THE PRICE OF LIBERTY

There are two kinds of conservatives in America: those who talk the talk, and those who walk the walk. Those who talk the talk love the conservative version of virtuesignaling: lots of piety about "first responders" and "military service," lots of pithy quotations from the Founding Fathers, but when push comes to shove they fade back into the shadows to avoid confrontation or controversy. These are the sort most valued by the Republican establishment, because they display just enough spunk to earn the label "conservative" but are easily "moderate" manipulated into backing candidates and policies by raising the specter of media criticism. "Moderate," of course, means "not conservative."

It always come down to fear of the media. As I wrote recently, "you can always count on spineless politicians to go whichever way the wind blows, and you can always count on the corporate media to ensure that the wind blows to the left." Conservatives who only talk the talk are a big part of the voter base for those politicians because they think the same way. And that, my friends, is why we're in the mess we're in today.

Conservatives who walk the walk understand that the common denominator of first responders, military heroes, and America's founders is their willingness to pay the price for liberty. The price of liberty is sacrifice – risking your life, your assets and your reputation in the gamble, not the certainty, that freedom will prevail over tyranny as a result.

I admit it's been easier for me to walk the walk than most conservatives because of my rough childhood and adolescence. When I got saved and healed in prayer from the alcoholism and drug addiction I'd suffered since the age of 12 (often homeless and destitute), and was then thrust into the culture war in my late 20s as a baby Christian at the height of the Reagan Revolution, the Scripture that I lived by was a phrase in Luke 12:48: "to whom much is given, much is required."

When the inevitable punishment came from the left for opposing them, I knew that nothing they could do compared to my days sleeping under bridges and begging for spare change on street corners, so I just pushed back harder. Indeed, in my Christian zeal, my attitude was like that of indignant David confronting Goliath: "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine who dares the challenge the army of the Living God?!!"

1993, while in community college working to build the academic foundation necessary for getting into law school, I wrote (along with my Orthodox Jewish coauthor Kevin Abrams), one of the most politically-incorrect (but factually-correct) books ever published in the 20th Century: The Pink Swastika: Homosexuality in the Nazi Party. I knew that publishing its truths would foreclose any chance of my ever rising to high position in the conservative movement. Even then the eventual conquest of the media-appeasing "conservative" elites by the LGBTs seemed inevitable. But I willing made that sacrifice for the cause of Christ, without whom "liberty" is an empty promise.

The Pink Swastika got my ministry added to the Southern Poverty Law Center's list of hate groups – long before the SPLC took on the big and powerful pro-family groups like Family Research Council, outraging the conservative movement as a whole. SPLC's malicious libel has dogged me for a quarter-century — ensuring that talk-the-talk conservative groups, large and small, from coast to coast have shunned me to avoid being tarred with the same brush. What is now called "cancel culture" has been the story of my entire ministry career. But I care more about truth and personal integrity than I care about status and money, and God has blessed me with an amazing global ministry across five continents, filled with exciting adventures and an impact far beyond anything I ever imagined.

In my most recent WND column I implored President Trump to stop endorsing the destructive LGBT agenda and blamed his expulsion from the White House by the election-stealing Biden campaign on that grave spiritual error.

That column triggered an email inquiry from a Newsweek reporter: "Do you have any comment about Right Wing Watch's comments on you proclaiming that Donald Trump was too pro-gay for God to allow him to win the 2020 presidential elections? Do you agree with the Southern Poverty Law Center's assessment of your past words and actions? Lastly, were you aware that most national and international LGBTQ rights organizations consider Trump to be the most anti-LGBTQ president of all time?"

I responded thus: "Both Right Wing Watch and the SPLC are extreme left-wing hate groups incapable of honesty on anything related to the LGBT agenda. And 'most national and international LGBTQ rights organizations' are equally leftist and thoroughly dishonest about Trump. Politically speaking, President Trump has struck a fairly smart balance on LGBT

issues by showing basic respect for people with same-sex attraction disorder, and honoring relatively conservative 'gays' like Rick Grenell with appointment to high office. Honest secular-minded people see past the liberal propaganda and know that Trump is pretty much a moderate on those issues.

"From the spiritual perspective of Biblebelieving Christians and Torah-faithful Jews, however, any endorsement of homosexual sin by national leaders whom God has anointed (as we believe Trump was) -- sin clearly defined in Leviticus 18:22 and Romans 1:26-27 -- carries with it a specific curse detailed in Leviticus 18:26-28: that 'if you defile the land, it will vomit you out as it spewed out the nations before you.'

"This curse was prophetic in the conquest of Israel and then Judah by the Assyrians and Babylonians respectively, and in my article I analogized Trump's expulsion from the White House by the far-more morally offensive Joe Biden, to those biblical stories as a way to explain why God did not grant Trump the second contiguous term so many Christians believed he would serve."

In consequence of Newsweek's implied threat of a political hit piece on both me and President Trump, the first Tennessee speaking invitation I've received from a "conservative" group was abruptly rescinded yesterday. I had expected better from the Bible Belt, but I guess no part of this nation is immune from the slippery slope of "talk the talk" conservatism.

What type of conservative are you, dear reader? Will liberty survive your watch?