



Tam's Front Porch Ponderings
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We've just come from the polls and as Daddy taught me, I tried to vote for the lesser of two evils. When this paper hits the stands, the face of our Country will have changed and the thought of what lies ahead scares me. It doesn't really scare ME because I am old, but it scares me for my children, my nieces and nephews and the children of the world. What the future holds for them is on shaky ground at this point.

New Chapter in History

I've never tried to be a political person, I educate myself on the candidates and exercise my right to vote. My ancestors battled long and hard to give me this right and I'm not going to let them down. I long for the days when people took this liberty seriously, today I'm not so sure Americans do.

Here in the South, we believe your handshake should be firm, your word is your bond and that ALL lives matter, especially those of the unborn. God gives life and only God should be the one who takes it away, not someone who says "women have a choice". Your choice was made when you decided to engage in the activity that formed this child in the womb. You may not agree with me, and that's your right. Men and women fought for you to have that right, but never forget they also fought for my right to my opinion.

I fly my flag and STAND

for our National Anthem. If you refuse to stand, then find another place to live, plain and simple! This is what we are, this is who we are, the United States of America, Land of the Free and Home of the Brave. We love God and Country, apple pie and baseball, sweet tea and front porch swings. Don't come over here and stir up trouble, because in the South, we also love our guns and if you come looking for trouble, you might just get more than you bargained for!

As we begin a new chapter in American History, I pray "America, America, God shed His Grace on Thee and crown thy good with Brotherhood, from sea to shining sea".

Until next time.....



Upward Bound program at ECU is accepting students

The Upward Bound program at Eastern Kentucky University is currently accepting applications from students in grades 9-11 in Casey, Estill, Lee, Lincoln, Powell and Wolfe counties as well as from high school juniors in Jackson County.

EKU Upward Bound assists high school students from these seven Kentucky counties by preparing them for college.

To qualify for ECU Upward Bound, students must meet income guidelines or potentially be the first in their families to graduate from college (meaning neither biological parent has a four-year degree), and maintain a high school GPA

of 2.5 or better.

To apply, students can either obtain an application from their high school counselor or print one from www.upwardbound.eku.edu. All applications should be mailed with supporting documentation to ECU Upward Bound, Patterson House, 521 Lancaster Ave., Richmond, Kentucky, 40475.

Students can be nominated to apply to the program through the "Nominate a Student" form at upwardbound.eku.edu/nominate-student.

EKU Upward Bound is funded through a \$521,989 TRiO grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Nov. money tip for students: Don't hide from your bills

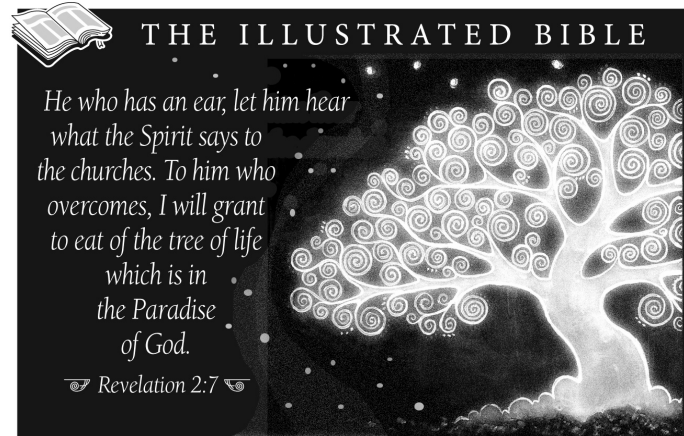
If you are having trouble paying a bill, contact the company immediately to work out a payment plan. Whatever you do, do not ignore letters and calls from your creditors, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

It is best to explain everything in a letter so you have a written record. Before writing the letter look at your finances to come up with a payment amount you can handle. That lets your creditor know you still plan to pay what you owe and

will pay as much as possible during your financial crunch.

Most companies will work with you if you are up front about your difficulties. Ask if your creditor will waive any penalties and will extend your payment period if you are temporarily in a tight money situation.

