



# THE LITTLE BOOK OF FREEDOM 2021

*Dr. Bill Miller*

**THE LITTLE BOOK  
OF FREEDOM  
2021**

## ***The Little Book of Freedom 2021***

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# Foreword

This is a special booklet celebrating FREEDOM in America. It assembles a series of articles and quotations that were originally published in various magazines, newspapers, internet posts and websites in connection with America's heritage of individual and religious freedom. The featured articles were written during 2017-2021.

America is a special country like no other that has ever existed. We have had exceptional success and prosperity over our history BECAUSE from the beginning it has been dedicated to the work of God throughout the world. We were founded as a Christian nation and we are still the most Christian country on the planet despite the efforts of so many secularists to revise history and exclude God from our culture.

This booklet focuses on this absolute truth: all real FREEDOM comes from God. It does not originate with political systems or any other invention of people. There has never been a country over the six-thousand-year history of the world when people were as free as we are. It would be a tragedy to under-value something so precious.

***PART ONE:***  
**THE AMERICAN CLERGY AND  
THE STRUGGLE FOR  
FREEDOM**

## INTRODUCTION TO PART ONE

The American Clergy has played a key role in the emergence of America as the freest and most exceptional country in the history of the world. From the very beginning, we have been a people who traditionally welcomed the presence of God and have in turn made it a point to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the nations including our own nation as the first priority.

The first permanent European colony in America was the Jamestown colony on the east coast of Virginia. It was started in 1607 and thrived for nearly 100 years as the capital of the Virginia colony. It was eventually abandoned when the capital was moved to Williamsburg in 1699.

The 105 colonists and seamen who set sail from England and settled at Jamestown carried the Geneva Bible with them. Those who studied its notes saw it as their mission to take the gospel to unknown lands and unsaved peoples. Before finding what would be their permanent settlement, Rev. Robert Hunt (1568–1608) offered the following prophetic prayer on April 29, 1607 at Cape Henry (now Virginia Beach, Virginia).

*“We do hereby dedicate this Land, and ourselves, to reach the People within these shores with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to raise up Godly generations after us, and with these generations take the Kingdom of God to all the earth. May this Covenant of Dedication remain to all generations, as long as this earth remains, and may this Land, along with England, be Evangelist to the World. May all who see this Cross, remember what we have done here, and may those who come here to inhabit join us in this Covenant and in this most noble work that the Holy Scriptures may be fulfilled.*

Using covenantal language, Hunt declared, “*from these very shores the Gospel shall go forth not only to this New World but the*

*entire world.*” The following Bible passage was read at the conclusion of the prayer: *“All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the Lord’s and he ruleth among the nations.”* (Psalm 22:27–28)

The Jamestown settlers believed in a covenantal approach to history whereby future generations would *“take the Kingdom of God to all the earth”*—and this is the important part—*“as long as this earth remains.”* These concepts came directly from the notes of the Geneva Bible with its kingdom-advancing approach.

In fact, the Geneva Bible provided much of the genius and inspiration that carried those courageous and faithful souls through their trials, and provided the spiritual, intellectual and legal basis for the development and eventual amalgamation of thirteen special colonies in North America.

In other words, the Geneva bible was the foundation for the establishment of the American Nation and with it a legacy of individual Christian FREEDOM for its people. To this day, it continues taking the Kingdom of God to all the earth.

Those eventual thirteen colonies were ruled by England which at the time was the strongest military power in the world. In large part, people came to America bravely overcoming tremendous hardship in both their travel to the New World and the living conditions they faced once they got here. In fact, a high percentage of them died soon after they arrived. Most of them were seeking freedom to worship God in their own way free of the religious mandates in Western Europe in the years following the onset of the Protestant Reformation in 1517. Listed here are the original thirteen colonies that became the most exceptional country in world history along with the year they were founded:

Virginia 1607

Massachusetts 1620

New Hampshire 1623  
Maryland 1634  
Connecticut 1635 c.  
Rhode Island 1635  
Delaware 1638  
North Carolina 1653  
South Carolina 1663  
New Jersey 1664  
New York 1664  
Pennsylvania 1682  
Georgia 1732

For 168 years following the establishing of the Jamestown colony, the people of America struggled with their rulers in England over a variety of issues. Multiple petitions were sent to the King requesting changes and revisions to authoritarian rulings that the colorists felt were unfair overly dictatorial and an intrusion into the life of freedom they longed for.

