

THE LENEXA EDITOR

ROMANS 14:19Let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

JULY 7, 2013

INDEPENDENCE DAY!

Jim Stauffer

Independence Day in America is a time to enjoy the freedom gained by our ancestors from the monarchs of England.

Freedom is a wonderful thing. Especially when you compare it to the servitude of a master that may or may not be beneficent.

The slaves in America received their freedom following the American Civil War, due to the Emancipation Proclamation.

Jesus Christ promised mankind freedom from the bondage of sin when He said, **John 8:32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”**

Each of the freedoms brought with it responsibilities that were heretofore difficult to understand and bring to pass.

The freedom from the English Monarchs forced the Colonials to design and implement a form of government to achieve the goals of the freedom for which they fought and many died. This responsibility forced them to study and understand governmental concepts and find leaders to see they were explained to the people they would govern.

Then came the details of implementation. Before this they were not allowed to contemplate self government.

Similar problems on a smaller family sized scale faced the slaves of our country when they were freed. Suddenly they had to make daily decisions for themselves that had previously been made by their masters. It was because of this situation that some who had considerate masters chose to remain in their relationship rather than embark on a new life at their own direction fraught with peril. They then decided to reject freedom because they had a beneficent master.

When Jesus promised freedom from the bondage of sin, He spoke of the freedom of the soul. This is the eternal part of man and therefore this freedom is of much greater significance than all other freedoms. If we choose it this freedom brings eternal life, but if we reject it, we receive eternal punishment. (**Mat. 25:46; Rom. 6:23**)

But, just as with all other freedoms, this also requires a responsibility on our own part. That responsibility is to change what we

serve. Paul says it clearly when he tells us we cease to serve sin and begin to serve righteousness. **Rom. 6:17,18** *But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.*

Now you say, why would I choose to remain a servant and simply change masters? Because of the great value of eternal life over eternal punishment as mentioned above and because the most beneficent master of all is one who will give his own life to say yours. It is clear from Scripture the freedom from sin comes by way of the sacrifice of Christ. (**Rom. 5:9; Acts 2:38**) We must make the choice and take the responsibility of repenting and being baptized to receive the forgiveness from sin and the release from the bondage of it.

It now becomes a question of perspective. Are you satisfied with freedom from the tyranny of men. This freedom will benefit you for the number of years you live on earth. Or, do you see the greater value of the freedom from sin that will enable you to spend eternity with Christ your Lord rather than eternal punishment with the devil and his angels.

The decision rests with you.

IF ONLY THEY HAD LET A DOCTOR KILL THEIR BABY

B.J. Clarke

Just a few weeks ago, Brian Carl Peterson and Amy Suzanne Grossberg were indicted by a grand jury in Wilmington, Delaware. They were charged with first-degree murder charges in the death of their newborn baby.

According to police, Grossberg secretly gave birth to the child in a motel room on November 12th after which Peterson placed the 6 pound 2 ounce baby boy in a plastic trash bag and discarded him in the motel's trash bin.

What a tragic case, and so unnecessary. If only they had acted sooner, they could have avoided all of these charges and the associated bad publicity. If only they had realized that there were other "more civilized" ways to get rid of a baby. If only they had possessed the dignity to have their baby professionally killed, then all

would be well right now. They could have hired a hit-man dressed in surgery scrubs to do the job for them, and it all would have been legal. How could they be so foolish? If they had only thought of it, when Amy first learned that she was pregnant, they could have hired a doctor to employ a vacuum tube with a sharp blade attached to it, and he could have sucked the child from the womb, dicing it up into several pieces.

Then, instead of the police picking up the child out of the public trash bag, a nurse could have reassembled the severed body parts to make sure that none were accidentally left in the mother's womb. Surely, that would have been more humane than dumping the child in the trash can.

Or Brian and Amy could have opted for a later method of abortion. Sometime between her 7th and 12th week of pregnancy, a doctor could have entered her womb with a loop shaped steel knife. With this knife he could have sliced the placenta from the walls of the uterus and cut the baby's tiny body into pieces. Wouldn't that have been more humane than having the baby and throwing it away?

Still again, between the 12th and 18th week of the pregnancy, they could have hired a hit-man to perform a D & E abortion. In this case, without providing any fetal anesthetic, the doctor could have utilized a sharp toothed pliers-like instrument to dismember the baby part by part until all parts were removed from the womb. The bleeding would be profuse, but it would still be more humane than just throwing the baby in the trash can, would it not?

Besides that, it would have been legal!

If only Brian and Amy had realized that after 16 weeks of pregnancy, they had the option of seeking a salt-poisoning abortion. They could have hired a doctor to insert a long needle through the mother's abdomen into the baby's sac and inject a solution of concentrated salt. The baby would have breathed in the salt and been poisoned by it. The corrosive effect of the salt would have burned off the outer layer of the baby's skin. Just over an hour after the injection the baby would have been dead. About 24 hours later, Amy would have delivered the dead child and "professional" personnel could have thrown it into a trash can for her. Then she

could have walked out the door and resumed a normal life.

