

# Eye on the World

## Oct. 5, 2019

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of Oct. 5, 2019.

**Compiled by Dave Havir**

**Luke 21:34-36**—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).



An article by Kharen Martinez Murcia titled "Saudi Arabia Now Open to Tourists, But Don't Bring Too Many Bibles" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 1, 2019. Following is the article.

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Saudi Arabia announced on Sept. 27 that it is opening its country to international tourists, an opportunity that has been largely reserved to business and religious visitors. Although the change is welcome, the Saudi kingdom, a Muslim monarchy that follows sharia, has a troubling human rights record, according to the U.S. State Department.

The change is part of Crown Prince Mohamed bin Salman's project of modernization, which is designed to help reduce the country's dependence on an oil economy.

Saudi Arabia will grant visas to tourists from 49 countries, including the United States, and will allow tourists to spend up to 90 days at a time in the kingdom under a one-year multiple entry visa, according to the website VisitSaudi.com.

Time magazine reported that the Kingdom expected "100 million foreign and domestic visitors by 2030," which will "create 1 million new jobs in the tourism sector." They will be competing with other states in the region and "regional security will also be paramount," said Time.

Saudi Arabia, nonetheless, has some serious human rights problems.

The U.S. State Department in its 2018 report on Saudi Arabia stated that “human rights issues included unlawful killings; executions for nonviolent offenses; forced renditions; forced disappearances; and torture of prisoners and detainees by government agents.”

There also is extensive, official discrimination against women.

In one case covered widely by the media, Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered by government agents.

“The government or its agents engaged in arbitrary or unlawful killings,” reported the State Department. “On October 2, [2018], Jamal Khashoggi, a prominent Saudi journalist who lived abroad in ‘self-exile,’ was killed by government agents during a visit to the Saudi Arabian consulate in Istanbul, Turkey. The government initially claimed he had left the consulate in good health but changed its story as facts came to light.”

Prince Mohamed bin Salman told CBS that he takes responsibility for the killing, “but denies that he ordered it.”

“Under the country’s interpretation and practice of sharia (Islamic law), capital punishment may be imposed for a range of nonviolent offenses, including apostasy, sorcery, and adultery, although in practice death sentences for such offenses were rare and often reduced on appeal,” said the State Department.

Other abuses cited in the report include the following.

- “The law forbids apostasy and blasphemy, which can carry the death penalty”
- “In November, some female right-to-drive activists arrested in May and June were subjected to torture and sexual harassment while in detention at Dhahban Prison near Jeddah.”
- “Authorities arrested at least 30 prominent women activists and their male supporters and imposed travel bans on others, in connection with their advocacy for lifting the ban on women driving. (The ban was lifted on June 24, 2018.)”
- “Saudi women reported that domestic abuse in the form of incest was common but seldom reported to authorities due to fears over societal repercussions.”
- “Women have fewer political or social rights than men, and they often are not treated as equal members in the political and social spheres. The guardianship system requires that every woman have a close male relative as her ‘guardian’ with the legal authority to approve her travel outside of the country.”
- “The country’s interpretation of sharia prohibits women from marrying non-Muslims, but men may marry Christians and Jews.”
- “Regulations prohibit men from marrying women from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Chad, and Burma.”
- “The law requires women to sit generally in separate, specially designated family sections in public places. They frequently cannot consume food in restaurants that do not have such sections.”

- “Women also faced discrimination in courts, where in some cases the testimony of one man equals that of two women. All judges are male, and women faced restrictions on their practice of law.”
- “The law does not provide for freedom of expression, including for the press.”
- “The law does not provide for freedom of assembly and association, which the government severely limited.”

Among the requirements that Saudi Arabia asks from tourists is to respect the customs of Islamic traditions and abide by their laws, which include a prohibition against alcohol and illegal drugs. Tourists are also asked to abide by a dress code.

The Saudi website states: “Both men and women are asked to dress modestly in public, avoiding tight fitting clothing or clothes with profane language or images. Women should cover shoulders and knees in public.”

The public practice of any religion besides Islam is forbidden by law. If you try to convert anyone from Islam to a different religion, it is a crime. A Christian tourist is allowed to bring a Bible for personal use, in private, but to bring in multiple Bibles is against the law.

Also, under the new tourist regulations, “men and women are required to refrain from public displays of affection, and avoid using profane language or gestures,” according to the U.K. foreign travel website. “Taking pictures or recording videos without permission is not permitted.”

“Homosexual or extra-marital sexual relations, including adultery, are illegal and can be subject to severe penalties,” stated Gov.UK. “It’s also illegal to be transgender. Transgender people travelling to Saudi Arabia are likely to face significant difficulties and risks if this is discovered by the authorities . . . Importing pork products is forbidden.”

“The possession of pornographic material, or of illustrations of scantily dressed people, especially women, is prohibited,” stated Gov.UK.



“Eye on the World” comment: While the next two articles discuss massive melting involving icebergs in Antarctica, you will notice an absence of common rhetoric. These articles do not promote (1) hysteria, (2) blame by hypocritical politicians, (3) predictions of dire consequences or (4) the rejection of capitalism for socialism.



An article titled “Enormous Iceberg Breaks Off Antarctica in Long-Expected Event” was posted at yahoo.com on Oct. 1, 2019. Following is the article.



