

## Pressing for the High Calling!

**(Lion Video) The Lion...** Was done from the first wounding shot... Up against too much fire power... Instead of just limping off into the bush, live... Circled back around... Had it in him to make one last charge... To try to take out just one more man...

**Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour... 1Peter 5.8**

**You must know that in the last days perilous; dangerous, hard to deal with, stressful, angry, raging, even savage times will come... 2Timothy3.1**

**A prudent man foresees the evil, and hides himself: but the simple pass on, and pay the penalty... Proverbs 22.3**

**FRC: Gallup Shows Moral Pessimism:** When our nation is justifying the killing of innocent babies, it's no wonder our moral compass is off. This week, while the President tries to sweep a series of government scandals under the rug, the Gallup polling company released its most predictable findings of the year. Asked if the state of moral values in America is "getting better" or "worse," 72% of Americans responded "worse." Although married, churchgoing, or Republican Americans were the most negative, Gallup pointed out, "No major demographic group evaluates moral values positively overall." But here's the irony: Many of the Americans who recognize our moral problems are also the quickest to justify them. As a country, we have a higher tolerance than ever for divorce (68% believe it's morally acceptable), premarital sex (63%), out-of-wedlock births (60%), and homosexual behavior (59%). On two explosive issues--human cloning and polygamy--the public's support has actually doubled. Believe it or not, more Americans now have a problem with "wearing fur" (59%) than aborting a human life (42%). Only adultery lost ground in the battle over values--falling just a single point, from 7% approval to 6%.

**Headlines:** "Leading neuroscientist: Religious fundamentalism may be a 'mental illness' that can be 'cured.'" – Kathleen Taylor, Oxford University 5/30/13

"US Naval Academy Instructor Teaching On Behalf Of US Muslim Brotherhood" Professor Ermin Sinanovic, Department of Political Science summer series at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland  
Headlines

NYC Launches Sex App for Teens on its Website, Includes Directions to Birth Control and Abortion Clinics  
"Remember, teens in New York State have the right to sexual health services without getting permission from parents, girlfriends/boyfriends or anyone else," the app says. The app also provides a link to the NYC Teen website, which features a video called "Samantha's Story..." "My counselor says feelings for both sexes are totally normal, and that no matter who I have sex with it's important that the person I choose makes me happy and respects me by waiting until I'm ready..."

The I.R.S. case targeting and stalling conservative groups, exposed... The I.R.S Director being "fired" and transferred to lead position for Obamacare...

Gosnell trial/conviction bringing to light multiple other similar abortion clinics... (Houston)

Boy Scouts vote...

***If there was ever a time that our nation needed its pastors preaching without apology and the church living its pure ideology... it's now.***

**Where are the trailblazers? The models and heroes of faith? The maximizers? The 2%er's of faith? Hiding from giants, or becoming one? Working secretly, or walking in the open? Running scared or running to win?**

**Just as there are people...** Who never exercise... Who walk... Who run for themselves... Who run half-marathons... Full marathons... Triathlons... Iron Man... And everyone gets the *Meritocracy*... Honored as the Crème de la Crème!"

**So there are people...** Who aren't saved yet... Who are... Who have a private faith... Who are willing to share a personal testimony... Who share their faith... Who live their faith... Who live by the faith of the Son of God; by the word and by His Spirit... Only to get "creamed" w/criticism...

**There are people... "Pressing toward the mark (goal) for the prize (wreath) of the high-calling (ano-klesis) of God in Christ!" P3.14** All are called: klesis, few are chosen: ekkletos, "select;" fewer ano-klesis... Going to run so that we are not sidelined in the end! Desirable, honorable, worthy lives!

**Going back because... The work is too scary/intense/strange...** John departed from them... not going to the work... **Acts 13.13, 15.38 The love of the world is so strong...** Do your diligence to come unto me for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is gone... **2Tim 4.10 Lovers of self, more than lovers of God!** **2Timothy 3.1-6** In the last days it will be a dangerous environment. Men will love themselves more than God... they will still want to look the part of godliness but they deny it's entrance into their hearts... instead they creep into houses and captivate silly women who are loaded with sin and led away with their own various lusts...

**Going back... to what? Sexuality...** Conceptual: "Go slow on the young widows/divorcees because having come to Christ, hurting, they make commitments, but soon their sexual desires will be aroused and they will break their word which can take them away altogether." **1Tim5.11ff 1Cor7 Alcohol/drugs...** Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. **Pr20.1** it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted. Give strong drink to him that is ready to die, and wine unto those full of bitterness. Let him drink, and forget his poverty, and remember his misery no more. **Pr31.4-7 Alcohol is an anesthetic!** The issue isn't liquid, solid, serum or smoke... the conceptual is "control!" No one in their "right mind" yields control... so we can't have you in your right mind! Never one time have I heard, "I discovered drugs and alcohol and they made life great!" **Fear/anger/rage...** "Where there is envy and strife there is every evil work!" **James 3.16 To worldliness...** "What does it profit you to gain the whole world and lose your soul?" **Mark 8.36 To distractions, complacency, apathy, inactivity?** "Because you are lukewarm I will spit you out of My mouth!" **Rev 3.16**

**Let us...**

"Gather up the creative power of your mind, be abstinent, expectant and confident to the end, to the revelation of Christ... don't be fashioned by the former lusts of your ignorant times!" **1Peter 1.13,14** Be alert, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. **1Cor 16.13** "Do not be confounded, set your face like flint, do not be ashamed!" **Is50.7** "Not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God for salvation for the lost!" **Rom 1.16** "Not be ashamed of Christ and His words in this adulterous and sinful generation; because of him will the Son of man be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." **Mark 8.38** "Not look back, not go back for our possessions, but put our hands on the plow handle and plow for all we're worth!" **Luke 9.58ff Mk 10.22** "Work while it is still day for the night is coming when no one will work again!" **John 9.4** "Run to win and finish our course w/joy, to receive the crown of righteousness for the faithful!" **1Cor9.24-26 Acts 20.24 2Tim 4.8** **Let us leave no promise unfulfilled, no work undone, and no place to the devil!**