For information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit www.kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602; or call 800-928-8926, ext. 6-7214.



God's Judgment on the Ungodly (Jude 1:12-13)

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; 13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

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Times Remembered

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Extreme Behaviour on the Highways

Road rage and other aggressive driving behaviors affect more of us than you might think.

Last week we were driving to our doctor's appointment in Lexington and traffic on I-75 was wild. I have never seen such dangerous and inconsiderate drivers. People were cutting in and out of lanes, passing on the wrong side, then whizzing in front of you if you were trying to pass. Everyone is in such a hurry; it's like you are in a car race or something. There is no respect or courtesy on the highway anymore.

A new study by AAA shows that nearly 80 percent of U.S. drivers engage in aggressive driving behavior. More than three-quarters of U.S. drivers; 78 percent expressed significant anger, aggression, or road rage behind the wheel at least once in the past year, and more than half purposely tailgated another vehicle. No wonder there are traffic fatalities every day in Kentucky.

Even more alarming, almost 8 million engaged in extremes incidents of road rage, including intentionally ramming another vehicle or getting out of their cars to confront another driver. Another concern is that these figures may be underreported because of their negative social connotation, so the true prevalence may be even higher than the study's estimates.

Inconsiderate driving, bad traffic, cell phones and texting, plus the daily stresses of life can transform minor frustrations into dangerous road rage. Far too many drivers are losing themselves in the heat of the moment.

A significant number of U.S. drivers personally engaged in at least one of the following aggressive behaviors in the past year according to a study by AAA.

- Purposefully tailgating – 51 percent, or 104 million drivers.
- Yelling at another driver – 47 percent, or 95 million.
- Honking to show anger – 45 percent, or 91 million.
- Making angry gestures – 33 percent, or 67 million.
- Trying to block another vehicle from changing lanes – 24 percent, or 49 million.
- Getting out of vehicle to confront another driver – 4 percent, or 7.6 million.
- Bumping or ramming another vehicle on purpose

– 3 percent, or 5.7 million.

Nearly 2 in 3 drivers said aggressive driving is a bigger problem today than it was three years ago. 9 in 10 believe aggressive drivers are a serious threat to their personal safety.

• Males and drivers ages 19 to 39 were significantly more likely to engage in aggressive behaviors.

Males were more likely to get out of their car and confront other drivers than females.

• Drivers reporting unsafe behaviors behind the wheel, including running red lights and speeding, were four times more likely to cut other drivers off.

• In the Northeast, drivers yell, honk their horns and use gestures more often than other people in other regions in the U.S.

Tips to Prevent Road Rage

- Don't offend. Never cause other drivers to change their speed or direction.
 - Be tolerant and forgiving. Assume that it's not personal. The other driver may just be having a bad day.
 - Don't respond. Avoid eye contact, don't make gestures, maintain space around your vehicle and contact 911 if necessary. You never know who has a gun nowadays.
 - Most of all have patience and give yourself enough time to arrive at your destination.
- Drivers who avoid such dangerous, bad behaviors are also likely to avoid vehicle crashes, costly traffic tickets and legal fees that contribute to higher automotive insurance premiums.

The Declining Interest of Christianity in America

by **BOB CASEY**, preacher
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Our column this week is once again using a past article that still reveals our thoughts and encouragement unto all our readers. By the time you may be reading this, our National election will be over. I hope and pray that our Lord will in some way intervene in the interest of the betterment of our citizens. But, still remember that in this election, our Lord will have his will done accordingly. This week I want to use once again an article that was written nearly three years ago, but the message is still the same.

The Declining Interest of Christianity in America

There are many of you who read this article who can testify to the truth of our headline. It has not been all that long since I have seen the interest of people decline in matters pertaining to the worship and obedience to God and to our Saviour. Bro. Lee Davis said last week in a meeting at South Irvine that all it takes for a nation to become apostate is to fail to teach, train or to live a Christian example to a single generation. Folks, we are in that generation.