Or Amy could have had a C-section abortion, a hysterotomy. this late-term method of abortion is just like a C-section until after the cord is cut. In a Cesarean Section, the baby's phlegm is sucked out, and taken to the intensive care of a newborn nursery where everything is done to care for the child. In a C-section abortion, the cord is cut and the child is deposited in the trash can. The method is not that much different than what Brian and Amy did, except that a "qualified" killer legally carries out the operation. It is much more humane to have a doctor throw your baby into the trash can than for you to do it personally.

Amy could have even had a partial-birth abortion, and that with the approval of the President of the United States. Although in March of 1996, Congress gave final approval to a bill to ban partial-birth abortion, except when necessary to save the mother's life, President Clinton vetoed the bill on April 10, 1996, thus allowing partial-birth abortions to continue to be performed without restriction.

With the permission of the Supreme Court, and President of the United States, Brian and Amy could have killed their baby and avoided the indictment of murder for doing so. A partial-birth abortion would have been their ticket to freedom from the baby and from legal action. With the fetal heartbeat clearly registering on the monitor, a doctor could have delivered the baby's body and arms, everything but his little head. Then, while the baby's feet were kicking, the doctor could have jammed scissors into the baby's skull, and then opened the scissors to enlarge the hole in the baby's head. Of course, the impact of the scissors would have caused the baby's arms to jerk out in a flinched, startled reaction, like a baby does when he thinks he might fall. But the pain wouldn't have lasted too long, because the doctor would have stuck a high powered suction tube into the hole in the baby's head and sucked the baby's brains out. The limp and lifeless body of the baby would have been disposed of, and a few hours later, Brian and Amy could have left the hospital to pursue their hopes and dreams.

If only they had taken advantage of

executing their child through the means of the legalized death penalty known as abortion, then they wouldn't be facing the death penalty themselves. If only they had exercised their choice to go to an abortion clinic and exterminate the baby, they would be cast as national heroes, exercising their freedom to choose.

Instead, they are behind bars, facing a potential death penalty. How tragic! If only Brian Peterson and Amy Grossberg had remembered to let a doctor kill their baby, they would have been praised and not arrested! What a country!

EVERYBODY, SOMEBODY, ANYBODY AND NOBODY

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody were all neighbors in a community. These four fellows worshiped at the same church. Yet, they were unlike you and me, for they were more mature in their judgment.

Everybody was out of town most Sundays visiting relatives and Somebody, a real sport, usually went fishing, hiking, hunting, or golfing. Anybody could have gone to worship service but he thought that he wouldn't really be missed since Nobody would be there. So, Nobody went to church service.

Not long ago, one of the elders needed a teacher for one of the Bible classes. Everyone thought Somebody would teach the class and Somebody thought Anybody could do the teaching. So they wound up with Nobody teaching the class.

It seems that Nobody was the only decent chap among them. Nobody did the work when Everybody didn't, when Somebody wouldn't and Anybody couldn't.

One day an unbeliever moved into the community. Everybody honestly believed Somebody would teach him. Somebody thought Anybody could while Anybody thought Everybody had already talked to him. But in reality Nobody did.

The years went by and these four chaps {Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody} died and went to meet their Creator. Care to guess who finally went to heaven? That's right - NOBODY!

Author Unknown

Eph. 2:19 So then ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but ye are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, **20** being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone; **21** in whom each several building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord;

1 Pet. 2:9 But ye are an elect race, royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Psalms 1: 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scoffers; **2** But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. **3** And he shall be like a tree planted by streams of water, that bringeth forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also doth not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. **4** The wicked are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. **5** Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. **6** For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; but the way of the wicked shall perish.

News and Notes: Remember **Mary Czirr, Terry Czirr, Candiss Cason, Byron Taylor and Jan Patrick. Grant Clothier** had back surgery and is to return home this weekend.

Matt. 25:40 *And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.*

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We recommend to you the following websites:

facebook.comlenexachurchofchrist/
thelenexaedifier.com
lenexachurchofchrist.org

Our Meeting times are:

Sunday Bible Classes: 9:30 AM
Worship Services 10:20 AM&5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes 7:00 PM

The Church at Lenexa is a congregation of brethren who have been "justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (**Romans 3:24**)

As a result of this justification we have been "delivered out of darkness and translated into the kingdom of the Son of his love, in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

(**Colossians 1:13,14**)

We therefore respect the inspired word of God that will completely furnish us unto every good work by speaking only as the oracles of God.
(**2 Timothy 3:16,17; 1 Peter 4:11**)

What must one do to be saved?

Hear the gospel -

Romans 10:17

Believe in Christ -

Heb. 11:6

Repent of sin - Acts 17:30

Confess Christ as Lord -

Romans 10:9,10

Be baptized for the

remission of sins - Acts 2:38