else is fallible and cannot change His message.

Surprisingly, some gay advocates have claimed a moral comparison of gay humans to gay animals. Animals have no clue about a creator and upon death are not held accountable for their life on Earth. Only humans are eternally judged after death.

In the New Testament, Peter does make some comparison of humans to animals when he compares heretics to animals. II Peter 2:12: "But they (heretics), like irrational animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and killed, (heretics) reviling in matters of which they are ignorant will be destroyed."

The Courier News (New Jersey), 11/12/13

Don't Misinterpret Pope on "Gay Lifestyle"

Pope Francis has caused quite a stir by his remarks lately. One of them was saying it is not his role to judge someone who is gay. He said that during a spur of the moment with reporters present. The pope didn't clarify all that statement meant. The news media ran with the "good news" about gays, but didn't search for the deeper meaning.

The pope said that who is he to judge gays "if they accept the Lord and have goodwill." Pope Francis does not have any knowledge of what they do in their gay lifestyle. He is not going to judge them because he knows nothing personal about them. In this context, a judgment about gays would only be a guess as to the extent of their involvement in the gay lifestyle. Only with accurate knowledge could a judgment be made by a pope, a bishop or priest.

What Pope Francis said does not diminish the New Testament teaching of Christ concerning homosexuality. The tendency of this sin is not a sin in itself. It becomes an immoral sin when an act of it is willfully done. Because of Scripture, that's why gay marriage is a scandal.

The first letter of St. Paul to Timothy explains this in 1:9-10: "Understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane...for immoral persons...and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine."

The Record (New Jersey), 11/23/13

Catholic Consistency

Regarding the letter to the editor, “A Catholic school’s misguided dismissal” (*Reader Forum*, Dec 11, 2013): What the Catholic Church doesn’t need is a DIY Catholic who goes against the bishops of the world, including the bishop of Rome. A gay lifestyle-living teacher in the Catholic school system would be a scandal to the never-changing and uncompromising church teaching on that topic.

Everybody repeats the quote Pope Francis said about gays, “Who am I to judge?” But Francis has also made clear that he affirms church doctrine on gay activity. In the New Testament, Christ’s sentiments about gay activity match what is currently being said by bishops and popes.

Unconditional love does not mean turning a blind eye to homosexual activity, which is taught by Christ and Paul the Apostle to be sinful and results in exclusion from heaven.

The Catholic Church prohibits gay marriage because that union would promote sinful activity. Society may change its perception of behavior, but true religion does not.

The Star-Ledger (New Jersey), 1/29/14

Church Must Respect Tradition

Regarding “Catholic school in Mich. fires pregnant lesbian” (Page A-18, Sept. 4): Why should any Catholic be angered when a Catholic school fires someone who lives in opposition to one of the Church’s serious moral laws. The married lesbian couple described in the story violated a moral contract.

Some alumnae have vowed to withhold future donations. That would just be confusing to the students, who are being taught according to the 2,000 years of Apostolic succession.

The alumnae have put the cart before the ox. No matter how many Facebook supporters they get, laypeople of the Catholic Church are not going to change 2,000 years of continuity of doctrine. Their personal “religious” theology goes against all popes.

The go-to manual for all Catholic schools worldwide is Pope John Paul II’s 1997 *Catechism*. In the section on homosexuality, the footnotes refer directly to Bible verses that condemn it.

The Record (New Jersey), 9/14/14

Death with Dignity a Dangerous Euphemism

In New Jersey, a “Death with Dignity” act has begun the process of moving through the legislative system. The title has an emotional appeal meant to soften people’s hearts, but in reality, will dull their intellect.

A radio newscaster said it right. The reporter said, seriously, if the bill is passed into law, some state residents will be able to kill themselves. Reported that way, it had the sound of satire that would be heard on “The Colbert Report” on Comedy Central.

In today’s morally regressive society, the truth of the matter (killing themselves) is replaced with a lie (death with dignity).

Does society believe in the moral commandments in the Bible anymore? Matthew 5:21: “You have heard that it is said to them of the old (Exodus 20:13 Fifth Commandment), thou shalt not kill. And whosoever shall kill shall be liable to the judgment.” Society needs to be told that it also reads: thou shall not kill (thyself).

