

Eye on the World

Nov. 9, 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 Nov. 9, 2019.

Compiled by Dave Havar

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 Terence P. Jeffrey titled “House Votes to ‘Enhance the Border Security’ of Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Tunisia—Not the USA” was posted at cnsnews.com on Nov. 6, 2019. Following is the article.

The Democrat-controlled House of Representatives has voted to fund efforts to “enhance the border security” of Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Tunisia while moving to deny all funding to build walls, fencing or any other structures to enhance the border security of the United States.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her lieutenants have their priorities.

To them, borders on the other side of the world are more important than our own.

On June 19, the House approved a massive spending bill. In an act of legislative polygamy, it “married” the appropriations bill for the Department of Defense to the appropriations bills for the Department of State, the Department of Energy, and the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

The Congressional Budget Office estimated this monstrosity would cost taxpayers \$984.7 billion in fiscal 2020.

Yet there is one thing this bill would forbid the Trump administration from spending one penny to accomplish.

On page 304 (of 650), it says: "None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any prior Department of Defense appropriations Acts may be used to construct a wall, fence, border barriers, or border security infrastructure along the southern land border of the United States."

A month later, the House Appropriations Committee sent the full House a bill to fund the Department of Homeland Security.

This bill—so far—is unmarried and would cost taxpayers \$63.8 billion.

President Trump had requested that it include \$5 billion to use in constructing barriers at the border.

How much did the committee give him?

"No funding is provided in the bill for new physical barriers along the southwest border," said the committee report.

It also said, "The recommendation provides no funding for additional Border Patrol Agents."

Thus, the Democrat-controlled House is advancing discretionary appropriations bills that would spend more than \$1 trillion in one year but provide zero dollars to build physical barriers to stop illegal aliens, human traffickers and drug smugglers from crossing our southern border.

Yet that does not mean the Democrat-controlled House is not planning to spend some money to enhance border security.

It just depends where the border is.

In that 650-page spending bill that prohibits Defense Department money from being used to defend the southern border of the United States, there is a section that creates a \$1.295 billion fund for use by the secretary of defense.

"For the 'Counter-Islamic State of Iraq and Syria Train and Equip Fund', \$1,295,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021," says the bill. "Provided, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense in coordination with the Secretary of State, to provide assistance, including training; equipment; logistics support, supplies, and services; stipends; infrastructure repair and renovation; and sustainment, to foreign security forces, irregular forces, groups, or individuals participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, and their affiliated or associated groups."

"Provided further," says the bill, "That these funds may be used in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense may determine to enhance the border security of nations adjacent to conflict areas including Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, and Tunisia resulting from actions of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria."

So, the secretary of defense could take a chunk of this \$1.295 billion and give it to the government of Egypt to secure its border with post-Gadhafi Libya, where ISIS is active.

And he could give a chunk to Tunisia to secure its border with Libya.

Or he could give some American tax dollars to unnamed “irregular forces, groups, or individuals” who, someplace in this world, are “preparing to participate in activities” to counter ISIS, or at least groups that are “affiliated or associated” with ISIS.

But according to the House appropriations bills, President Trump cannot spend a penny to build structures at our own border to secure our own territory and our own people.

By contrast, the Republican-controlled Senate Appropriations Committee has approved a Homeland Security spending bill that does include \$5 billion to build “pedestrian fencing”—to stop people on foot and in vehicles from crossing our southern border. Also, that committee’s defense spending bill does not prohibit the president from using defense money to build barriers to defend our own border.

It even includes a larger fund (\$1.8 billion) than the House bill that, among other things, can be used “for enhanced border security” not only in Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Tunisia but also in Oman.

We are now more than a month into fiscal 2020. The government is running on a continuing resolution that expires Nov. 21.

President Trump should deliver a simple message to Speaker Pelosi: He is not going to sign a spending bill that funds border security in Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt and Tunisia but not California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

He should put America first—even if Pelosi will shut down the government trying to stop him.



An article by Alexandra Ma titled “China Is Reportedly Sending Men to Sleep in the Same Beds As Uighur Muslim Women While Their Husbands Are in Prison Camps” was posted at [businessinsider.com](https://www.businessinsider.com) on Nov. 4, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Chinese men assigned to monitor the homes of Uighur women whose husbands were sent to prison camps frequently sleep in the same beds as them, Radio Free Asia reported last week.

It appears to be another facet of the Communist Party’s hardline campaign against the mostly-Muslim Uighur people in their home region of Xinjiang, in western China, over the past two years.

Beijing sees all Uighur people as terrorists and has used Islamophobia to justify its actions in the past.

