

STANDING ON GUARD FOR A CHRISTIAN CANADA

The Canadian Charter explicitly states that

“Canada is founded upon the principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law”

Canada’s heritage as a nation under God is plainly carved on the walls of our Parliamentary buildings. They serve as a rebuke, as well as an encouragement, to all Canadians, that God continues **to call His people to covenant faithfulness.**

Canada’s Christian heritage has been largely forgotten or shoved aside by the millennial generation. Consider for example the teaching of Darwinian evolution in our education system, our schools....the intolerance of Christian belief in the public square, or the godless foundation of our law and government.

It does not take long for a visitor to Canada to see how far we have drifted as a nation from our Biblical Moorings.

DID YOU KNOW OR ARE YOU AWARE that there are various Biblical passages found inscribed on the Peace Tower and other Parliamentary buildings in Ottawa that remind us of the Christian heritage of our nation????

What I am sharing with you today is by no means an exhaustive list of the engraved passages, but reviews, as a fraction of the whole, important passages that I believe reflect the great portrait of our historic national identity. The Biblical vision of our country Canada is often neglected, if not completely ignored, by national history curriculums in our public schools, but the remnants of what once was can still be reclaimed by a faithful followers of Christ and His Church in our present time.

We will consider the Peace Tower, the Buildings of Parliament and the Memorial Chamber Within.

1. THE PEACE TOWER:

The Peace Tower itself bears 3 primary passages, the most common being Psalm 72:8 which is featured on Canada’s coat of arms. It is inscribed in Latin on the wall, as “A Mari usque Ad Mare.”

***(above the East window) He shall have dominion also from sea to sea ,
and from the River to the ends of the earth”***

This the Psalm which first inspired the Fathers of Confederation to name our nation The “Dominion of Canada”

Sir Samuel Leonard Tilley (of the hat company), once Premier of New Brunswick, one of Canada’s founding fathers, was a God fearing man.

He woke up on the day they were to decide the name of this new confederation and read this Psalm.

So, Tilley suggested that the new confederation be called the Dominion of Canada, and it was so named on July 1, 1867

Now, the word Dominion has been removed from our National identity for a while now. This was officially overturned/removed in 1983 in the passing of a private’s members’ bill that proposed changing the name to ‘Canada Day’ with only 12 members of Parliament present.

This formed part of a larger DE-CHRISTIANIZATION movement reflecting the change of values and beliefs by Canadian Parliament and its citizens, and the substitution of God with the state as sovereign in the adoption of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

It is a statement of a country that sought not submission to God and His law but rather autonomy, to be a law unto ourselves, to be our own creators or morality and reality, such as the legalization of abortion and same sex marriages, where “life” and “marriages” were redefined.

But the inspired association with Psalm 72:8 remains the foundation of our spiritual heritage. In fact, if you are able or have been to Parliament Hill in Ottawa, this verse is still forever ensconced on the concrete entrance into the Parliament buildings.

*****(above the South window) “Give the King thy judgment, O God, and thy righteousness unto the King’s son” (Psalm 72:1)*****

It is a prayer of the Psalmist for an act that would later take place, the acts and principles of right government given unto the Messiah to rule in perfect justice. It is Jesus Christ, not man, who is king over all of God’s creation. This follows in line with the Proverb which reads

*****(above the West window) “Where there is no vision, the people perish but he that keeps the law, happy is he” (Proverbs 29:18).*****

The Fathers of Confederation had a vision for Canada. To have a vision, as it meant by the Psalmist, is to **DEVOTE ONESELF TOWARDS THE INSTRUCTION OF GOD’S TRUTH THROUGH HIS DIVINELY-INSPIRED WORD!!!**

It follows that without the law, without godly instruction, our moral depravity will lead us to our own destruction because of the absence moral restraints; we will witness the perishing of not only individuals but societies!!!

The meaning or application of this scripture is important and fundamental to understanding the VISION of the founding fathers, a nation under God, abiding by the law of God.

In fact, Canada was always regarded as a “Christian nation”, strongly tied and wholly devoted to the teaching of God’s word.