Suicide is self-murder. See *Webster’s Dictionary*. Ask any theologian worth their weight in spiritual insight, and they will say that the devils enter by the ways of emotion easily and are repelled by the ways of intelligence.

Ecclesiastes 7:17(18), “be not overmuch wicked and be not foolish that thou die before thou time.” In the early 19th century, the famous Cure d’ Ars said, “Do not do anything which you cannot offer to God.” Offer to God a natural and unprovoked death, thereby not tempting his judgment. Eternity is irreversible.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 3/8/13

Catholics and Atheists Can Agree on Right to Life

Concerning the Affordable Care Act, I believe the Catholic has common ground with the atheist with the right to life in the womb.

The ACA makes it civilly “lawful” to obtain abortion-inducing drugs through its system. An atheist can object to liberal society and their so-called “woman’s right” to end a pregnancy. An atheist should be mad as hell, rhetorically speaking for them, if they could comprehend as the doctor was about to end their life in the womb and cheat them from their only (perceived) existence, earthly life.

Catholic and atheist can agree; it’s a scientific fact that at the moment of conception the building blocks of life are joined and valuable human life has begun. Eyes develop 14 days after conception. After 18 days the heart is beating.

As to the potential suicide law in New Jersey, an atheist has cause to object to the law and thus agree with the Catholic. The eternal reason would not be the same but the choice would be the same. For the atheist there seems to be only life on earth, then nothing. So they wouldn’t want to miss any potential time here. Even with cancer they can take painkillers to be able to see and hear their loved ones as long as possible.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 10/23/14

This letter is also in Chapter 1: Abortion.

**On Assisted Suicide, the Words and
Laws of Scripture Are Timeless**

In Tom Moran's Oct. 12 column ("in the end, suicide with a doctor's help"), he wrote, "The line between assisted suicide and pain relief can be opaque." I don't see how the two come together. The first person dies a premeditated death. The other takes painkillers and waits for natural death.

Yes, the Catholic Church "wants to remain enshrined in law." Without its explanation, we wouldn't understand the continuity of The Word in print. Society may change through its perception of personal morality, but does society see how Scripture writers want to be timeless?

The Star-Ledger (New Jersey), 10/27/14

Suicide Is Still Wrong

Regarding “Terminally ill patients should decide their fate” (*Other Views*, Nov. 16): It seems columnist Brigid Harrison is showing some liberal stripes. When did the medical establishment get equal billing with the will of God?

Just because modern science can control the timing of death, people can still die of natural causes as they accept all forms of medical treatment to prolong their lives. A bad heart can still be the cause of a natural death, eventually. So can cancer with painkillers.

It’s not a modern medical problem. It’s a modern moral problem. More than 100 years ago, the space between right and wrong was thin. But still, at that time, Pope Pius X wrote directly about the decline of morals because of modernism.

He was proved right about a decade or so later when Margret Sanger started what is now Planned Parenthood. Both Sanger and Planned Parenthood were, and are, liberal about life in the womb. It’s all about the mother.

Other than just war or self-defense, God condemns killing and murder. Does the Fifth Commandment ring a bell? Suicide is self-murder.

By now, the space between right and wrong is wide, the gray area. In just one lifetime, abortion is common, gay marriage is close to being common and suicide will be common.

The Record (New Jersey), 11/21/14

Assisted Suicide Defies God's Will

Does everyone in New Jersey know what's quietly going through the State Assembly at this time? The NJ Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act (A2451). In real words, it's a self-murder act. Someone ought to call the Netherlands to hear how their morals are almost at rock bottom because of their suicide laws. As their laws stand now, a young adult can "legally" choose euthanasia as "treatment" for depression. It's happened there already.

Netherlands' suicide started out just for the hard cases. And so their liberals said. American's abortion started out just for the hard cases. And so our liberals said.

Someday our U.S. Supreme Court will start a narrow "hard case" form of suicide through federal law and override any state law. The Court majority will override God's law, the Bible, which instructs on all moral matters—abortion, gay marriage, including suicide.

Deuteronomy 32:39: "Learn now that I, I Am, and there is no other God besides Me: I put to death and I keep alive, I wound and I heal; and (away) from my hand there is no rescue."