Authorities have detained at least 1 million Uighurs in prison-like camps, euphemistically called “re-education centers.” Activists have likened the campaign to ethnic cleansing.

Since 2017, China has run a “Pair Up and Become Family” program in the region, in which Communist Party officials who are Han Chinese—the ethnic group that makes up most of China’s population—stay in Uighur homes.

The program is to “promote ethnic unity,” officials say, but it also lets the government keep a close eye on the Uighurs.

Those officials, who are mostly men, typically stay for up to six days at each Uighur household, many of which have male family members in detention, RFA described an anonymous Communist Party official in Kashgar as saying.

The Han Chinese officials—who are called “relatives,” even though they are not family—visit Kashgar every two months and work and eat with Uighur families, as well as discuss Communist Party political ideology, the official told RFA.

“They help [the families] with their ideology, bringing new ideas,” he told RFA. “They talk to them about life, during which time they develop feelings for one another.”

He added that “normally one or two people sleep in one bed, and if the weather is cold, three people sleep together,” and that “it is now considered normal for females to sleep on the same platform with their paired male ‘relatives.’”

RFA said a local neighborhood official in Yengisar County, where Kashgar is, confirmed the sleeping arrangements but insisted that “relatives” and their female hosts always keep a distance of three feet between them at night.

Both officials cited in RFA’s article claimed that male Communist Party officials had never tried to take advantage of the women. The official in Kashgar told RFA that the Uighur families were “very keen” to welcome the Han Chinese men into their homes.

It is almost impossible to hear from Uighurs in Xinjiang, as any communication with journalists or people outside the region can land them in detention. Uighurs living abroad previously told Business Insider that their relatives in the region had blocked them online to avoid being punished for communicating with outsiders.

China’s embassies in London and Washington, DC, did not immediately respond to Business Insider’s request for comment on RFA’s article.

Sayragul Sauytbay, an ethnic Kazakh Uighur woman who fled a Xinjiang detention camp, told Haaretz last month that she witnessed a gang rape and medical experiments on other prisoners. She said she was also subject to beatings and food deprivation because another prisoner hugged her.

RFA is one of the remaining outlets documenting the Uighur oppression from the region.

Chinese officials have forbidden all foreign journalists from entering the region, though two Vice reporters sneaked in as tourists and took undercover footage earlier this year.

The government has also arranged highly staged trips to detention camps for foreign journalists and inspectors in the past.

Rep. Jackie Speier of California tweeted that the RFA story was “absolutely repulsive” and urged the US to “speak out about the systemized enslavement and attempted cultural obliteration” of the Uighurs.

The Treasury Department blacklisted some of China’s most valuable artificial-intelligence startups last month over their role in surveilling Uighurs in Xinjiang.

Vice President Mike Pence and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have criticized Beijing’s actions in Xinjiang, but President Donald Trump has not said anything.



“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.

■ An article by Nasser Karmi and Mohammad Nasiri titled “Iran Student Leader [Ebrahim Asgharzadeh] Says He Regrets 1979 US Embassy Attack” was posted at apnews.com on Nov. 2, 2019.

■ An article by Harriet Alexander titled “Donald Trump Offers to Send the US Army to Mexico in Response to Mormon Murders” was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Nov. 5, 2019.

■ An article by Lyle J. Goldstein titled “China Thinks a Nuclear Submarine Can Sink Half of An Aircraft Carrier Battle Group” was posted at nationalinterest.org on Nov. 1, 2019.

■ An article titled “Enemies Beware: America Is Upgrading Its Mighty Air Force Bombers” was posted at nationalinterest.org on Nov. 2, 2019.

■ An article titled “Iran Wanted to Avoid War, So It Attacked Saudi Arabia’s Oil Facilities” was posted at nationalinterest.org on Nov. 2, 2019.

■ An article titled “The U.S. Military Is Sending Thousands of Troops and Even B-1 Bombers Into Saudi Arabia—to Counter Iran” was posted at nationalinterest.org on Nov. 3, 2019.

■ An article by Robert Farley titled “Did Hitler Have Any Chance of Beating Russia During World War II?” was posted at nationalinterest.org on Nov. 3, 2019.

■ An article by Breitbart Jerusalem titled “WJC [World Jewish Congress] President Ronald Lauder Demands Stricter Laws Against Antisemitism on the Internet” was posted at breitbart.com on Nov. 4, 2019.

■ An article by Patrick Goodenough titled “Ayatollah Blames US and Other ‘Enemies’ for Protests in Iraq and Lebanon” was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 31, 2019.