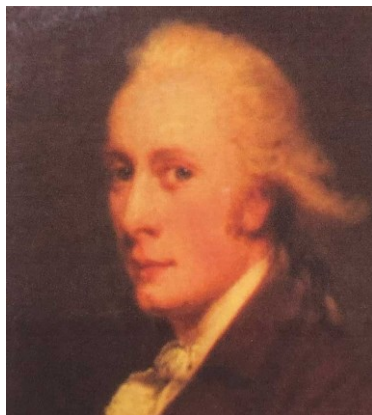
All of those petitions were largely ignored and even replaced with increasingly onerous regulations until finally the people could take no more and started a revolution in April of 1775. From the very beginning, the clergy was at the forefront of the armed struggle that ensued. Those pastors and ministers were usually the most educated and respected people in their towns and they headed up the most influential organizations there, a multitude of local churches which most colonists were members of.

And so, following in the destiny proclaimed by Rev. Robert Hunt in 1607, they led their people into battle against the most formidable military force in the world and wound up forging a new country that changed the world. Following are a few of their stories.

*The articles in Part One about the Black Robed Regiment appeared in the Hood County News Devotional section in Granbury, Texas during the month of July 2020. They also appeared in the Caprock Patriot News in Lubbock Texas in the same time frame.*

## ONE: The Story of Pastor Jonas Clark

This July 4<sup>th</sup> marks 244 years since America declared independence from England.



Sometimes we forget that what was at stake was FREEDOM itself which the Bible says God wants for all people. It says that knowing the Truth is what sets us free (John 8:32), that Jesus is the Truth (John 14:6) and that wherever His Spirit is present there is FREEDOM (2 Corinthians 3:17). At its root, freedom isn't a political thing, it's a blessing from God and

many in the 18<sup>th</sup> century American clergy saw unrighteous bondage to England as the usurping of a sacred biblical endowment.

Over the eight years of war, there were many pastors who became directly involved. They fought in it themselves, led their congregations into battle and risked everything for the cause of FREEDOM. Modern historians have documented that every right asserted in the *Declaration of Independence* had been preached from Colonial pulpits well before the war started. They were so effective in their pursuit of FREEDOM that after the war, the British generals said that had it not been for the “*Black Regiment*,” referring offhandedly to their church robes, the colonists would not have won. Hundreds of Pastors had preached FREEDOM from their pulpits and then led their people into battle. Many faced execution if they were captured.

This series focuses on five examples of these great ministers that you may not know about because their involvement in the Revolutionary War is rarely taught anymore. This week features Pastor Jonas Clark from the Lexington, Massachusetts *Church of Christ*. Most people have heard of Paul Revere and the famous

shot heard 'round the world. What you may not know is why he made that ride. You've also heard of John Hancock and Samuel Adams, patriot leaders whom the British yearned to capture for all their "rabble rousing." What you may not know is that they were the reason for Paul Revere's ride and that Pastor Jonas Clark was at the center of this whole story.

On the evening of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere was summoned by Dr. Joseph Warren of Boston and given instructions to ride to Lexington with the news that "*regular army*" British troops were about to march to Lexington and Concord. Their dual objectives were to confiscate rebel armaments hidden in Concord and to bring back the dead bodies of John Hancock and Samuel Adams who were staying in Pastor Clark's home. Hancock was the Pastor's cousin and he and Samuel Adams frequently stayed secretly with the Pastor as they traveled about avoiding the authorities.

So it was that Paul Revere started his ride on the 15-mile trip to Pastor Clark's home in Lexington to warn the two Patriot leaders. As he rode, he yelled out to those he passed that "the Regulars are coming," referring to those British regular army troops. By the next morning Pastor Clark had assembled his 150-member militia, mostly members of his church and commanded by Deacon John Parker. You know the story: those British soldiers fired on Jonas Clark and his people starting the Revolutionary War and leaving 7 dead patriot-members of the *Lexington Church of Christ*.