The Apostle Paul was informing the people of Thessalonians II: 2-3 that Christ would not return until this world came a falling away first. My question would be: falling away from what? Herein he mentions the day of Christ's second coming. It was not to appear except people would leave their service, devotion and commitment to Christ first. This apostasy is plainly not of a civil but of a religious nature, not a revolt from the government, but a defection from the only true religion and worship of Almighty God. I hear all the time from preachers and people in general that we are facing a time when more interest is given to the quest of this world's offerings. Sadly, we can expect this from the unsaved world, but we are seeing a lack of interest from confessed church members. Many fail to keep their commitment to the Lord's Day meeting and when some do they rush in at the last minute, get o the back pew and leave as soon as the prayer of dismissal is given. Folks, we ought to do better than this.

Just recently we discussed that the Lord gives us 168 hours in one week in which to live. If we keep the full schedule of worship we would only spend about 6 or 7 hours of this in church. Think about it. The Bible warns all of us in scriptures such as II Timothy 3 that in the days preceding the coming of our Lord that most of mankind would be lovers of their own selves, also lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. He goes on to say that many would have a form of Godness, but denying the power of authority thereof. Folks, when men everywhere deny the authority of God, saved or unsaved, they are asking for the judgment of God to fall upon them. Many may say, "this is the crudest, hateful, or mean-spirited man that I have ever read after. Doesn't he know that you can catch more flies with honey than vinegar?" Folks, I am not trying to catch flies or sugar coat reality. If I can rock or shock you into facing reality, I will do it! We need to preach and cry out against the sins of this world so that we may snatch some out of hell fire. In Romans 6:23, "for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." You can have this eternal life, but you must fully obey Him in order to receive it. I hope you will. If we can assist you, please call.

Sincerely, Bob Casey 1(859) 369-4165

Pig, cow refuse to sleep in same room as politician



America's Heartland
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I love the old joke about the politician whose car broke down as he traveled through the countryside with his Jewish and Hindu friends.

A farmer agreed to put them up for the night, but told them that he only had room in the house for two other people, that one of them would have to sleep in the barn.

"No problem," the Jewish friend said. "I'll be glad to sleep in the barn." And off he went. Moments later, there was a knock at the door. It was the Jewish friend, saying: "I'm sorry, but I can't sleep in the barn after all. There's a pig out there. My faith considers pigs unclean."

The Hindu friend agreed to take his place in the barn. And off he went. Moments later, there was a knock at the door. It was the Hindu friend, saying: "I'm sorry, but I can't sleep in the barn after all. There's a cow out there. My religion holds cows to be sacred."

The politician then reluctantly agreed to sleep in the barn. And off he went. Moments later, there was another knock at the door...

It was the pig and the cow.

Politicians are forever getting stereotyped as stinky, bad, untrustworthy, and we could add to those any number of additional descriptive terms. As a former Associate

Press correspondent covering politics, I can tell you there are plenty of politicians who fit that stereotype perfectly. But I'm really pleased to tell you there are also some genuinely good people who go into politics for all the right reasons.

For them, that old joke would be a disservice. Perhaps you know a few of those people.

I'll tell you what I think sets the good politicians apart from the bad ones. They know that they answer to Almighty God, and they, therefore, put all they have into their roles, following this biblical admonition:

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3: 23-24).

Whatever our career pursuits, if we live up to that Bible verse, we'll be the best at what we do. People who work simply for paychecks tend to do little more than is required of them. People who see their jobs as platforms to serve the Lord, typically are willing to go all out.

Jobs put working-age people in touch with others. Jobs lead to friendships. Friendships lead to opportunities to discuss all manner of topics, including religion. And, if that Christian man or woman has proven himself or herself to be honest, friendly, dependable, compassionate and hardworking, he or she has earned the credibility to discuss matters of faith.

That kind of worker likely possesses the fruits of the spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. They're the ones others want to be around.

And, if ever they're forced to sleep in the barn, the pig and cow won't go looking for lodging elsewhere.

Roger Alford shares words of encouragement with residents of America's heartland. Reach him at rog-eralford1@gmail.com.