■ A Reuters article by Ahmed Aboulenein and Raya Jalabi titled “Iraqis Pour Into Streets for Biggest Protest Day Since Saddam” was posted at reuters.com on Nov. 1, 2019.

- A Reuters article titled "Lebanon's Anti-Government Protesters Return to Streets After Big Pro-Aoun [President Michal Aoun] Rally" was posted at reuters.com on Nov. 3, 2019.
- An article by Amelia Wynne titled "Downtown Hong Kong Becomes a Battlefield: Police Fire Tear Gas at Masked Anti-Government Protesters Who Fight Back With Petrol Bombs" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Nov. 2, 2019.
- An article by Patricia Laya titled "Planeloads of Cash From Russia Have Been Shipped to Venezuela" was posted at bloomberg.com on Nov. 1, 2019.
- Looking back to February, an article by Helen Smith titled "Could the Remains of Noah's Ark Be Found on a Mountain in Turkey?" was posted at 90min.com on Feb. 14, 2019.



An article by Walter Williams titled "Disproportionalities do not prove discrimination" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Nov. 6, 2019. Following is the article.

Jews have been awarded 40% of the Nobel Prizes in economics, 30% of those in medicine, 25% in physics, 20% in chemistry, 15% in literature and 10% of the Nobel Peace Prizes. Since the beginning of the 20th century, there have been just over 900 Nobel Prizes awarded.

Since Jews are only 2% of the world's population, instead having 22% of Nobel Prizes, 206, they should have won only two, according to the proportionality vision of justice. There's an even greater domestic violation of the proportionality vision. Jews are less than 3% of the U.S. population but 35% of American Nobel Prize winners. Several questions come to mind.

Does the disproportionately high number of Jewish winners explain why there are so few black or Hispanic Nobel Prize winners?

Who's to blame for ethnic disproportionality among Nobel Prize winners, and what can be done to promote social justice?

Proportionality injustice doesn't end with the Nobel Prize.

Blacks are about 13% of the U.S. population but close to 70% of the players in the National Football League. Blacks are greatly overrepresented among star players and highly paid players. While the disproportionality injustice runs in favor of black players in general, they are all but nonexistent among the league's field goal kickers and punters.

Perhaps the only reason why football team owners are not charged with hiring discrimination is that the same people who hire quarterbacks and running backs also hire field goal kickers and punters. Proportionality and diversity injustice is worse in the National Basketball Association, with blacks being

over 80% of the players. Plus, it's not uncommon to watch college basketball games and see that 90 to 100% of the starting five players are black.

Most readers know that I teach economics at George Mason University and have done so for nearly 40 years. However, that doesn't mean the field of economics doesn't have its problems. Many see economics as neither a welcoming nor a supportive profession for women or blacks.

Former Federal Reserve Board Chair Janet Yellen, in addressing a Brookings Institution audience said: "Within the economics profession, women and minorities are significantly underrepresented. And data compiled by the American Economic Association's Committees on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession and the Status of Minority Groups in the profession show that there has been little or no progress in recent decades. Women today make up only about 30 percent of Ph.D. students. Within academia, their representation drops the higher up one goes in the career ladder. The share of Ph.D.s awarded to African Americans is low; and it has declined slightly in recent decades."

Yellen says that diversity in economics is a matter of "basic justice."

Had I been in the audience, I would have asked Yellen whether there's basic justice in the nursing field, where less than 10% of nurses are men.

What about the gross lack of proportionality in incarceration? According to 2015 figures released by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the overall U.S. prison and jail population is 90.6% male and 9.4% female. The only way that I see to remedy such a gross disproportionality injustice is to either incarcerate more female prisoners or release male prisoners.

Back to Janet Yellen: It is pathetic and professionally incompetent that she can ignore decades of research—some of it by female researchers—that shoots down the idea that disparities prove discrimination. Moreover, if one carries the notion that disparities prove discrimination far enough, they'd look like true fools.

According to a study conducted by Bond University in Australia, sharks are nine times likelier to attack and kill men than they are women. Despite the fact that men are 50% of the population, and so are women, men are struck by lightning six times as often as women. Of those killed by lightning, 82% are men.

One can only wonder what social justice warriors would do about these and many other disproportionalities.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Why Be a Muslim?" was posted at patriot-post.us on Nov. 2, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

As I'm sure you all know by now, I am not religious. If I were religious, I'd probably be Jewish because it's what my grandparents, who were orthodox, were. My parents were not religiously observant, so neither was I.

By the time I was of an age to take up a religion, I didn't see the appeal. For me, religious beliefs raised more questions than they answered. I found I could believe in the Golden Rule and abide by the 10 Commandments without attending a house of worship or abiding by dietary laws that in the 20th century made no sense to me.