The two patriot leaders escaped, the militia saved the armaments and Pastor Clark survived to continue as a key community leader and militia organizer for the duration of the War. Eventually he was instrumental in the creation of both the Massachusetts and U.S. Constitutions and a major leader in his new country. Now you know the rest of the story about a special minister that God used in His plan for America. The battle for freedom officially started on the front steps of the *Lexington Church of Christ*.

## TWO: The Story of Pastor James Caldwell

This is the second in a series about special Pastors who were part of the “*Black Regiment*” in the Revolutionary War. We remember them especially this July on the 244<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American *Declaration of Independence* because according to the British army leaders, it was those Pastors in their black robes that caused the greatest army in the World to go down in defeat. It was accomplished by the preaching from their pulpits that motivated Christians to action and by their expertise at recruiting militia and regular army troops for service under General Washington. Some of them were themselves army officers who led their own church-folks into battle.



Patriot churches also provided a moral sanction for opposing British authority. It was an assurance to average American Christians that revolution was justified in the sight of God. It has been estimated that up to 45 percent of the population of the thirteen colonies were patriot supporters with 35 percent effectively neutral. Only about 20 percent were loyalists. Without the influence of the Church, support for the Patriot cause would have been considerably less.

This series focuses on five examples of these great ministers that you may not know about because their involvement in the Revolutionary War is rarely taught anymore. There were hundreds of them and this week we look at James Caldwell who became Pastor of the *First Presbyterian Church* in Elizabethtown (now Elizabeth) New Jersey in 1762. He is remembered in history with affection and admiration as “*The Rebel High Priest.*” From the onset of the War, Pastor Caldwell supported the Patriot cause. He served first as an Army Chaplain and then as a

commissary for the New Jersey militia. His place in history was secured during the June, 1780 *Battle of Springfield, New Jersey*, which turned out to be the last major battle in the northern colonies.

Leading up to it, British and Hessian forces had invaded from Staten Island, New York and were attempting to trap General Washington's depleted army at Morristown, New Jersey. They were met by the NJ Militia including Pastor Caldwell and some regular army troops at Elizabethtown which they lost to the British followed by a battle at Connecticut Farms, New Jersey also lost. During the battle Pastor Caldwell's wife Hannah was killed by a gun shot through the window of her house as she was protecting the two youngest of their 10 children.

Hannah's death became a rallying cry for the Patriots and a few days later the two sides met again, this time in Springtown with the British troops still trying to break through to engage General Washington. As he mourned the death of his wife, Pastor Caldwell again took up his musket and went out with the militia. He fought side-by-side with the outnumbered patriots and eventually sealed his place in history as the militia was on the verge of running out of wadding for their muskets.

Muskets must have wadding and only a Pastor could have come up with this solution because Pastor Caldwell ran under fire to the nearby *Springfield Presbyterian Church* where he took up an armload of hymnals and returned again under fire so his compatriots could use the pages as wadding. They were then able to repulse the English attack which saved General Washington's Continental Army to fight another day.

Pastor Caldwell is widely regarded as one of the heroes of the battle and the town of Caldwell, New Jersey was named in his honor. Had he not thought of the novel hymnal wadding idea, the entire Revolutionary War would likely have gone to the English stamping out the fledgling root of American exceptionalism.

## THREE: The Story of Pastor Thomas Allen

This is the third in a series about the special Ministers who were called the “*Black Regiment*” during the Revolutionary War. They thundered from their pulpits that LIBERTY is a God-endowed “unalienable” right that mankind is entitled to pursue, enjoy and protect. Did the Bible not plainly say that wherever the Spirit of God is present, there is FREEDOM (2 Corinthians 3:17)? To 18<sup>th</sup> century America, the mostly Christian population had briefly tasted FREEDOM and they didn’t want to lose it. Many of their pastors led the way and rallied their congregations to defend and protect this valuable gift that God has made available to all mankind but so few have taken up.



The British military officers were the ones who first called them the “*Black Regiment*” referring to the vestments they wore mostly for their church services. But they didn’t just preach on Sundays about resisting English oppression. Indeed, many of these special Pastors were directly involved in related political and military activities including the development of local militias of their congregants that helped defeat the strongest military power in the world of their day.

This week’s article considers the heroics of “*The Fighting Parson*,” Thomas Allen, Pastor of the *Pittsfield Massachusetts Congregational Church* for 46 years starting March 5, 1764 at the age of 21. His personal accomplishments are too numerous to cover in this limited space but it’s an honor to mention some of the most famous that so few of us know about because we don’t teach these things anymore.