The Courier News (New Jersey), 10/4/16

When Do We Have a Right to Die?

Regarding “Assisted suicide measure clears committee, 8-2” (Page A-3, Oct. 7): Does everyone in New Jersey know what’s going through the state Assembly at this time? That would be a bill to help those terminally ill to die. Or in other words, a self-murder act.

Someone ought to call the Netherlands to hear how their morals are almost at rock bottom because of suicide laws. As the laws stand now, a young adult can “legally” choose euthanasia as a “treatment” for depression. The Netherlands’ suicide law started out just to cover the hard cases, or so the liberals said.

Someday our U.S. Supreme court may endorse a narrow “hard case” form of suicide as a federal right and override any state law, just as the court majority at times has overridden God’s law on such moral matters as abortion and gay marriage.

Our lives do not belong to us, they belong to God. I intend to die on God’s terms, a natural death.

The Record (New Jersey), 10/9/16

Priest's Celibacy Still to Be Respected

Each week, the radio station New Jersey 101.5 FM has listeners call in with their opinion about topics chosen by the station. The topic of unmarried priests came up after the election of Pope Francis. One caller had the idea to self-interpret the Bible for the Catholic Church. He refers to I Corinthians 7:9, which is about marrying rather than being single and “afame with passion.”

On the contrary, in Luke 18:29-30, Christ advises men to “leave house or wife for the Kingdom of God.” In Luke 14:26, Christ says plainly and harshly of men if they cannot leave, including others, “his wife and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.”

In all forms of society, there is always a small percentage who should have chosen a different life work. Those are the ones this listener was calling in about. For what is the much larger majority of priests, the calling of Christ to the priesthood is real.

An interesting story in Japan illustrates how meaningful celibacy is. In 1614, the Jesuit priests were martyred by the Emperor. For 245 years, the Japanese converts, without any priests, kept passing on the faith. In 1859, a missionary priest returned. The converts asked of him the three signs they were looking for: Devotion to Mary, obedience to “Papa-san” in Rome and celibacy of the priest. Needless to say, the priest was astonished by it all.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 5/12/13

Bishops, Catacombs

Star-Ledger columnist John Farmer Sr. wrote there were no bishops in the Catholic Church during its time in the catacombs (“The election’s biggest losers,” Nov. 11, 2012). That’s incorrect.

In I Timothy 3:1, Paul teaches: “If a man desires the office of bishop he desireth good work.” Also, in Titus 1:5, Paul instructs Titus: “ordain priests in every city.” Then and through today, only a bishop can ordain priests.

In Vol. 1 of “The Faith of the Early Fathers,” by William Jurgens, Saint Ignatius, a bishop of Antioch, wrote: “For you must follow the bishop as Jesus Christ follows the Father and the presbyter as you would follow the Apostles.”

The Star-Ledger (New Jersey), 6/20/13

The Bible Truly Does Hold All the Answers

Here we go again. More people are leaving organized religion and telling us it's a thing of the past that has outlived its usefulness.

The problem is not with the design of organized religion itself, because the designer of the original organized religion cannot be wrong. The problem is with the earthly administrators of this New Covenant.

The Designer (God) sent His Perfecter (Christ) to perfect the Old Covenant by giving us the New Covenant. We have a written account of this called the Bible.

Bad priests do not cancel out what we know about God through His written account. A very small amount of the religious clergy are in serious sin and they know it because they teach about the knowledge of all sin. Such types are the few who talk out of both sides of their mouth.

Organized religion can compare to any well-organized company. The company has a written code of conduct in place. Get caught violating that code and expect a trip to the office. Even the office itself can be caught violating its own code. This does not cancel out their code of conduct because it was written in "perfection."

It is the same with organized religion. Their code of conduct (the Bible) was written in true perfection. Every answer to every human problem or joy can be solved or found through the Bible by the much larger percentage of competent teaching religious authority.

The Daily Record (New Jersey), 6/16/15

Some Rules Are Not to Be Violated

Regarding “Church must welcome all” (*Your Views*, Oct. 19): I was surprised to read that a priest erroneously stated that “the morality of human behavior is no law of the church,” but is “arrived at [through] one’s own conscience,” and that he credits Vatican II for this. Just as Bible interpretation cannot be of one’s own mind, the definition of morality belongs to the mind of the infallible Catholic Church.