That never meant that I didn't respect those who were religious; it just meant they weren't me and they were probably grateful for that.

Over the years, I came to be somewhat divided when it came to my Jewish identity. I found that I would be ashamed and resentful when I read about shady Jewish characters like Bernie Madoff; Meyer Lansky; Michael Milken; George Soros; Louis Buchalter; Arnold Rothstein; Leopold and Loeb; Mickey Cohen; Jack Ruby; David Berkowitz, "The Son of Sam;" and the Rosenberg's, Ethel and Julius.

Worst of all, those creeps never changed their last names. It was only people like Al Jolson, Danny Kaye, Kirk Douglas, Albert Brooks, Irving Berlin, Bea Arthur, Harry Houdini, Larry King, Natalie Portman, Paul Muni and Eddie G. Robinson, who felt the need to conceal their true identities.

I still feel myself cringing at the mere thought that I might somehow be related to the likes of Chuck Schumer, Dianne Feinstein, Adam Schiff, Richard Blumenthal, Rahm Emanuel, Ben Cardin, Ron Wyden, Bernie Sanders, Jerry Nadler, Brad Sherman, Ron Wyden, Michael Bennet and Debbie Wasserman-Schultz.

In fact, there is a Yiddish word that describes the way I react to reading or hearing the latest comment from one of these people who do their level best to dispel the idea that Jewish people are very bright. The word is *shpilkes*. It's defined as a state of impatience, agitation, anxiety, or any combination thereof, with just a dash of nausea tossed in for good measure.

As awful as so many of these Jewish politicians are, at least they're not out murdering people in the name of their religion. If they were, and if I were religious, I would seriously have to consider converting.

That's why I don't understand why so-called decent, peace-loving, Muslims aren't becoming decent, peace-loving, Christians and Jews. To me, a Muslim in 2019 is the same as a Nazi in 1939. How does someone continue to believe in a God who is apparently okay with his followers killing people who don't grovel to Islam? This is also a cult-like religion that promotes honor killings, the subjugation of women and the mutilation of female genitalia.

It is also a matter of record that over the past 1,400 years, the Muslims' major contributions to the world have been car bombs that kill indiscriminately and re-introducing stonings and beheadings as appropriate forms of punishment for everything from adultery to apostasy.

■ Shepard Smith

It was very odd to hear all the Fox hosts mouthing all those seemingly sincere compliments about Shepard Smith upon his departure from the network. He has been with Fox since its inception in 1996, and I have disliked him for just about that long.

For a while, I just hated his voice and his snarky facial expressions. Because he hadn't yet come out of the closet, I wasn't aware that he was a homosexual. But in retrospect, I did realize he gave off the same vibe that others of his sexual persuasion often do. It's a combination of smugness and a patronizing attitude towards those whom they contemptuously dismiss as "breeders."

It was later I came to dislike him because of his obvious bias against President Trump.

Inasmuch as he is only 55 years old, I assume Smith will soon find a home at CNN or MSNBC, and all those Fox hosts who treated his departure the way that the Washington establishment treated John McCain's death, will begin running video segments of him slandering the breeder in the White House.

■ Invading privacy

One keeps hearing about how companies like Google and Facebook have been invading our privacy. Theoretically, I am as offended as every other red-blooded American should be. But in reality, when it comes to me personally, I don't care. I believe that's because I don't have any secrets. I mean, perhaps I have, but, if so, even I don't know about them. As you may have noticed, I'm always spilling my guts about anything that occurs to me that I find the slightest bit interesting.

Plus, I have to admit that when I buy books over the Internet, I appreciate it when the outfit follows up by recommending books, based on my purchases, they think I might enjoy. It's the sort of thing I had come to expect at bookstores when we still had bookstores.

■ Clever idea

When I'm not compiling lists or experiencing shpilkes, I like to come up with money-making ideas that I hope others will pick up and run with.

Recently, it occurred to me that the nicest things people ever say about us is when we're born and when we die. Great, we don't even know the language when people are cooing over us and announcing to the world that the cutest baby anyone has ever seen has just arrived; and in the second instance, we're dead and can't hear people going on about what a wonderful person that adorable baby grew up to be. So, you're out in the cold both coming and going.

Sometimes, a few kind words are offered up on our birthdays, but they're lost among the good-natured jibes about our age and the unfortunate effects the years have had on our appearance.

Therefore, I propose a solution, which I'll call the pre-funeral funeral.