When the Revolutionary War began in the Spring of 1775, the key city of Boston was occupied by the British. General Washington wanted to take it over but lacked artillery and had been unsuccessful in his early attempts. Pastor Allen had advised the military all along to consider the British-held Forts of Ticonderoga and Crown Point in upstate New York because they were lightly defended and full of back up artillery that could be useful to the Continental Army. Finally, in December 1775 American leadership heeded his advice and captured the two forts so that Pastor Allen could help organize the move of the captured cannon on forty-two oxen-pulled sleds over a snow-covered 300 miles in 56 days. When the British saw that General Washington had deployed all that artillery, they decided to surrender the city and on March 17, 1776, some 11,000 British soldiers and loyalists sailed out of Boston harbor in a fleet of 120 ships. It was a major victory for the Patriots, a huge embarrassment to the British.

On another occasion in August 1777, Pastor Allen led his Berkshire Militia to join forces with General John Stark against a Hessian contingent near Bennington, Vermont. The Pastor marched out to the battlefield that day wearing his black robe and stood on the stump of a fallen tree in front of the American lines to offer the enemy an opportunity to surrender. Their answer was a volley of musket fire which hit all around the Pastor, riddled the stump he was standing on and shot a hole through his hat. In the final charge on the enemy's breastworks, Pastor Allen and his Berkshire Militia were first to breach the enemy lines which produced the victory.

After the battle Pastor Allen spent that night and the entire next day ministering to the wounded and dying. The next day Saturday, August 18 with almost no sleep for several days, the Fighting Parson saddled up his horse and rode 30 miles back to Pittsfield to preach the next day at his church. And this is just the tip of the iceberg of accomplishments attributed to this truly extraordinary preacher.

## FOUR: The Story of Pastor David Avery

In this series of articles, we're remembering the famous "*Black Regiment*" of Pastors who fought and ministered during the Revolutionary War. They got their nickname from the British military who blamed them for their embarrassing loss of the War. At the time the British were the strongest military force in the world and even the King said it was the American clerics that had caused their defeat. How is it possible that men who wore black robes and preached on Sundays with no military background were the ones who caused their defeat? The answer is, their impact was insurmountable:



1. They were generally the most respected and educated members of the American culture consisting of mostly Christian, church-goers.
2. Therefore, their positions on issues carried a lot of weight and gave the colonists a biblical justification for their desire to rebel against England.
3. They were wonderfully gifted and passionate orators who inspired their members and then personally led them into battle.
4. They recruited militia and regular troops from within their own congregations with much greater effectiveness than the professional military recruiters.
5. Their strong faith was evident in the field by their fearlessness in battle which inspired the colonists and averted many a retreat for the undermanned and underequipped Continental Army.

One of the best examples of such a man was Pastor David Avery who had become the Pastor of the *Winsor Vermont Congregational Church* in 1773 at the age of 27. He was converted under the ministry of the famous Pastor George Whitefield, earned a degree

from Yale and was awarded an honorary degree from Dartmouth. Less than two years after becoming the Pastor, he announced his resignation to his shocked congregation one Sunday morning in April 1775 so he could join the Army. After the service, he went outside to speak to the men of the church about forming a militia and 20 of them went home that day to fetch their muskets, say good bye to their families and march off to Boston under the command of their new Captain, David Avery.

Only two months later we find him standing on Bunker Hill praying for American victory arms outstretched to heaven during a battle that was actually being fought on nearby Breeds Hill. He was praying in plain view inspiring the Americans including his own militia. All the while the British shots that didn't find their targets on Breeds Hill were landing on Bunker Hill all around the praying Pastor Avery who came away with a new name: "*The Patriot Pastor of Bunker Hill.*" The Americans lost the battle that day only because they ran out of ammunition. The British lost more than one thousand troops in a disastrous pyrrhic victory.