Any Catholic worth his weight in grace knows that the bishop of Rome, the pope, with the other bishops worldwide, is the arbitrator of moral conscience. The church has always welcomed all to join or return. But it has also drawn religious lines. One such line is that the seriously immoral are not to receive Holy Communion until they repent.

A problem of Vatican II is that some documents become opaque in thought when being read apart from actual laws of the church. According to the new catechism of the Catholic Church promulgated by Pope John Paul II, “erroneous judgment” results in “rejection of the [church’s] authority and her teaching.”

The Record (New Jersey), 10/27/15

Response to Article on Biblical Interpretation

I would like to respond to Michael Riley's July 3 article, "The Bible tells me so." He states that, in Catholicism, the church is the final authority for Scripture interpretation. When he wrote "church," did he mean the church Christ started or the church Christ started plus all the Protestant churches?

Riley likes to study Scripture in the context of what it meant to the original hearers of the Word. In their time, when the king left for some reason, a steward was given large keys to signify that he had full authority as the king until the king returned. In Matthew 16:19, Christ gives Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Christ has left, not yet returned, so all of Peter's successors have the same full authority until Christ returns.

Also, the Trinity is in the Bible. In Exodus 3:14, God tells Moses His name, "I Am Who Am." In John's Gospel 8:58, Christ tells the Jews, "before Abraham was made I Am." In Matthew 28:19, Christ says "baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Christ says "name" as in a singular way. In Genesis 1:26, God says, "let us make man to our image and likeness." Christ has the same name as God, "I Am," Christ was before Abraham and Christ told the Apostles how to baptize "in the name of." They add up to the Trinity going all the way back to Genesis 1:26.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 7/10/11

Dying for Christ

On June 3 Leonard Pitts Jr. wrote an overall excellent column about religious faith. There is one paragraph that needs clarification.

Jesus would not be okay with people denying him (remember Peter) to save themselves from religious persecution, even to death. Christ died a public death rather than deny the New Covenant. The Catholic Church has thousands of public martyrs who did not die in vain for the Gospel of Christ.

The Star-Ledger (New Jersey), 6/17/14

Getting Letters Printed in the Newspaper

Letters to the editor, in public newspapers, have to read well for three groups: the writer, the newspaper editor, and the readers of the newspapers. The writer's concern is to explain the topic in a clear path along the way to a conclusion in around two hundred words, depending on the newspaper's limit of words. Expect multiple rough drafts to reach a finished letter to satisfy all three groups.

The best way to send a letter to the newspaper is email. An e-letter is easier for the editor to keep for a while. Always keep a copy for reference when calling the editor about any letter. Many of my letters would not have been published if I didn't call after waiting a week. Sometimes the editor can be very helpful with advice to rewrite and submit again, or sometimes the writer and editor can reach a solution and revision right there over the phone.

With an e-letter, be sure to fill in the "subject" field because the staff might ignore the letter because of an empty "subject" field. Other letters are discarded for other reasons, so eventually call and ask about your letter.

These are religious letters. Explaining the intangible religion to society is difficult. I noticed that the experienced apologetic theologians use earthly comparisons to explain, in a parallel way, a religious reality. The ultimate Theologian is Christ Himself. He used earthly parables to explain His New Covenant to the Jews and the Gentiles. Earthly comparisons to moral/religious issues help make the intangible religion a tangible acceptance.

Media Distorts View of Anti-Abortionists

Recently I read a newspaper editorial on partial-birth abortion and once again the media grossly distorted the issue in favor of pro-abortionists.

The editorial referred to Clinton's veto on the ban on partial-birth abortions and said, "At that point, both sides having done their best to distort the issue, a draw should have been declared." That statement contains a complete falsehood. The pro-life people did not distort anything in any way. I challenge anyone to inform us as to what the pro-life people said that was a distortion of this partial-birth issue.

There is no argument as to the distortion by the pro-abortionists. They, themselves, have admitted it. Actually, they did not admit distortion; they admitted lying, which is even worse than distortion. The pro-abortion media doesn't call a lie by its true name. They water it down as much as possible, by calling it a distortion.