As I see it, the dearly undeparted will lie in a comfortable coffin and listen to all the heart-felt compliments and the amusing, but tasteful, anecdotes that paint the guest of honor as a combination of Mark Twain and Mother Teresa, but maybe just a tad funnier than Twain and slightly less of a publicity hound than the Albanian lady.

Best of all, when it's all over, you get to climb out and join your friends and family back at the house for the drinks and cold cuts.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Blowing the Cover on Gun Violence" was posted at patriotpost.us on Nov. 4, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

There are currently three massive hoaxes being perpetrated on the American public. The first of these is climate change, the second is that Donald Trump is Russia's Manchurian Candidate and the third is that large segments of the population is being decimated in mass shootings.

I've already devoted a number of pieces to attacking those in Congress and the media who have perpetrated the first two. It's time to deal with the third.

First, keep in mind that, on average, 37,000 Americans die in traffic accidents every year.

Roughly the same number of Americans die as a result of guns, but, in 2018, of the 38,000, only 14,542 were murdered; 23,854 committed suicide.

When it comes to mass shootings, there were 340 of them last year. But only 373 people were killed and another 1346 were injured. So, roughly one person a day was killed and four were injured.

That hardly sounds like the kind of numbers we hear tossed around by the media or by the anti-Second Amendment crowd in Congress.

Even the definition changes. At one point, at least four people had to be shot or killed to count. Then, I suppose because the numbers weren't all that scary, they lowered the total to three.

This isn't meant to diminish the tragedy of innocent people being shot or killed. But the truth is, they're not all innocent. Inasmuch as most murders in America are gang and drug-related, it's only the exceptions that get reported by the media and then exploited by the Democrats.

The reason we all know about Parkland, Las Vegas and Sandy Hook, isn't because they're commonplace but because they are the rare exceptions.

If there were a way to avoid these events altogether without violating people's rights to privacy and protection, we'd all be in favor of passing such legislation, but there isn't.

■ Open borders with little vetting

In a nation of 330 million, with half the politicians for open borders and against vetting immigrants from terrorist cesspools in the Middle East, we can't ever expect to be entirely safe from stray gunfire. What we can expect

is to maintain the constitutional right to protect ourselves and our families from the criminals and the crazies.

■ Tightest restrictions and most killings

The Dems keep calling for additional laws being necessary to prevent law-abiding citizens from owning firearms. But, one, we all know that the places with the tightest restrictions—places like Chicago, Baltimore and Washington, D.C.—are the killing fields of the nation.

■ Confiscation of motor vehicles?

And, two, you can hardly make things any tougher to get a driver's license than they are. First, you have to take a test, both written and at the wheel. Then, for any number of infractions, you can lose your license. Plus, your driving skills and eyesight will be tested regularly for the rest of your life.

Yet, 37,000 people will lose their lives on the road this year and next year and the year after. And not Michael Bloomberg, Elizabeth Warren or even Beto O'Rourke, has called for a federal confiscation of motor vehicles.

■ Propaganda version

The Supreme Court recently declined to review an Appellate Court decision involving a Christian high school student in Maryland who, despite the threat of receiving a failing grade, refused to deny her faith by repeating a Muslim conversion prayer.

As part of La Plata High's "World History" curriculum, students were taught extensively about Islam, but only the propaganda version of the cult, not the reality. As part of the course, they were required to list the benefits of Islam.

They were also forced to watch a series of Power Point slides, including one that stated: "Most Muslims' faith is stronger than the average Christian's."

Apparently even with Gorsuch and Kavanaugh on board, the Supremes are too pre-occupied with pot and transgenders to regard religious freedom a priority issue.

■ Tremendous inroads

It's hard to grasp the tremendous inroads Islam has made in the U.S. over the past couple of decades. Today, we even have two Muslims, Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib, helping Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez dictate the direction of the Democratic Party.

All that these allegedly peaceful, decent people had to do was fly two jetliners into New York skyscrapers to get the gutless pinheads to prostrate themselves to the latter-day Nazis.

■ Treated as sacred cows

I'm reminded that in 2019 America, Muslims are far likelier to be treated as sacred cows than as the co-religionists of those who are beheading or blowing up innocent people all around the world.

■ Called honest and hard-working

At the same time, illegal aliens who have snuck into the United States, and far too often made their presence known by raping and killing adults, and sexually abusing children, are inevitably described as honest and hard-working.

■ Called racist and bigots

It's only conservative Christians and white males who are designated as racist, gun-toting, narrow-minded, despicable, bigots.

■ Pre-funeral funeral

After I shared my idea about pre-funeral funerals, I heard from Stephen Hanover, who liked the basic notion, but thought it would be better to have the not-yet deceased out of the coffin.