That’s not the vision of today. Instead humanism has resulted in the decay of the truth in the public square and the erosion of our moral foundation.

It is the humanist who says that “there is no God,” that “we are not accountable to God,” that “man creates his or her own meaning, his or her own morality, and his or her own freedom”

The age old vision, as derived from the Bible, is to submit our nation to the sovereignty of the King, Jesus Christ, who rules in perfect justice and with the principles of right government.

It is an opposing view to modern or today’s understanding, a stark complete contrast to **HUMANISTIC RELIGION, but the PEACE TOWER REMINDS US OF OUR FORMER CHRISTIAN IDENTITY AND THE DESTINY THAT AWAITS THE WISE DECISIONS OF GODLY NATIONS**

2. PARLIAMENTARY BUILDINGS:

A sample of the Biblical passages found within the Parliament building is
Ephesians 6:13 and Psalm 139:7-10

When Paul wrote to the Ephesian Church, we read:

**Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you
may be able to withstand in the evil day,
and having done all, to stand firm”**

-Ephesians 6:13

The people of Ephesus were accustomed to Greek mythology and its tales of their god providing mortal man with special armor, which is probably why Paul uses a common illustration to communicate the truth of God in his writings. It is the “TAKING UP OF ARMOR” that is regarded as a call to arms, to defend and protect God’s creation from evil. To neglect the response to evil is morally wrong in itself; we are morally bound by Holy Scriptures to respond to evil, just as the Western World responded to the cruelty of Nazi Germany in WWII
It is the role of the state to

**ADMINISTER JUSTICE IN ALL AREAS OF SOCIETY, TO EXECUTE JUSTICE
ACCORDING TO THE PERFECT LAW OF GOD!**

That includes defending against the threat of humanism, the man-centered worldview that perverts justice and righteousness. Just as the passage applies to a person, preparing himself/herself individually, it also applies to the spiritual and moral integrity of a nation as a whole!!

AS to the armor, Paul writes of truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and the Word of God (divine instruction), all Biblical principles that are good and pleasing to God, qualities that once distinguished our nation's identity.

I wonder what some of the fathers of confederation would think of their federation today?????

- *Sexual perversion such as legalization of non Biblical marriages(same sex)
- * Rebellion is idolized by virtually every section of society. We live in one of the most rebellious generations of all time!
- * As drug addiction continues to be the scourge of the nation, our government legalized marijuana and perhaps more dangerous addictive drugs.
- *Violence...across our nation without cause or justice
- *Abortion on demand (and worse is being considered) and in Quebec they have legalized euthanasia and it will spill over the rest of our country into other provinces
- * Respect... One of the most important qualities for anyone is being cast aside with rudeness, and "the ME attitude" instead of the Beatitudes.

From the time of Jacques Cartier, to Sir John A MacDonal, to the 1960's, there has been a strong interwoven presence of Christianity in Canadian history, up until the last maybe 15 or so years.

The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 139: 7-10:

7 Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
10 even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.

-Psalm 139: 7-10

This is the Psalmist's recognition of God's omnipresence (the ability to be "present everywhere at the same time", referring to an unbounded or universal presence. Omnipresence means minimally that there is no place to which God's knowledge and power do not extend) AND omniscience (The Christian faith teaches that this all-knowing power goes beyond what we can imagine as humans. God knows if someone loses a single hair, and knows people's thoughts before they speak them)

God is both everywhere and all knowing!! HE KNOWS the deep thoughts of a person, the dark sins of the nations, and is present in both private homes and public legislatures.

But we not only have recognition of God's attributes, we find a faithful promise, that those who turn to HIM will be led by Him, and that in His nearness He also sustains us! It was a declaration of dependence upon God, a demonstration of humility, a forgotten devotion that has been substituted with the IDOL OF SELF AND INDEPENDENCE!!! ME ATTITUDE MIND SET!!!