That approach by pro-abortionists should not surprise anyone. The whole abortion movement is based primarily on lies, and it is easy to prove it.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 4/14/97

The Abortion Industry Primarily Built on Lies

Planned Parenthood should be very grateful to the *Courier-News*. Recently the newspaper gave them free space in a letter to the editor to advertise to the public all about the services they offer. They call these services health care.

Planned Parenthood is one of the largest providers of abortion referrals and abortion clinics and they are a large part of services that kill over a million babies in the womb, every year in this country alone. This is not a misprint.

In August 1963, Planned Parenthood-World Publication issued a pamphlet entitled, "Plan Your Children for Health and Happiness" in which the question is asked: "Is abortion a safe method of birth control?" The answer, given by the same Planned Parenthood publication, was: "Definitely not. Abortion kills the life of a baby after it has begun."

Perhaps today's Planned Parenthood will tell us how its "emergency contraception" (the morning-after pill) works, so that we can decide for ourselves whether it is a contraceptive or an abortion-causing agent.

The abortion movement and the abortion industry are built primarily on lies.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 7/8/97

Partial-Birth Abortion Is the Same as Murder

The Planned Parenthood official has written another letter of deceit and misrepresentation, this time on partial-birth abortion. The federal Congress and some state legislatures have outlawed partial-birth abortions because they are practically infanticide. The baby is entirely delivered except for the head, and then a pointed object is plunged into the baby's head, killing it.

Even U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, who has been pro-abortion, has said that partial-birth abortion is too close to infanticide. The doctors who do partial-birth abortions have said that they do many of them, and do them on healthy babies of healthy mothers.

In New Jersey within the last few months, a number of young woman have been arrested on criminal charges because they killed their own babies, an hour or so after birth.

Why is this?

Because it is murder to kill an innocent person, of any age. What is the difference between killing a baby a few hours after it is completely born, and killing the baby when it is all born except the head? Every abortion kills an innocent baby, and it is horrible. But partial-birth abortions are horrible almost beyond belief. When are people going to wake up and say, "Enough. No more."

Edmund Burke said that the only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing. So, do something. When you vote, at all levels, vote for people who will protect all human life. Is that asking a lot?

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey) 2/16/98

Abortion Movement Has Been Built on Lies

The author of a recent column says Americans should help avoid world overpopulation by killing babies in the womb in the United States. There is no claim that our country is overpopulated, so how does abortion here control overpopulation elsewhere? So why do these people spend time and money promoting abortion here? Because overpopulation is not their primary target. Their main goal is legal abortion in this country. Like Margret Sanger, they couldn't care less about the poor. Overpopulation is a stalking-horse they use to promote abortion.

The fetus has its own genetic makeup, its own DNA. It is a person completely separate from the mother. The fetus is in the mother, but it is not part of the mother. This is a simple, scientific, medical fact. The terms embryo and fetus are words to designate the age of this live human being. Likewise, to convey the different ages of a human being after birth, we say infant, child, juvenile and adult. Since its beginning, the abortion movement has been built on lies, and that statement is easy to prove.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 3/27/99

“Pro-Abortionist” Argument Faulty

The man from North Plainfield has written again to criticize pro-lifers. He finds nothing good in their efforts to protect the lives of innocent babies in the womb. He says that nobody should speak against abortion unless they have first adopted a baby born with cocaine addiction or participated in the alleviation of some other social problem.

But what about other pro-abortionists who are interested in social problems different from the concerns of the man from North Plainfield—for instance, the environment? This other pro-abortionist would require the would-be pro-lifer to first be active in projects to improve the environment before speaking out against abortion. Still other pro-abortionists would require the would-be pro-lifer to first be concerned by problems in yet another field.

Obviously, no human being could meet these demands of the different pro-abortionists. It is equally obvious that this line of criticism is completely lacking in logic and rationale. So why does anyone present this bankrupt argument? It is because there isn't any truthful, rational criticism that can be made against pro-lifers. Those who are not interested in the truth will create smokescreens to hide the fact that there is no truth in their position.