An iceberg the size of Sydney has calved off Antarctica in a major event not seen on the ice shelf in almost 60 years, the Australian Antarctic Program reported on October 1.

The iceberg broke off from the Amery Ice Shelf and was 1,636 square kilometers in size. The Australian Antarctic Program detected the event on September 26.

Professor Helen Amanda Fricker from Scripps Institution of Oceanography said: "We first noticed a rift at the front of the Ice Shelf in the early 2000s and predicted a large iceberg would break off between 2010-2015.

"We don't think this event is linked to climate change, it's part of the ice shelf's normal cycle, where we see major calving events every 60-70 years."

It will not have an effect on sea levels because the ice shelf was already floating, according to a glaciologist from the Australian Antarctic Program.



An article by Jennifer Arthur titled "Antarctica Now Has More Than 65,000 'Meltwater Lakes' As Summer Ice Melts" was posted at yahoo.com on Oct. 2, 2019. Following is the article.

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During the Antarctic summer, thousands of mesmerising blue lakes form around the edges of the continent's ice sheet, as warmer temperatures cause snow and ice to melt and collect into depressions on the surface. Colleagues of mine at Durham University have recently used satellites to record more than 65,000 of these lakes.

Though seasonal meltwater lakes have formed on the continent for decades, lakes had not been recorded before in such great numbers across coastal areas of East Antarctica. This means parts of the world's largest ice sheet may be more vulnerable to a warming climate than previously thought.

### **Lakes affect ice shelves**

Much of Antarctica is surrounded by floating platforms of ice, often as tall as a skyscraper. These are "ice shelves". And when some of these ice shelves have collapsed in the past, satellites have recorded networks of lakes growing and then abruptly disappearing shortly beforehand. For instance, several hundred lakes disappeared in the weeks before the catastrophic disintegration of the Larsen B Ice Shelf—when 3,250 km<sup>2</sup> of ice broke up in just two months in 2002.

The collapse may have depended on water from these lakes filling crevasses and then acting like a wedge as the weight of the water expanded the crevasses, triggering a network of fractures. The weight of lakes can also cause the ice shelf surface to flex, leading to further fracturing, which is thought to have helped the shelf become unstable and collapse.

Ice shelves act as door stops, supporting the huge mass of ice further inland. Their removal means the glaciers feeding the ice shelf are no longer held back and flow faster into the ocean, contributing to sea-level rise.

### **Melting the ice sheet surface**

Scientists already knew that lakes form on the Antarctic ice sheet. But the latest study, published in *Scientific Reports*, shows that many more lakes are forming than previously thought, including in new parts of the ice sheet and much further inland and at higher elevations.

Since the cold and remoteness makes it logistically challenging to measure and monitor Antarctica's lakes in the field, we largely know all this thanks to satellite imagery. In this case, one of the satellites used was the European Space Agency's Sentinel-2 which provides global coverage of the Earth's surface every five days and can detect features as small as ten metres.

My colleagues analysed satellite images of the East Antarctic Ice Sheet taken in January 2017. In total, the images covered 5,000,000 km<sup>2</sup> (that's more than 20 times the area of the United Kingdom).

Because water reflects certain wavelengths very strongly compared to ice, lakes can be detected in these images by classifying pixels in the image as "water" or "non-water." From these images we can pinpoint when lakes form, their growth and drainage, and how their extent and depth change over time. The largest lake detected so far was nearly 30 km long and estimated to hold enough water to fill 40,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

### **Cause for concern?**

In a warming world, scientists are particularly interested in these lakes because they may contribute to destabilising the ice shelves and ice sheet in future.

Like a sponge, the more that ice shelves become saturated with meltwater, the less they are able to absorb, meaning more water pools on their surfaces as lakes. More surface lakes mean a greater likelihood that water will drain out, fill crevasses and potentially trigger flexing and fracturing. If this were to occur, other ice shelves around Antarctica may start to disintegrate like Larsen B. Glaciers with floating ice tongues protruding into the ocean may also be vulnerable.

Meanwhile in Greenland, scientists have observed entire lakes draining away within a matter of days, as meltwater plunges through vertical shafts in the ice sheet known as moulins. A warm, wet base lubricated by meltwater allows the ice to slide quicker and flow faster into the ocean.

Could something similar be happening in Antarctica? Lakes disappearing in satellite imagery suggests they could be draining in this way, but scientists have yet to observe this directly. If we are to understand how much ice the continent could lose, and how much it could contribute to global sea-level rise, we must understand how these surface meltwater lakes behave. Though captivating, they are potentially a warning sign of future instability in Antarctica.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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- An article by Michael W. Chapman titled "Trump Praises Communist China, a Regime That Killed 65 Million of It's Own People" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 1, 2019.
  - An article by Ross McGuinness titled "China Displays 'World's Longest-Range Military Missile' in Show of Strength Marking 70 Years of Communist Rule" was posted at yahoo.com on Oct. 1, 2019.
  - An article by Rod McGuirk titled "China-Australia Rift Deepens As Beijing Tests Overseas Sway" was posted at apnews.com on Oct. 2, 2019.
  - An article by Ben Farmer titled "India-Pakistan Nuclear War Could Kill 125 Million" was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Oct. 3, 2019.
  - An article titled "Israel Quietly Lets in Gaza Workers in Effort to Ease Tensions" was posted at yahoo.com on Oct. 1, 2019.
  - An article by Claire Parker titled "French Billionaire Gives \$109 Million to Rebuild Notre Dame" was posted at apnews.com on Oct. 1, 2019.