Pastor Avery soon became one of General Washington's favorite Chaplains. They had become friends and often dined and traveled together. He also became lifelong friends with Benjamin Franklin. Pastor Avery was there to watch the British abandon Boston, he was present for the Battle of Long Island, he was with Washington during his retreat from New Jersey and during the crossing of the Delaware River and during the excruciating winter of 1776-77 at Valley Forge. He was at the battle of Fort Ticonderoga, the battle of Bennington and assisted Washington in exposing Benedict Arnold and capturing his accomplice. All during these events he was acting in the capacity of a musket-shooting Chaplain who also ministered to the wounded and dying after the battles. There was no way the British could have handled hundreds of black-robed men like this with their determination and courageous dedication to God. It was a total mismatch!

## FIVE: The Story of Pastor Peter Muhlenberg

This is the final article in a series remembering the role of the “*Black Regiment*” in the history of America. The bible says that liberty comes from the presence of God (2 Corinthians 3:17) and it was liberty that the people of America wanted with all their hearts. If we are open to giving God the credit for the creation of this exceptional country, it follows that He would assign a seemingly impossible role to the people who were leading and nurturing His churches. And, by the end of the Revolutionary War, it was the British military and King George himself who blamed America’s black-robed Pastors for the loss of their colonies.



How could pastors have made such an impact? To start with they provided Bible-based morality for opposing British authority which reassured average American Christians that revolution was justified in the sight of God. Pastors were also the most effective at recruiting troops for the militias and for General Washington’s regular army. And, it was they as well who led their people into the battles by day and ministered to the wounded and dying at night. It was indeed the “*Black Regiment*” that held the new country together until American military capability could grow enough to get the ultimate victory over the strongest military power in the world.

This week we remember one of the most famous of the “*Black Regiment*,” Peter Muhlenberg who became the pastor of *Emmanuel Lutheran Church* in Woodstock, Virginia in 1772 at the age of 25. Christian historians say he not only taught his congregation what the Bible says about salvation but also what it says about liberty. He preached that liberty is a God-given right

and that it was the responsibility of government to protect and defend that right for its people.

In 1774, Pastor Muhlenberg was elected to the *Virginia House of Burgesses* where he became friends with Patrick Henry and George Washington. The patriot preachers of that day saw no contradiction in mixing politics and religion as the Lord led. Consequently, Pastor Muhlenberg was present in St. John's Church in Richmond, Virginia on Thursday, March 23, 1775 for Patrick Henry's famous "*give me liberty or give me death*" speech. From the moment of his friend's passionate speech, Pastor Muhlenberg began preparing for a major change in his life.

On January 12, 1776 General Washington made him a Colonel over the just-authorized 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment of the Continental Army. On Sunday morning January 21, Pastor Muhlenberg came to his pulpit to deliver a farewell sermon. The church was filled with an overflow crowd because of great anticipation that something momentous was about to happen. At the end of his impassioned message, he removed his black robe to reveal his new Colonel's uniform and stepped down from the pulpit to greet the people. That day almost 300 men enlisted under his banner and followed this special Pastor into history.

He became one of the most effective officers in the Continental Army rising to the rank of Major General and becoming a courageous member of General Washington's inner circle. He led many men into many battles where they always fought bravely and tenaciously. One battle in particular is historical. The Continental Army had trapped British General Cornwallis in Yorktown, Virginia with the help of the French Navy. Ultimately, it was General Muhlenberg's troops that broke through the key British defensive position leading to their surrender on October 19, 1781 and the effective end of the Revolutionary War. General Muhlenberg became a celebrated war hero and though he never returned to the Pulpit, his story represents the very essence of the "*Black Regiment*" and American exceptionalism.

# Postscript to Part One

*The FREEDOM that we enjoy today has its roots firmly planted in the early American Church and its ministers. The following report has been excerpted from an article on the Website of WALLBUILDERS, a Christian ministry located in Aledo, Texas. Their website: [www.wallbuilders.com](http://www.wallbuilders.com).*

*Also, following is the link to the entire exact article from which these comments have been excerpted:*

*<http://nationalblackroberegiment.com/history-of-the-black-robe-regiment/#>*

*If you want to know the TRUTH about American history and the role of the Church in our founding and development, you will do yourself a favor by becoming familiar with the great ministry of Wallbuilders.*

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## **THE BLACK ROBED REGIMENT**

The Black Robed Regiment was the name that the British placed on the courageous and patriotic American clergy during the Founding Era (a backhanded reference to the black robes they wore). Significantly, the British blamed the Black Regiment for American Independence, and rightfully so, for modern historians have documented that:

*There is not a right asserted in the Declaration of Independence which had not been discussed by the New England clergy before 1763.*

It is strange to today's generation to think that the rights listed in the *Declaration of Independence* were nothing more than a listing of sermon topics that had been preached from the pulpit in the two decades leading up to the American Revolution, but such was the case.