Another purpose of this phony criticism is to intimidate pro-lifers from telling the truth about abortion in the public forum. They are afraid that if enough people become aware that abortion is the killing of an innocent human being in the womb, then abortion will be outlawed again, as it once was in practically every state.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 8/28/01

**Readers Correct Article
Concerning Catholic Faith**

In the Sept. 26 installment of the *Courier-News'* series on Catholicism, there is a statement about an important matter in Catholicism, and that statement is completely untrue. It says that when the Eucharist minister "took her place at the altar to offer the symbolic body of Body of Christ...no one would stand in her line."

The very grave error lies in the presence of the word "symbolic." In the Catholic faith, the Eucharist is not symbolic of Christ's presence. The Catholic faith teaches that, in the Eucharist, Our Lord is truly and really present, in His Body and Blood, His Soul and Divinity. The technical term for this presence is transubstantiation. The common, popular term is the Real Presence.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 10/1/95

Church, not the Bible, Is Source of Inspiration

Recent letters about the Bible show that people are unaware of what the Bible is, where it came from and how it is to be used. Every word of the Bible was written under the inspiration of God, but it is not the means given to us by God, whereby we know His will without any chance of error. The means that God did give us is His Church.

The Bible itself clearly states: Christ founded one Church. He gave it authority to teach and govern in His name. He would protect it from teaching error. It would last until the end of time. History clearly shows that there is only one Church that can trace its existence in every century back to Christ. It was that Church that decided which of many writings in circulation were inspired by God. The Bible comes from the Church. The Church that had the authority to decide on inspiration is the only legitimate authority to say what these writings mean.

Many good and sincere people believe that each individual can determine the true meaning, but experience shows that they arrive at contradictory meanings. Because God cannot contradict Himself, He did not give us the Bible for private interpretation to know His will. He did give us His one Church, in which there is all truth and not error.

Many good and sincere people start outside this Church through no fault of theirs. God will judge them by their conscience, what they have been taught and by His Natural Law. Inside His Church, God has provided extraordinary means by which we obtain strength to do good and avoid evil, and draw close to Him. Anyone who is prompted by God is obligated to search for Him. He is the One who said: "Seek and you shall find."

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 10/17/99

**There's a Lack of Evidence
of Church Anti-Semitism**

Unfounded hate and bigotry powered the recent letter which charged anti-Semitism against the Catholic Church. There was a complete lack of evidence to substantiate these allegations.

These wild charges were made against the Church as an institution, and then against individual Catholics. Neither category was accompanied by any established facts. Even if it were true that an official did something wrong, the organization cannot be blamed, unless it can be shown that the individual's action conformed to the expressed policies of the organization.

Two examples show that even when the writer has some facts, he is not able to draw rational conclusions. The writer claims that Father Balaguer is anti-Semitic because Balaguer said that in the Holocaust, four million Jews died—not six million. How can anyone who says that the Nazis killed four million Jews be called anti-Semitic?

Even when the writer admits that Jewish leaders have praised Pope John Paul II, he implies that it was not done because the Pope had done anything good for the Jews, but because the Jewish leaders were trying to prevent future anti-Semitism. How ridiculous can you be?

During World War II when Cardinal Roncalli was Vatican envoy to Bulgaria, he saved thousands of Jews from falling into the hands of the Nazis and certain death. Pope Pius XI once said, "Spiritually, all Catholics are Semites." Pope John XXIII greeted a visiting group of Jewish dignitaries saying, "I am Joseph, your brother."

Anti-Semitism is not the only evil in the world. Another is anti-Catholicism which is alive and well today.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 11/7/94

Lutheran-Catholic Pact Needs to Be Clarified

The recent news item on the agreement between Lutherans and Catholics on justification contained errors. The report says there will be a joint declaration on how a person achieves salvation, but the agreement is about how a person achieves justification. For Catholics, they are not the same thing. Salvation is achieved when God admits us to heaven. Justification is achieved here on earth when we acknowledge that Christ died to redeem us from the bondage of the original sin of Adam and Eve. If a person accepts Christ as savior and repents of his sins, he is justified, made righteous. The condition is initial justification.