An article by Tucker Carlson and Neil Patel titled "Understanding the Impeachment Charade" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 27, 2019. Following is the article.

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Washington scandals are moving at a record pace. It was only a week ago that The New York Times launched its unfair hit piece on Brett Kavanaugh. This is the Trump-era news cycle. Scandals that used to go on for months now seem to end in hours. Nothing illustrates this better than the bizarre Ukraine story we're all living through. A week ago, no one had even heard of it. Then we were on the brink of impeachment because of it, and now it seems it may be over already.

The same angry news anchors who brought you Stormy Daniels and the Russia hoax now want you to know Big Orange's days in the White House are over. Why? Because Donald Trump, they say, threatened to withhold military aid to Ukraine unless Ukraine did something bad to Joe Biden and his family. Supposedly, Trump was finished.

Once again, the mob turned out to be wrong.

The administration released a transcript of the president's phone call with the Ukrainian head of state, and it says none of the things the news anchors claimed it would.

Read it for yourself. It's online.

Try to find the extortion in there. There isn't any. Trump never even mentions military aid. There's certainly something unseemly about a president asking a foreign government to investigate an American citizen, but it's not illegal, and it's not all that different from three Democratic senators' writing a letter to Ukraine just last year demanding investigations into Trump.

Now that the call turns out to be nothing like what the media told us it would be, some on the left have started a conspiracy theory that the transcript can't be real; it must be doctored.

These conspiracies aren't confined to weird corners of the internet. Democratic leaders Chuck Schumer and Adam Schiff have already questioned the trustworthiness of the transcript, despite the fact that there's no evidence of wrongdoing. Numerous career national security officials—many not fans of our president—have access to the original call and would have to be in on any conspiracy.

What's driving all this insanity?

Rep. Al Green, D-Texas, has been more honest about it than most. Green admitted it straight up: "I'm concerned that if we don't impeach this president, he will get reelected."

Lots of Democrats, including many of today's party leaders, stood up when Bill Clinton was impeached to give impassioned speeches about the perils of taking away the American people's choice.

■ Here's today's impeachment ringleader, Rep. Jerry Nadler, in 1998: "The impeachment of a president is an undoing of a national election. And one of the reasons we all feel so angry about what they are doing is that they are ripping asunder our votes. They are telling us that our votes don't count."

■ And here's Nancy Pelosi in 1998 on the hatred behind the Clinton impeachment push: "Today, the Republican majority is not judging the president with fairness but impeaching him with a vengeance . . . We are here today because the Republicans in the House are paralyzed with hatred of President Clinton. And until the Republicans free themselves of this hatred, our country will suffer."

Sadly, Nadler and Pelosi were right in 1998. Republicans should not have impeached Clinton, and they paid the price. Democrats today hate Trump. It's not about justice or truth.

■ What they care about is winning the 2020 presidential election.

■ Democratic leaders have decided that impeaching Trump is essential if they're going to win next year. So they're staking everything on this bizarre, flimsy scandal that the rest of us can barely understand.

Personal attacks on Trump have proven ineffective. If calling him a racist or a traitor actually worked, Hillary Clinton would be running for reelection right about now. That's not going to work. If you want to beat Trump, make a case

on the issues. He won on the issues. So make a countercase. But the geniuses can't figure that out.

In the end, the loser in this impeachment nonsense is likely to be Biden, who, you will recall, is the apparent front-runner. He's supposed to be the safe choice, the guy who's going to reenergize the Obama coalition and win back the White House. Yet Democrats have now in effect demanded that we spend the next six months talking about Biden and his son's alleged corruption. That's what's at the core of this Ukraine story.

The issues aren't really complicated.

Why in the world would a Ukrainian company pay Hunter Biden \$50,000 a month? We still haven't heard an answer. If we're talking about Ukraine and impeachment, we're talking about Biden's alleged corruption. That can't help his campaign for president.

- In fact, it's likely to tank it. It looks like sabotage, really. They must have gamed this up.
- Or maybe Democrats have just become so obsessed with destroying Trump that they're accidentally destroying themselves.



An article by Ben Shapiro titled "Impeachment Isn't Merited" was posted at townhall.com on Oct. 2, 2019. Following is the article.

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President Trump is a bull in a china shop. He says inadvisable things to inadvisable people, mainly because he is inadvisable—literally no one can advise him. The vast majority of things Trump says are ignored or brushed off by those who understand the difference between bloviation and manipulation. Still, Trump's constant stream of noise can make it difficult to tell the difference between the two.

So when an intelligence community whistleblower came forward with an allegation that, on a call with the Ukrainian president, Trump proposed a quid pro quo with the Ukrainian government—release of military aid in exchange for a Ukrainian investigation into Joe Biden and son Hunter Biden—the allegation didn't appear absurd on its face.

The timeline, after all, seemed to match up: Trump allegedly suspended military aid to Ukraine personally a week before talking with the Ukrainian president, only to release the aid after the holdup was met with public scrutiny.

Then, the Trump administration released a transcript of the call, in which Trump used the typical New York real estate wheeler-dealer language of favors.

- Favors related to investigations surrounding CrowdStrike, the firm tasked with analyzing the hack of the Democratic National Committee in 2016, an investigation that concluded with allegations of Russian interference.