Naturally, I disagreed. "The coffin," I patiently explained, "is essential. That way, those paying tribute won't be playing to him. After a while, everyone might even forget he's lying up there on the dais. Of course, I recognize the possibility he might get too comfy and doze off. And if he snores, it could destroy the entire mood. In any case, it would probably be a good idea to video the event just in case the guest of honor misses anything during his nap."

Another subscriber, Maralyn Polak, tried to convince me that she had come up with the same idea a week earlier.

Inasmuch as I was only sharing the idea as a public service and was not looking to enrich myself, I didn't embarrass her with any probing questions. Besides, she sounds as if she's prepared to take my (her) idea and run with it.

She not only is thinking about creating a website, but a brand name. She wants to start a movement. She even has a wowzer of a slogan: "Why miss the fun? Come as you are . . . ALIVE!!!!"

Maybe too many exclamation points, but I think she's captured the spirit of the thing, and that's what counts.

■ Logical and fair-minded

After I mentioned for the umpteenth time that I'm not religious, I heard from Ralph Barnett. (The reason, by the way, that I do bring up my lack of religious belief is, one, because it's true and, two, because I believe it gives more weight to my defense of religious freedom, which is so often under attack, as it was when the Supreme Court refused to overrule the lower court's ruling in that Maryland school case.)

Mr. Barnett wrote to say: "After reading you for several years, I realize you may not practice religion but you do practice spirituality."

I realized it was a compliment, so I let him know I appreciated his words. But I added: "My problem is that when people are said to be or claim to be spiritual, they're generally those East Indian mystics who seem to have a strong

attraction for show business celebrities or they're those annoying New Age flakes who deal in crystals and other similar nonsense."

I prefer to be regarded as logical and fair-minded. And I hope to hear more along that particular line at my pre-funeral funeral.



"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.

Deficit

■ An article by Niv Elis titled "US Debt Surpasses \$23 Trillion for First Time" was posted at thehill.com on Nov. 1, 2019.

Finances

■ An article by Susan Jones titled "Record 158,510,000 Americans Employed in October; 23rd Record for Trump" was posted at cnsnews.com on Nov. 1, 2019.

■ An article by Chloe Wilt titled "Toys 'R' Us Is Back From the Dead With New Stores Opening Before Black Friday" was posted at yahoo.com on Nov. 1, 2019.

■ An article by Lauren Thomas titled "Walmart Appears to Be Gaining Ground Against Amazon" was posted at cnbc.com on Nov. 4, 2019.

■ An article by Michael S. Derby titled "New York Fed Official [Lorie Logan] Says Market Interventions Have Restored Calm" was posted at wsj.com on Nov. 4, 2019.

■ An article by Stan Choe and Damian J. Troise titled "Dow Hits Record As Stock Market Rally Extends Into 5th Week" was posted at apnews.com on Nov. 4, 2019.

■ An article by Shawn Langlois titled "The 'Mother of All Bubbles' Could Blow Up the Economy If Profits Don't Improve, Warns Blackstone Strategist [Joseph Zidle]" was posted at marketwatch.com on Nov. 4, 2019.

Trade war

■ An article by Ariel Zilber titled "China and US 'Moving Closer to Initial Trade Agreement' As Trump Considers Scrapping \$156 Billion Worth of Tariffs on Chinese Goods" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Nov. 4, 2019.

■ An article by Krystal Hu titled "China Signals US Only Needs to Remove Part of the Tariffs for a Trade Deal" was posted at yahoo.com on Nov. 5, 2019.

Green New Deal

■ A Reuters article titled "Merkel Wants Germany to Have 1 Million Electric Car Charging Stations by 2030 [Having Just 20,000 Public Charging Points Now, and Wanting to Grow to 100,000 by 2021]" was posted at reuters.com on Nov. 3, 2019.

- An article by Eric Roston titled "Earth Needs Fewer People to Beat the Climate Crisis, Scientists Say" was posted at bloomberg.com on Nov. 5, 2019.
- An article by Sophie Lewis titled "Italy to Become First Country to Make Studying Climate Change Compulsory in Schools" was posted at cbsnews.com on Nov. 6, 2019.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Sen. Sanders Says U.S. Will Admit [Into the U.S.] 'At Least 50,000 Climate Migrants in His 1st Year in Office' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Nov. 7, 2019.
- An article titled "Huffington Post Suggests Skipping Thanksgiving for Climate Change" was posted at foxnews.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