It is my understanding that Lutherans believe that initial justification is all that God requires for a person to achieve salvation. The Catholic Church says that more than that is required for salvation. After initial justification, a person must live according to the Ten Commandments and the teachings of Christ. If a person does that, he increases in justification, righteousness, holiness and sanctification. If a person commits a mortal sin, he loses all justification. If he repents, he regains justification. If he dies in the state of justification, he enters Heaven: he has achieved salvation.

For Catholics, initial justification is not the same thing as final justification and not the same as salvation. A person can lose justification, but cannot ever lose salvation. The Catholic Church has always taught that we achieve salvation by faith and works, but the joint declaration does not cover that question.

The Catholic Church has not changed its teachings in any way whatsoever. If I have misunderstood or misstated anything, I hope someone will correct me.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 11/10/99

Liberals Use Tyranny to Get What They Want

The face of a liberal is the mask of a tyrant. See Ellen Goodman's Feb. 15 column on the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). A few years ago, the liberals persuaded Congress to initiate the process of amending the Constitution, allegedly to give equal rights to women. No specific rights were mentioned, only a vague equality. This proposed ERA gained approval in state after state, until only three more were needed for it to become law.

Then came some courageous women, who recognized the ERA did nothing good for women, but was bad for the country. They convinced the legislatures in the remaining states to reject the ERA. These women stopped the ERA in its tracks. Then the liberals persuaded Congress to give ERA an unprecedented second chance. They worked hard in this second go-around, needing only three more states. They never got them.

Where does the tyranny come in? When the liberals obtained a second, unprecedented chance, one of the rules would have delighted any tyrant. It allowed any state that had rejected ERA the first time around to now approve it, but states that had approved ERA the first time were not now allowed to reject it. How do you like that for believing in democracy and the will of the people? Liberals are willing to abide by majority vote, as long as the majority agrees with liberal ideology.

Liberals try to persuade the people to accept their ideology, but when persuasion doesn't work, they will use any means, fair or foul, to get their way. Liberals believe that the end justifies the means to get there. They will do whatever it takes to make laws to unjustly run other people's lives, even in matters that are not the business of government. Many Liberal principals are subversive of a free and moral society.

William Penn said, “Those who will not be ruled by God, will be ruled by tyrants.”

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 3/20/00

Christians and Jews Should Get Along

There is no reason for any Jewish person to find anything greatly offensive in the “B.C.” comic cartoon at Easter. Its meaning should be clear to Jews and Christians who are familiar with the basic history of those religions.

It starts when our first parents, Adam and Eve, disobeyed God and He banished them (and their descendants) from Paradise and from intimate union with Him. But God promised them that someday He would send a Redeemer who would make it possible for everybody to return to Paradise and be united to Him.

Centuries went by. People forgot the one true God and began to worship idols of false gods. So God decided to keep alive the knowledge of His existence and His laws and His promise of a Redeemer by choosing a particular nation to whom He would send messages. God chose Abraham to be the father of that nation and made a Covenant with him and his descendants. These people were called Jews. They were God’s chosen people, having the knowledge that there is only one true God and He would send a Redeemer-Messiah.

More centuries went by and the Jews, like everybody in the civilized world, were conquered by the Romans. The Jews longed to be liberated and began to think of the Redeemer-Messiah as someone who would free them from the subjugation to the Romans. After years of Roman rule (about 2,000 years ago), a Jewish man named Jesus of Nazareth, a descendent of David and born in Bethlehem, claimed to be the Messiah. He said that he came to free them, not from political subjugation to the Romans, but to free them moral subjugation to sin. He said, “Do not think that I have come to destroy the Law and the Prophets. I have not come to destroy but to fulfill.”

Many Jews believed him and accepted him and

his additional teachings, and Jesus made a new Covenant with them. These Jews became known as Christians and they carried the New Covenant to the Jews and Gentiles. Thus Christianity is founded on Judaism. Christianity is the extension of Judaism. All differences between Judaism and Christianity flow from the fact that, 2,000 years ago, many Jews accepted Christ as the Messiah, with a New Covenant that included both Jews and Gentiles, while other Jews rejected him.