But it was not just the British who saw the American pulpit as largely responsible for American independence and government, our own leaders agreed. For example, John Adams rejoiced that “the pulpits have thundered” and specifically identified several ministers as being among the “characters the most conspicuous, the most ardent, and influential” in the “awakening and a revival of American principles and feelings” that led to American independence.

The American clergy were faithful exponents of the fullness of God's Word, applying its principles to every aspect of life, thus shaping America's institutes and culture. They were also at the forefront of proclaiming liberty, resisting tyranny, and opposing any encroachments on God-given rights and freedoms.

But the ministers during the Revolutionary period were not necessarily unique; they were simply continuing what ministers had been doing to shape American government and culture in the century and a half preceding the Revolution.

History demonstrates that America's elective governments, her educational system, and many other positive aspects of American life and culture were the product of Biblical-thinking Christian clergy and leaders. Today, however, as the influence of the clergy has waned, many of these institutions have come under unprecedented attack and many of our traditional freedoms have been significantly eroded. It is time for America's clergy to

understand and reclaim the important position of influence they have been given. As the Rev. Charles Finney – a leader of the Second Great Awakening – reminded ministers in his day:

*Brethren, our preaching will bear its legitimate fruits. If immorality prevails in the land, the fault is ours in a great degree. If there is a decay of conscience, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the public press lacks moral discrimination, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the church is degenerate and worldly, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the world loses its interest in religion, the pulpit is responsible for it. If Satan rules in our halls of legislation, the pulpit is responsible for it. If our politics become so corrupt that the very foundations of our government are ready to fall away, the pulpit is responsible for it. Let us not ignore this fact, my dear brethren; but let us lay it to heart, and be thoroughly awake to our responsibility in respect to the morals of this nation.*

It is time to reinvigorate the Black Robed Regiment!

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***PART TWO:***  
**PROTECTING THE GIFT OF  
FREEDOM**

## INTRODUCTION TO PART TWO

As I am editing this little book in June 2020, our country has begun its re-emergence from a worldwide pandemic and the related economic shutdown. In the beginning there was a lot of fear because of the unknown and strategies were adopted that had never been tried before. Indeed, the people of America agreed to give up many of their fundamental freedoms for an unspecified period of time without submitting anything to a vote and without knowing what the recovery program would look like or when it would happen. Americans were at first amazingly docile in the face of a new disease that nobody had any experience with including the medical community.

It wasn't very long though before the fear began to subside. A basic understanding of how to deal with Covid-19 had set in and the people saw well before our government officials that they would be able to deal with it on their own using common sense and personal health management. Unfortunately, the new restrictions imposed by local governmental agencies blocked the way for those who felt safe to resume a more normal lifestyle and they are being retracted reluctantly.

There are some huge lessons to be learned about freedom from the Covid-19 experience:

- No freedom should be surrendered without the close scrutiny of the public and a date-certain termination or review date.
- The risks related to the loss of freedom and an economic shutdown are worse than the risks of the pandemic disease.
- Once surrendered, freedom is difficult to recover because of strong resistance from those who relish the control of others.
- Freedom is a gift from God to be protected at all costs. Even the slightest loss of freedom should be a last resort.

One of the most interesting things about our loss of freedom this year is that the people who refuse to obey police officers and who riot in our streets and who destroy personal property and who demand that we “defund” our police communities are in the same camp with the people who are the most reluctant to return our freedoms to us.

The following special articles have appeared in the *Hood County News* and various other publications on several occasions over the past several years well before the Covid-29 panic attack. As you will see, they are even more relevant now for the second half of 2020 than they have ever been. How much of our former freedoms will be PERMANENTLY lost for the future because of our fear during the first half of 2020?

# ONE:

## The Origin of Freedom

July is FREEDOM month in America and it's wonderful to live in a FREE country. But have you ever thought about where our freedom came from? The Bible says Freedom was God's idea and that Jesus came so all people could be free. Moreover, it says that knowing the TRUTH is what sets us free (John 8:32), that Jesus is the TRUTH (John 14:6) and that wherever His SPIRIT is present there's FREEDOM (2 Corinthians 3:17).