- Favors related to helping Rudy Giuliani investigate the origins of the 2016 Trump-Russia investigation.
- Favors related to investigating the Bidens.

The theory seemed to be gaining credibility. Then it seemed to fall apart.

It turned out that the Ukrainian government apparently had no clue that Trump was even withholding military aid—and without such a quid, there couldn't be a pro quo.

The Ukrainian president publicly proclaimed that Trump hadn't pressured him.

The whistleblower report turned out to be third-hand gossip rather than first-hand information.

And allegations of a cover-up imploded as the Trump administration released information ranging from the transcript to the whistleblower report itself.

And so, Democrats have begun to move the goalposts. Now Democrats are claiming that the State Department is engaged in obstruction, just minutes after claiming that Trump's Department of Justice had engaged in obstruction. Democrats allege that Trump's behavior—without allegations of criminal conduct—is enough to justify impeachment.

Now, after Trump predictably took to Twitter to rail against the whistleblower and the Democrats, Democrats claim his behavior amounts to "witness intimidation."

As the grounds for the impeachment inquiry broaden, it's becoming clear that the Democrats' enthusiasm for impeachment outweighed their supporting evidence.

They leapt before they looked—and now they're trying to backfill an impeachment inquiry that must end with an impeachment vote or lay bare the emptiness of the original attacks themselves.

Perhaps Democrats will come up with something. That's always possible, given the amount of leaking and loose talk around the White House.

But barring some sort of cataclysmic revelation, the impeachment effort seems to be stalling out. And based on the current evidence, it should.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "CNN's Bizarre Hiring Practices" was posted at patriotpost.us on Sept. 28, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

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You would think that a cable news network would either hire newspaper reporters or journalists who had worked at other TV stations. But it seems that CNN only requires that their employees despise President Trump. I suppose that makes a certain amount of sense since it seems to satisfy their viewing audience, a group that I suspect could fit into one of those telephone

booths that college students used to squeeze into during one of those fads, like swallowing goldfish and collecting sorority girls' panties, that used to keep sophomores occupied in what now seem like the good old days.

Because it's beginning to look like Andrew (Pinocchio) McCabe may actually go to jail for telling nearly as many lies as James Comey, I assume that John Bolton and his mustache are in the wings waiting to fill his tiny shoes at CNN.

#### ■ Left-wing debate moderators

It would be bad enough if CNN's only failing was that it makes a regular habit of hiring the (morally) handicapped, but it assigned such left-wing partisan saps as Rachel Maddow, Don Lemon and Jorge Ramos, to serve as debate moderators, thus guaranteeing that the contenders would not be asked even a single serious question. Even with three hours at their disposal, Sanders, Warren, Harris and the others were never asked how they'd pay for the New Green Deal, Medicare for All and health care for millions of illegal aliens.

They also weren't asked if they agreed that the two-year Russian collusion witch hunt was a witch hunt; if they're in favor of impeaching President Trump, and if so, on what charge; if, like Beto O'Rourke, they're in favor of confiscating guns; and if they didn't think that offering sanctuary, free health care, drivers licenses and welfare, to illegal aliens didn't cruelly incentivize Central American women and children to undertake expensive and dangerous journeys.

They also weren't asked to raise their hands if they prefer Socialism to Capitalism.

The sad fact is, in a saner world, Maddow, Lemon and Ramos, would have been on stage with the other ten loons answering questions, not asking them.

#### ■ Candace Owens

A courageous young black woman named Candace Owens tweeted "To the people who fly private but lecture us about the environment. To the people who live in gated communities but lecture us about building walls. To the people who travel with armed guards but lecture us about guns: Your bottomless hypocrisy is why America chooses Trump."

#### ■ Reasons I chose Trump

At any rate, that's why they chose him in 2016 and part of the reason I believe they will choose him in 2020. The other part consists of the many positive things he has managed to do since January, 2017, including rescuing the economy; getting us out of NAFTA, the Iran nuclear deal and the Paris Accord; moving our embassy to Jerusalem; cutting off funding to Hamas; forcing the NATO nations to start ponying up their fair share; rebuilding our military; playing financial hardball with China, Turkey and Iran; protecting religious rights; and placing two justices on the Supreme Court who take their lead from James Madison and not the editorial board of the New York Times.

#### ■ No wall, but impressive action

And while he hasn't yet been able to get his big, beautiful border wall completed, and hasn't gotten Mexico to pay for it, he has managed to persuade Mexico to stop a great many Central Americans from reaching the border. He has also managed to convince the Supreme Court that those allegedly fleeing danger, and not just looking to have anchor babies or hop aboard America's gravy train, have to start settling down in Mexico.

#### ■ Trump helped in North Carolina

When I asked Ralph Barnett if Donald Trump's super rally the night before the special election in North Carolina made the difference in Dan Bishop's victory over Dan McCready, he replied: "Probably made all the difference. There were 10,000 inside the arena and at least a thousand more listening outside, and even more at home watching on TV, so I'm sure it motivated a lot of Republicans to go to the polls and provide Bishop with his 5,000-6,000 vote advantage. Plus, the pollsters had the Democrat way ahead."

#### ■ Did Obama help anyone get a victory?

I responded: "That's yet another advantage that Trump has over Obama. Every two years, between 2008 and 2016, Obama hit the road to help elect Democrats in tough Senate and House elections, and I don't recall his ever carrying a single one to victory."