A true Christian can have no hostility to Judaism, only gratitude and love. Shalom.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 7/5/01

Constitution Rights Being Railroaded

The Courier-News editorial of Aug. 29 expressed erroneous opinions about the relationships between church and state. The editorial uses the expression “church and state,” but its comments actually refer to religion and state.

The truth is that our laws were clearly and consciously founded in great part on Christian principals, both in the federal government and in the governments of the various states. But this reality was turned upside down during the last 50 years of the 1900's.

At the same time (1870-1970), another basic principal of American government was also turned upside down, namely the principal of states' rights. Anyone who reads the U.S. Constitution, especially the Tenth Amendment in the Bill of Rights, can readily see that the original 13 independent states formed a federal republic, to which they granted certain powers, while retaining all other powers to themselves and the people.

When the Constitution was ratified (and for some time afterward), some of these independent states had a legal union with one or another of the Protestant Christian churches. Public tax money in those states was legally given to support their particular church.

The founding fathers wanted to prevent the government of the new federal republic from establishing any one the Protestant Christian churches as the one official tax-supported church of the new national government. So they wrote into the Bill of Rights that Congress could not make any law establishing a national church or regulate the citizens' right to practice the religion of their choice.

The federal Constitution separated the national government from the union with any one particular Protestant Christian church. It did not separate the

national government from working with the Christian churches to the benefit of the citizens.

During the last century, those who dislike the Christian religion have gained control in our political life and have imposed their personal views in making laws and judging cases contrary to the Constitution. One reason they have been able to do this is because so many of our citizens no longer practice Christianity and therefore don't care what is happening.

The text of the Constitution has never prohibited cooperation and support between the government and Christian religion. Everybody has a right to his opinion, but nobody has the right to be wrong about the facts.

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 9/12/03

God Is the Ultimate Ruler, Lawmaker

The Courier-News editors used a great deal of common sense in the Oct. 15 editorial on using common sense in the debate on the words “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance. The use of common sense alone solves many problems, but sometimes other factors also come into play. One such case is the wording of the pledge.

The words “under God” are a reminder to citizens and government officials that there is a power greater than the government and that there is justice greater than the justice of the government. These words remind us that there is a perfect justice and a perfect lawmaker that ultimately rules all things, even governments.

At the same time, these words remind us that human lawmakers and judges are imperfect, capable of unjust laws and immoral judgements. Citizens must not think that a law is just and good simply because government officials say so. Positive law is often bad, terribly bad. For example, the evil actions of the Nazis were the result of evil laws by the Nazi state. The evil things that the Nazis did were sanctioned by legal, positive laws passed by government officials.

After the war, Nazis leaders were hanged for “crimes against humanity,” that is, crimes against natural law.

Dostoevsky (who wrote “The Brothers Karamazov”) said, “If there is no God, everything is permitted.” William Penn said, “If people will not be ruled by God, they will be ruled by tyrants.” Edmund Burke said, “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing.”

H.A.P.

The Courier-News (New Jersey), 11/6/03

Mounting Evidence Met with Silence

People insist on clinging to their prejudice even after it has been shown to them that their prejudice is based on falsehood. Thus Mr. Kaufman insists on continuing his vicious criticism of the Catholic Church and Pius XII for allegedly supporting Hitler, especially in his killing of Jews. He presents no specific evidence, just vague generalities.

When specific and irrefutable evidence against him was presented by a Bound Brook writer, Mr. Kaufman was completely unable to rebut him in a coherent manner. The specific evidence against him came from two sources—*The New York Times* and Golda Meir. Against the specific witness of *The Times*, Kaufman had no specific rebuttal whatsoever. His only defense was that the evidence from *The Times* was of no value because *The Times* has been wrong on other issues. This is guilt by association, not guilt by evidence. Kaufman's response here is just a lot of empty words.

His rebuttal of Golda Meir consists of absolute silence. Not a single word. Golda Meir was a Jewish adult during the time of the Holocaust and later became prime minister of Israel. When Pius XII died, Golda Meir praised him for having criticized the Nazis and for having commiserated with the victims. Why did Mr. Kaufman not comment on Golda Meir's testimony? He was completely silent.

Does Mr. Kaufman want to know the truth, or does he want to cling to his prejudice?

H.A.P.

The Courier News (New Jersey), 5/30/04