3. MEMORIAL CHAMBER:

In the Memorial Chamber of Parliament we find references to Jeremiah 23:5, which reads:

“„execute judgement and justice in the earth” (ESV)

And Nahum 1:7

“The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him (ESV)

The Messiah King does not just reign over a spiritual kingdom, but righteously reigns over the entire earth as in

Jeremiah 3:17,18

“17 At that time they will call Jerusalem
The Throne of the Lord, and all nations will gather in Jerusalem
to honor the name of the Lord.
No longer will they follow the stubbornness of their evil hearts.
18 In those days the people of Judah will join the people of Israel,
and together they will come from a northern land
to the land I gave your ancestors as an inheritance.”

The mistaken belief that kingdom of God is merely spiritually and doesn't incorporate the physical world is damaging to the work of the church. This was the vision of our forefathers, that Christ would execute “judgement and justice”

Perhaps the question may be asked about the injustices in our own legal history, such as the court decision to allow and even publicly fund the massacre of the unborn, but we need to be reminded that if Christ is sovereign, which He is... HE WILL EXECUTE JUSTICE EVEN IF THE STATE FAILS TO FULFILL IT'S ROLE!!!

The LEGAL SYSTEM WAS NOT MEANT TO REPLACE THE JUDGEMENT OF GOD, it was meant to uphold the law of God, and whatever judgement is given by the courts, Christ will still administer the final judgement. Someone may have committed a crime, spent time in prison for their crime but with no repentance, will not escape the judgement of God.

In 2 Timothy 4:1 it says, it is Christ who will...

“Judge the living and the dead”

Although the passage of Jeremiah affirms the Sovereignty of God and His righteousness and judgement, Nahum assures us of the safety and refuge available in Jesus Christ.

A person can escape the wrath of God by repenting of their sin and turning to Jesus Christ; likewise a nation can escape the judgement of God by turning to the King on His throne, who has conquered both sin and death. These are messages of both hope and judgement, the good news of God and the penalty for breaking His perfect law.

CONCLUSION:

These inscribed Biblical passages on the Peace Tower and Parliamentary buildings are merely scratching the surface of Canada's Christian heritage; they provide a glimpse of our original

NATIONAL VISION AND THE FUTURE HOPE OF RESTORING OUR NATION UNDER God.

The Vaults of Canadian history are filled with fundamental Christian belief, but our secularized society has tirelessly worked to bury that fact, to eliminate all such traces of the past. I encourage you to study the spiritual roots of our nation Canada... we have a proud Christian heritage.

Most importantly, it is a long-neglected work of the church, a vital task in reclaiming it's evangelistic “vigor” and “zeal” for the glorification of God in the public square. Such a task can only be done by the understanding of Canadian church history, and by embracing the “missio dei”, the mission of God, as outlined by the Holy Scriptures (Matthew 28: 18-19)

WE ONCE WERE RECOGNIZED AS “CHRISTIAN CANADA,”

SO THERE IS HOPE, IN GOD'S PROVIDENCE, FOR A RENEWED CONVERSION OF OUR NATION, CANADA!!!

WHICH WILL ONLY HAPPEN, IF WE PUT OUR FAITH IN A SOVEREIGN AND RIGHTEOUS GOD, WHO IS INFINITE IN POWER AND STRENGTH!!!

AND FOLLOW THE GOSPEL THAT CAN TRANSFORM MINDS AND HEARTS

THEN, WE AS A CHURCH AND NATION CAN EXPECT TO ADOPT A VICTORIOUS OUTLOOK TOWARD HISTORY, IN WHICH THE

"THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL"

- Matt. 16:18

MAN CAN NOT ONLY BE SAVED IN JESUS CHRIST (John 3:16)

REDEEMED AND RENEWED (John 3:3)

WHAT DO YOU STAND ON GUARD FOR?????

ARE YOU STRADDLING THE FENCE????ARE YOU TRYING TO WALK THE LINE???

I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU THIS DAY TO CHOOSE WHOM YOU ARE GOING TO SERVE!

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Date: Nov 13/22 (Remembrance Day Sunday)

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: It's Time for the Reign of God

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it was meant to uphold the law of God, and whatever judgement is given by the courts, Christ will still administer the final judgement

What are you standing on guard for????? Give your heart and life to Jesus today.. (John 3:16; John 3:3)
Let's be Canadian Christians for HIM and return to a Christian Canada! Wear the full armor of God!