#### ■ Progressives are communists

After I mentioned the various labels that Communists employ as disguises, including Socialists, Progressives, Democrats, Liberals and, when it suits the likes of Bernie Sanders and Angus King, Independents, I heard from Dennis Stockton, who wrote to say: "You are right about Progressives being Communists. As shown in the book, 'Venona: Soviet Espionage and the American Response, 1939-1957,' the Soviets described them as such in their communications between the U.S. and Moscow."

"Moreover," I pointed out, "FDR's former vice-president, Henry Wallace, a Communist, was the presidential candidate in 1948 of the Progressive Party. A frightening fact is that if various party heavyweights hadn't forced FDR to drop Wallace in favor of Harry Truman in 1944, we would have had a Communist president 60 years before we saddled ourselves with Barack Obama. Also the Cold War would have been over before it even began because we would have surrendered."

#### ■ Bush and Islam

I know that a lot of Republicans are surprised by how much I despise George W. Bush. It's not just because he kept referring to Islam as a religion of peace, but because I keep remembering how the sanctimonious creep kept preventing the Air Force from bombing the mosques in Iraq even though everyone knew that the enemy was using them as barracks and armories.

That's why every time I see Bush leading the injured veterans on those annual bike rides at his ranch, I find myself wondering how many of those guys owe their injuries to the fact that their host forced them to fight unnecessary street battles.

### ■ Blue ribbon in hypocrisy

Penny Alfonso sent me a bunch of photos of the Democratic contenders at the Iowa State Fair. Considering that each of them is either eating meat or sucking on a plastic straw, you might get the idea that they're competing for a blue ribbon in hypocrisy.

In a way, though, that's only the tip of hypocritical iceberg. You see, none of them live in Iowa, which means they all flew on private jets in order to attend the fair in Des Moines. Holy carbon footprint, Batman!

### ■ Beto wants to confiscate

Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke is the first Democrat to admit he wants to invalidate the Second Amendment by confiscating legally-owned firearms. In fact he has immortalized his position by peddling t-shirts that read (in red) "Hell Yes" (in white) "We're going to take" (in blue) "Your AR-15."

The patriotic colors are intended to camouflage the fact that is a totalitarian statement.

### ■ Earlier defender of gun rights?

As if it's not bad enough that this middle-aged adolescent is willing to trash the Constitution, when O'Rourke was running for the Senate in Texas, he naturally pretended to be an ardent defender of gun rights.

It turns out that everything about this cheesehead is as inauthentic as that Latino nickname the Irishman adopted for political purposes.

At least now that O'Rourke has said how he really feels about law-abiding citizens having the right to protect themselves and their families, we don't have to worry about the doofus ever winning another election in the great state of Texas.

### ■ Biden and non-violent crimes

The biggest bombshell at the last Democratic debate came when dithering Joe Biden declared that "Nobody should ever go to jail for a non-violent crime."

That would provide a free pass to blackmailers, smugglers, con men, embezzlers, spies, extortionists and even flashers.

### ■ Golden days of yesteryear

The problem for the man leading the sorry likes of Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren and Peter Buttigieg, in the polls, is that he makes even less sense when he's relatively coherent than when he's blathering on about the golden days of yesteryear when he and his boyhood chum Teddy Roosevelt were leading the charge up San Juan Hill.

### ■ Magically smart?

As I watch one state after another legalize pot in their greedy pursuit of additional tax revenue, it occurs to me that the main appeal of marijuana is that it somehow convinces stupid people that smoking it magically makes them smart.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Sermons on the Hill" was posted at patriotpост.us on Sept. 30, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

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An odd thing is occurring this political season. Those on the Left have donned their pastoral robes and are delivering political speeches gussied up to sound like they're being delivered from the Mount.

■ Peter Buttigieg

For instance, Peter Buttigieg, still the mayor of South Bend, Indiana, is telling everyone within earshot that religion should never be used as a cudgel. That's what he says just before questioning V.P. Mike Pence's Christian faith and announcing that there's no way God would ever think about being a Republican.

At the same time that the sodomite is denouncing Republicans, it was recently discovered after the death of abortionist Ulrich Klopfer who plied his bloody trade in South Bend that he had stashed the fetal remains of 2,236 of his tiny victims in his basement.

And yet Mayor Buttigieg was extremely reluctant to even comment on the gruesome discovery. Because to do so would be to question abortions in general and Planned Parenthood in particular. To do either would mean political annihilation for the mayor or any other Democrat seeking the presidency.

With a name like Ulrich Klopfer, one half-suspects he did his internship under the steely gaze of Dr. Mengele. I suspect that when Kermit Gosnell, currently behind bars for his own record number of bungled abortions, got wind of the number of tiny lives that Klopfer had ended, his reaction was "How many?! Not possible. Did the man never sleep?"

■ Ilhan Omar

Another self-identified theological authority, none other than Ilhan Omar, who is also a part-time tax cheat and adulteress, told a crowd of worshippers that "God expects you to vote for Democrats."

After which, Nancy Pelosi is rumored to have said: "Amen. I guess she's not such a bad kid, after all. It's not her fault her religion calls for the killing of Jews."

■ Jerry Nadler

Jerry Nadler, who isn't a rabbi, but plays one on television, reminded all of us "Don't oppress the stranger, as it says in the Commandment."