Illegal immigration

- An article by Gustavo Solis titled "More Non-Mexican Migrants Are Being Arrested at the Border in San Diego Than Ever" was posted at sandiegounion-tribune.com on Nov. 1, 2019.
- An article titled "Tucson Voters Overwhelmingly Reject Sanctuary City Measure" was posted at apnews.com on Nov. 5, 2019.
- An article by Peter Murphy titled "Erdogan Threatens to Open Europe Gates for Refugees" was posted at afp.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Justin Baragona titled "Joy Behar to Dems: Don't Tell Voters 'Ahead of Time' Before Taking Away Guns" was posted at thedailybeast.com on Nov. 4, 2019.
- An article by Matt Zarrell titled "Wife Defending Husband and Daughter [in Florida] Kills Home Intruder With Assault Rifle, Source Says" was posted at abcnews.com on Nov. 4, 2019.

Comments about Trump support

- An article by Pat Buchanan titled "Where Are the 'High Crimes'?" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 5, 2019.
- An article titled "Impeachment Will 'Hurt the President, But It Won't Beat the President': Rahm Emanuel" was posted at abcnews.com on Nov. 3, 2019.
- An article by Michael Wilner and Francesca Chambers titled "Trump's Well-Oiled Campaign Has Everything Planned—Except Trump" was posted at mcclatchydc.com on Nov. 5, 2019.
- An article by Julia Rosas titled "Former Acting CIA Director [John McLaughlin] on Trump Impeachment: 'Thank God for the Deep State' " was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 1, 2019.

■ An article titled “ ‘Coup Has Started’: Damaging Tweets Surface From Whistleblower’s Attorney [Mark Zaid Back in January 2017]” was posted at foxnews.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

■ An article by Thomas Lifson titled “Whistleblower’s Lawyer [Mark Zaid] ‘Gave Away the Game’ With Tweets Documenting Coup Plot From the Early Days of Trump’s Presidency [Proclaiming a Mere 10 Days After Trump Took Office That He Would Be Impeached]” was posted at americanthinker.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

Comments about Trump opposition

■ An article by Alex Shultz and Jay Willis titled “How Trump Corrupted the American Presidency in Every Imaginable Way” was posted at yahoo.com on Nov. 1, 2019.

■ Looking back to September, an article by Rich Klein, Mary Alice Parks and Will Steakin titled “Trump Loses Control of Presidential Narrative” was posted at abcnews.com on Sept. 25, 2019.

■ An article by Todd Ruger titled “Democrats Control Narrative in Impeachment Inquiry” was posted at rollcall.com on Oct. 29, 2019.

■ An article by Manu Raju and Jeremy Herb titled “Democrats’ New Moves Show House Could Wrap Up Impeachment by Christmas” was posted at cnn.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

■ An article by Sahil Kapur titled “Nancy Pelosi Is Worried 2020 Candidates Are on Wrong Track” was posted at bloomberg.com on Nov. 2, 2019.

■ An article by Beth Baumann titled “Pelosi Attempts to Rein in 2020 Dems With This Unsolicited Advice [‘What Works in San Francisco Does Not Necessarily Work in Michigan’]” was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 2, 2019.

■ An article by Bronson Sterling titled “Ilhan Omar Opens for Bernie, Brings Up ‘White Supremacy’ and ‘Western Imperialism’ ” was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 3, 2019.

■ An article by Bill Schanefelt titled “The Democrats’ Nomination Is Hillary’s to Lose” was posted at americanthinker.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

■ An article by Stephen Proctor titled “Hillary Clinton Hijacks ‘Late Late Show’ Monologue to Roast Trump” was posted at yahoo.com on Nov. 6, 2019.

■ An article by Leah Barkoukis titled “Billionaire [Money Manager Leon Cooperman] Writes Scathing Letter to Warren Over ‘Vilification of the Rich’ ” was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 1, 2019.

■ An article by Joe De Paolo titled “Bill Gates Goes After Warren on Wealth Tax, Won’t Commit to Backing Her Over Trump” was posted at mediaite.com on Nov. 6, 2019.