I'm not sure about all the details but apparently Nadler tripped while following Moses down the mountain. Unfortunately, he was carrying the tablet containing the other 10 Commandments, which included the one about not oppressing the stranger, but also involved the do's and don'ts when it comes to butting in line, jaywalking, turning off cell phones in movie theaters, littering,

swiping candy from the bins in supermarkets, chewing with your mouth open, running indoors while carrying scissors, flossing after every meal and stepping on cracks and thus breaking one's mother's back.

If Nadler hadn't tripped and cracked the tablet, those Commandments were to serve as the backbone of what was to be known as the Newest Testament.

#### ■ Gang members

Rep. Ken Buck (R, CO) opposes red flag laws that would allow cops to confiscate the guns from law-abiding Americans. He decided to put the hypocrisy of Democrats on full display by proposing an amendment to the bill that would require the authorities to also confiscate the guns of gang members.

Just as Buck expected they would, the House Democrats voted it down, even though gangbangers commit 90% of the violent crimes in this country and 90% of the murders.

As Buck proved, the Democrats don't care about diminishing violence in America. Why should they take it personally? They and their families are always well-protected because, as we all know, members of Congress are virtually irreplaceable.

#### ■ 720 million women?

Whereas all the other contenders say stupid things, Joe Biden increasingly says crazy things. His latest statement called for government-provided child-care, "which would put 720 million women back in the work force."

Even for Biden, that calls for a "Whoa, Nellie!"

Inasmuch as there are only about 165 million females in America, and that's counting little girls and ladies in their 80s and 90s, Biden must now be going after female votes in Canada, Mexico, maybe even Russia and China.

#### ■ Elizabeth Warren draws crowds

Just for the sake of the cheap laughs Biden is sure to provide, I would consider showing up at one of his rallies. But how do you explain 20,000 people showing up to listen to school marm Elizabeth Warren prattle on for four hours? Even scarier, some of them stood in line for an additional four hours just for the chance to take a selfie with Mrs. Geronimo.

#### ■ Political correctness

One of the most pathetic things about politics today is the way that millions of people are betraying their own convictions in the name of political correctness.

I would wager that if you asked the majority of registered Democrats to honestly admit where they stand on certain issues, they wouldn't line up with any of the people likely to be their party's standard bearer in 2020.

For instance, I don't believe that most of them are in favor of open borders; abortions on demand through the third trimester and beyond; reparations for people who were never slaves; free health care, drivers licenses and free college for illegal aliens; invalidating the Second Amendment; not prosecuting drug pushers; allowing transgenders to use the bathrooms of their choice; homosexual Scout leaders; higher taxes; generational welfare families; or sanctuary cities and states.

The reasons for their continuing to pledge their allegiance to those whose agendas conflict with their own is, I believe, a combination of two things.

#### ■ A matter of habit

First, it's a matter of habit. They grew up in homes that voted for people like Harry Truman, John Kennedy and Henry "Scoop" Jackson and in many non-religiously observant homes, politics was the touchstone in their lives. They were born to be Democrats and, by gum, they'll die as Democrats.

I know of what I speak. I was one of those people. It took four years of Jimmy Carter to finally spring me loose from what I felt to be almost a religious obligation. But after growing up in a home where one president waged war against Hitler and another was among the first to recognize the state of Israel, it wasn't easy. Both my parents died before I voted for Ronald Reagan, but I recall wondering at the time whether my parents would have been shocked and disappointed or if I could have persuaded them that, as Reagan described his own conversion, I didn't leave the party; the party left me.

#### ■ Non-stop name-calling

The second reason is because of a non-stop media campaign that has portrayed President Trump as Satan and his supporters as racists and neo-Fascists. The campaign has gone on for so long in the newspapers they read and the cable news stations they watch, that their brains have become a sodden mess of vicious lies and misleading sound bites. As a result, like Pavlov's dogs, they have been programmed to support the moronic, anti-Capitalist, anti-Semitic, fantasists calling for an end to fossil fuel, cheeseburgers, plastic straws and, by the way, the U.S. Constitution.

#### ■ Pop quiz

Joe Neuner sent along what purports to be a student's answer to a pop quiz.

Q. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed? A. At the bottom of the page.

Q. The Red River flows in which state? A. Liquid.

Q. What is the main cause of divorce? A. Marriage.

Q. What looks like half an apple? A. The other half.

Q. If you throw a red stone into a blue lake, what will it become? A. Wet.

Q. How can a man go 12 days without sleeping? A. Easy. He sleeps at night.

Q. How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it? A. You really think a raw egg can crack a concrete floor?

These may strike you as simplistic questions. But just for the heck of it, try asking them of Democrats and be prepared to fall down laughing.



“Eye on the World” comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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## Finances

- An article by Nicole Brodeur titled “Macy’s Is Closing Its Landmark Downtown Seattle Store in February [2020]” was posted at [seattletimes.com](http://seattletimes.com) on Sept. 28, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Richa Naidu and Aishwarya Venugopal titled “Forever 21 Closing Stores in Bankruptcy Filing Shows Limits to Fast Fashion” was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on Sept. 29, 2019.
- An article by Patrick Thomas titled “Fed Adds \$71.7 Billion [on Sept. 27] to Financial System in Latest Repo Transaction” was posted at [wsj.com](http://wsj.com) on Sept. 27, 2019.
- An article by Dave Sebastian titled “Fed Adds \$63.5 Billion to Financial System in Repo Transaction” was posted at [wsj.com](http://wsj.com) on Sept. 30, 2019.
- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled “Americans Spent More on Taxes in 2018 Than on Food, Clothing and Health Care Combined” was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Oct. 2, 2019.

## Trade war

- An article by Jeremy Hill titled “As Steelmaker [Bayou Steel Group] Shuts Plant, [Louisiana] Governor [John Bel Edwards] Points to Tariffs” was posted at [bloomberg.com](http://bloomberg.com) on Oct. 1, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Stanley White titled “Asian Stocks Tumble After U.S. Announces Tariffs on Europe” was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on Oct. 2, 2019.

## Green New Deal

- Looking back to February, an article by Mark Lewis Jr. titled “How Much Will the Green New Deal Cost Your Family? [The American Action Forum Estimates That Between 2020 and 2029, the total GND would cost \$51.1 Trillion to \$92.9 Trillion or \$316,000 to \$419,000 Per Household]” was posted at [cei.org](http://cei.org) (Competitive Enterprise Institute) on Feb. 26, 2019.

■ An article by Thomas Lifson titled "Greta Thunberg's Speech to UN Strangely Resembles a 1992 UN Speech by 12-Year-Old Severn Cullis-Suzuki" was posted at [americanthinker.com](http://americanthinker.com) on Sept. 28, 2019.

■ An article by Brian Tomlinson titled "Green Deal to End Fossil Fuels Also Means Going Without Plastics" was posted at [americanthinker.com](http://americanthinker.com) on Oct. 2, 2019.

### **Illegal immigration**

■ An article by Rich Calder, Julia Marsh and Aaron Feis titled "[New York] City Bans Calling Someone An 'Illegal Alien' Out of Hate" was posted at [nypost.com](http://nypost.com) on Sept. 26, 2019.

■ An article by Demetris Nellas and Costas Kantouris titled "Migrants in Greece Set Fires at Camp, at Least 1 Killed" was posted at [apnews.com](http://apnews.com) on Sept. 29, 2019.

### **Comments about weapons**

■ An article by Keith Griffith titled "Fears of Mass Shooter at Joker Opening Weekend Put Cops Across the Country on High Alert, As NYPD Plans Undercover Detachments, and Cinemas Ban Masks and Costumes" was posted at [dailymail.co.uk](http://dailymail.co.uk) on Oct. 2, 2019.

■ An article by Tristan Justice titled "According to Democrats, Everything Is a 'Right' Except Owning a Firearm" was posted at [thefederalist.com](http://thefederalist.com) on Oct. 3, 2019.

### **Comments about Trump support**

■ An article by Savannah Behrmann titled "Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney: Ukraine Phone Call Is 'Starting to Seem Like a Political Set Up' Against Donald Trump" was posted at [usatoday.com](http://usatoday.com) on Oct. 1, 2019.

■ An article by Susan Jones titled "[Devin] Nunes: 'Miserable' for Republicans to Hear Schiff 'Actually Fabricate' President's Words" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Sept. 27, 2019.

■ An article by Beth Baumann titled "[Devin] Nunes: This Whistleblower Complaint Sure Is Reading Like the Steele Dossier" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Oct. 2, 2019.

■ An article by Sean Davis titled "Anti-Trump Whistleblower Colluded With House Dems Before Complaint" was posted at [thefederalist.com](http://thefederalist.com) on Oct. 2, 2019.

### **Comments about Trump opposition**

■ An article by Nicholas Wu titled "Rep. Maxine Waters: Trump Needs to Be Put 'in Solitary Confinement' " was posted at [usatoday.com](http://usatoday.com) on Oct. 1, 2019.

■ An article titled "Fox News' Judge Napolitano: What Trump Has Admitted to Regarding Contact With Ukraine Is a Crime" was posted at [theweek.com](http://theweek.com) on Sept. 24, 2019.

■ An article by William Cummings titled "Fox News Analyst Andrew Napolitano Says Trump's Ukraine Call Was Both Criminal and Impeachable" was posted at [usatoday.com](http://usatoday.com) on Oct. 3, 2019.