■ A Reuters article by Tim Reid titled “Exclusive: Economist Who Backed Warren Healthcare Plan [Mark Zandi] Has Doubts About Her Wealth Tax” was posted at reuters.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

- An article by Naomi Jagoda titled "Democrats Unveil Proposal for 'Millionaire Surtax' " was posted at thehill.com on Nov. 7, 2019.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Warren Just Proved She's Going to Eliminate Private Health Insurance" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 1, 2019.
- An article by Christopher Jacobs titled "14 Big Fat Gimmicks Trying to Hide the Gargantuan Price of Warren's Health Plan" was posted at thefederalist.com on Nov. 6, 2019.
- An article by Beth Baumann titled "Ayanna Pressley Breaks From Other Squad Members and Endorses a Different 2020 Democrat [Elizabeth Warren]" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 6, 2019.
- An article titled "Pete Buttigieg: Race Is Between Him and Warren Though New Poll Puts Him Fourth" was posted at theguardian.com on Nov. 3, 2019.
- An article by Daniel John Sobieski titled "Why Is Vindman a War Hero But [Michael] Flynn a Traitor?" was posted at americanthinker.com on Oct. 31, 2019.
- An article by Margot Cleveland titled "Sidney Powell Drops Bombshell Showing How the FBI Trapped Michael Flynn" was posted at thefederalist.com on Oct. 25, 2019.
- An article by Eliza Relman titled "Forget Kentucky and Virginia; the Worst Election News for Republicans Came Out of Suburban Pennsylvania" was posted at businessinsider.com on Nov. 6, 2019.

Kamala Harris

- An article by Caitlin O'Kane titled "Kamala Harris Proposes Bill That Would Align School Day With Work Day, Extending Activities to 6 p.m." was posted at cbsnews.com on Nov. 7, 2019.
- An article by Robert Verbruggen titled "Kamala Harris Wants to Turn Schools Into Day-Care Centers" was posted at nationalreview.com on Nov. 7, 2019.

Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke

- An article titled "Goodbye, Beto O'Rourke; What a Sad End to a Pointless Campaign" was posted at theguardian.com on Nov. 3, 2019.
- An article by Chuck DeVore titled "Beto O'Rourke Had Nothing to Offer Voters But Criticism of Trump" was posted at foxnews.com on Nov. 2, 2019.

News about the media

- Looking back to September, an article by Blake Dodge titled "Obama National Security Official [Jon Wolfsthal] Begs Media Not to Reveal Ukraine Whistleblower's Identity and 'Put a Patriot's Life at Risk' " was posted at newsweek.com on Sept. 26, 2019.

- An article by Charles Creitz titled "Media Not Obligated to Keep Whistleblower's Name Secret, As the Federal Government Is: Brit Hume Says" was posted at foxnews.com on Oct. 30, 2019.
- An article by Michael Calderone titled "Media Outlets Reject Rand Paul's Demand That They Identify Trump's Whistleblower" was posted at politico.com on Nov. 5, 2019.
- An article by Melanie Arter titled "[Devin] Nunes: Dems on Intel Committee Are Like a Cult, and the Media Are Cult Followers" was posted at cnsnews.com on Oct. 31, 2019.
- A video and an article by Beth Baumann titled "Watch: Project Veritas Confronts CNN President [Jeff Zucker] on His Personal Vendetta to Get President Trump Impeached" were posted at townhall.com on Nov. 2, 2019.
- An article by Christopher Wilson titled "[ABC News] Anchor [Amy Robach] Says Buckingham Palace Pressure Killed ABC's Story on Epstein" was posted at yahoo.com on Nov. 5, 2019.
- An article by Raymond Hall titled "An ABC News Anchor [Amy Robach] Was Caught on Hot Mic Saying That the Network Killed Her Epstein Expose in 2015 and That She Thinks the Sex Offender Was Murdered" was posted at yahoo.com on Nov. 6, 2019.

General interest

- An article by Chris Woodyard titled "Bad News for Boeing: Company Says More 737 NGs Found to Have Wing Cracks" was posted at usatoday.com on Nov. 1, 2019.
- An article by Barnini Chakraborty titled "California's Prop 47 [Reducing Certain Non-Violent Felonies to Misdemeanors in Order to Free Up Resources for Cops and Prosecutors to Focus on Violent Offenders] Leads to Rise in Shoplifting, Thefts, Criminal Activity Across State" was posted at foxnews.com on Nov. 1, 2019.
- An article by Sarah Parvini titled "California Conservatives Leaving the State for 'Redder Pastures' " was posted at latimes.com on Nov. 4, 2019.
- An article by Leila Miller and Rong-Gong Lin titled "California Suffered Widespread Cellphone Outages During Fires; A Big Earthquake Would Be Much Worse" was posted at latimes.com on Nov. 5, 2019.
- An article by Christine Vestal titled "Cheap and Powerful 'Meth 2.0' Is Ravaging Communities and Slowly Killing Its Victims" was posted at usatoday.com on Nov. 2, 2019.
- An article by Helena Oliviero titled "Concussion Rate for Teen Female Soccer Players Rivals Football" was posted at ajc.com on Nov. 1, 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.”