- An article by Sean Davis titled "The Trump-Ukraine Whistleblower Complaint Looks Just Like 'Steele Dossier 2.0'" was posted at nypost.com on Sept. 26, 2019.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Deep State: Reports Point to the Trump-Ukraine Whistleblower Being a CIA Agent" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 26, 2019.
- An article by Sean Davis titled "Intel Community Secretly Gutted Requirement of First-Hand Whistleblower Knowledge" was posted at thefederalist.com on Sept. 27, 2019.
- An article by Monica Showalter titled "Looks As If Deep State Planned That 'Whistleblower' Stink Bomb All Along" was posted at americanthinker.com on Sept. 28, 2019.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Impeachment Circus: Adam Schiff Kicks Off Intelligence Hearing by Making Up Parts of the Trump-Ukraine Transcript" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 26, 2019.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Schiff Show: That Time This Top Democrat Said He Never Spoke With Trump-Ukraine Whistleblower—It Was a Lie" was posted at townhall.com on Oct. 2, 2019.
- An article by Ian Haworth titled "Impeachment and the Democrats' Plot to Flip the Senate" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 26, 2019.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Democrats Aiming for Impeachment Will Try to Use Pompeo, State Department Against Trump" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 2, 2019.
- An article by Andy Biggs titled "Impeachment Is Nothing But Throwing More Dirt and Hoping Some Will Stick" was posted at thefederalist.com on Oct. 3, 2019.
- An article by Pat Buchanan titled "Joe Biden: Impeachment's First Casualty" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 27, 2019.
- An article by Tal Axelrod titled "Warren Passes Biden to Lead 2020 Democrats by 4 Points in Weekly National Poll" was posted at thehill.com on Oct. 2, 2019.
- An article by Martin Pengelly titled "Zuckerberg: I'll 'Go to the Mat and Fight' Warren Over Plan to Break Up Facebook" was posted at theguardian.com on Oct. 1, 2019.
- An article by Thomas Franck titled "Wall Street Is Starting to Believe Warren May Win Nomination, Putting Health and Bank Stocks at Risk" was posted at cnbc.com on Oct. 1, 2019.
- An article by Theodore Schleiter titled "Silicon Valley Billionaires' Strange New Respect for Elizabeth Warren" was posted at vox.com on Oct. 2, 2019.
- An article by Nicholas Riccardi and Luran Neergaard titled "[Bernie] Sanders Has Heart Procedure, Cancels Campaign Events for Now" was posted at apnews.com on Oct. 2, 2019.

- An article by J. Marisolo titled "Buttigieg: Abortion Is OK, but Executing Terrorist Prisoners Is Not" was posted at [americanthinker.com](http://americanthinker.com) on Oct. 3, 2019.
- An article by Kate Smith titled "Planned Parenthood Has Been Building a Secret Abortion 'Mega-Clinic' in Illinois" was posted at [cbsnews.com](http://cbsnews.com) on Oct. 2, 2019.
- An article by Stella Morabito titled "Late-Term Abortionist Offers Mothers the Chance to Cuddle Their Dead Babies" was posted at [thefederalist.com](http://thefederalist.com) on Oct. 3, 2019.
- An article by Gale Holland titled "There Are So Many Homeless Camps [in Los Angeles], LA Area Leaders Want Newsom to Issue a State of Emergency" was posted at [latimes.com](http://latimes.com) on Sept. 30, 2019.

### **Kamala Harris**

- An article by Paul Steinhauser titled "Warren, Gabbard Knock Harris' Bid to Ban Trump From Twitter" was posted at [foxnews.com](http://foxnews.com) on Oct. 3, 2019.

### **Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke**

- An article by Eric Boehm titled "Beto Goes to Kent State [Where Government Soldiers Shot Students], Argues Only the Government Can Be Trusted With Guns" was posted at [reason.com](http://reason.com) on Sept. 27, 2019.
- An article by Julio Rosas titled "Michael Bloomberg Slams Beto O'Rourke's Gun Confiscation Plan: 'So Impractical' and Not 'Productive' " was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Sept. 27, 2019.
- An article by Auguste Meyrat titled "What We Can Learn From the Candidacy of 'Beto' O'Rourke [He Abandoned the Obama Model of Campaigning on Nebulous Concepts, of Remaining Foggy on Specific Policies and of Allowing the Fawning Media to Buoy Him to Victory]" was posted at [americanthinker.com](http://americanthinker.com) on Sept. 28, 2019.
- An article by Beth Baumann titled "Beto to 2020 Dems: I Won't Win the Nomination, but Please Adopt My Gun Control Proposal" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Sept. 30, 2019.

### **News about the media**

- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Of Course, the Hunter Biden Angle of the Trump-Ukraine Story Has Been Suffocated With a Pillow" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Oct. 1, 2019.
- An article titled "Eric Trump: Media Would Be Camping Outside My Home I Did What Hunter Biden Did" was posted at [foxnews.com](http://foxnews.com) on Oct. 2, 2019.
- An article by Nicholas Fondacaro titled "ABC Lies: Claims Whistleblower Has 'First-Hand' Info, Document Says Otherwise" was posted at [newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org) on Oct. 1, 2019.

■ An article by Victor Garcia titled “Deputy Press Secretary [Gidley] Blasts Schiff, Rips Media for Role in Trump-Ukraine Scandal” was posted at foxnews.com on Oct. 2, 2019.

### **General interest**

■ An article by Marc Ramierez titled “Robert McClelland [the Retired Professor Emeritus of UT Southwestern’s Medical School], Surgeon Who Tried to Save JFK and Believed There Was a Second Shooter, Dies at 89 [on Sept. 10]” was posted at dallasnews.com on Sept. 14, 2019.

■ An article titled “Record-Smashing Historic September Snowstorm Brings Up to 4 Feet of Snow, Blizzard Conditions to Northern Rockies” was posted at weather.com on Sept. 30, 2019.

■ A Reuters article titled “Record Snow, Cold, Slams Northern U.S. Rockies With Winter-Like Weather” was posted at reuters.com on Sept. 30, 2019.

■ An article by Laura Donnelly titled “New Blood Test Could Detect More Than 20 Types of Cancer” was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Sept. 28, 2019.

■ An article by Vincent Wood titled “Teacher [in Virginia] Fired for Refusing to Use Transgender Student’s Pronouns Launches Legal Action” was posted at independent.co.uk on Oct. 2, 2019.



***Isaiah 55:6-11***—“Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”