We tend to think of FREEDOM as a political thing. But governments and people by their nature will eventually work toward the control of society and the suppression of freedom. History confirms this and what it also confirms is that the ONLY way to avoid an ultimate destiny of bondage is by having God involved in the process of ongoing governance as much as possible. No, real freedom can ONLY come from the presence of God, not because I say so but because the Bible says it.

The folks who started our country must surely have been some of the wisest people who ever walked the planet. Many of them had grown up during the *First Great Awakening* (1730-1755) and had learned about true freedom from their Pastors. At the time though, they were living under an English monarchy that was progressively suppressing their freedom and they weren't all that happy about it. In other words, their rulers were operating in a way that contradicted their understanding of Scripture and the

teachings of their churches which they felt they were entitled to enjoy.

That our founders were wise is universally accepted. But how did they become so wise? They wanted to do something that had never been done before which was to set up a system of governance that wasn't a theocracy but was based on biblical principles. They wanted a system that would provide order but not trample on the inalienable rights of their constituency. Men would place themselves voluntarily under the authority of the Word of God and use that as a foundation for freely selecting their leaders and governing themselves. Most of the founders were Christian believers and their wisdom came straight from the Word Himself.

They concluded that the new type of government they wanted would include protections against their natural tendencies to usurp God-given freedom. They did the best they could. They based the *Declaration of Independence* and our *Constitution* on biblical principles. But as the decades and centuries go by, the involvement of God in our governance has gradually declined and people are reverting back to their natural tendencies.

But there's good news to be shared. The Bible says that whomever the Son sets free is free indeed (John 6:36). In other words, no matter what happens, the true Christian believer has been set free from sin, death, fear, emotional problems, worry, anxiety, the Adversary, addictions and a host of other things that want to put us in bondage. Indeed, the true believer has been recreated in the image of God and the nature of God is freedom.

Here's the sequence: believe in Jesus → continue in His Word → know the truth → receive your freedom. This will work every single time! But it's the ONLY way to the real FREEDOM of God that our founders used to build a new country.

# **TWO:**

## **The Blessing of Freedom**

In the previous article, we saw that according to the Bible, ALL Freedom comes from God (2 Corinthians 3:17). Sometimes we take for granted that FREEDOM is one of the great blessings in life that He makes available to those who're willing to receive it, take care of it, defend it, and enjoy it. Among other things, people can use it for making a FREE choice to accept OR reject the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Contrary to popular belief, true biblical Christianity is NOT about pressuring people to accept Jesus, because God as the originator of freedom doesn't work that way.

Have you ever noticed that the freer a country is the more prosperous it seems to become? Another way of saying that is, the freer the country the more closely connected it is to God. We're living in the freest country that's ever existed, and it's also the most PROSPEROUS. By the way, prosperity is a bible word mentioned ninety times there as a BLESSING from God.

Biblical PROSPERITY is closely related to a particular economic system called FREE Enterprise. When FREE Enterprise is grounded in biblical principles, it will ALWAYS be successful and out perform any other economic system ever attempted. But it operates at its best in an

environment of universal FREEDOM that can only come from the presence of God. Enterprise without God isn't really free.

PROSPERITY didn't come to us because we were smarter than the rest of the world or because we have more natural resources or because the rest of the world is lazy. No, the driving forces behind American success have been RELIGIOUS FREEDOM and the Christian Bible. We have been FREE to apply ourselves as we want to, believe as we want to and live our lives as we want to BECAUSE we've been willing to involve the Lord of the Bible in our governance. He's the One who makes FREEDOM available to people. In fact, when left to ourselves, we-the-people will ALWAYS work toward restricting freedom so we can control others. God has to stay involved or people on their own will eventually ruin everything.

Until recently, average family income in the US had been declining for decades. Employment had also been decreasing. Is it possible that these things were the predictable result of efforts by many Americans to reduce the involvement of God in our culture? According to the Bible, He doesn't want His involvement reduced but He allows it to happen if that's what people want. All we have to do is reduce religious freedom by restricting God's involvement in our way of life. Of course, when we do that, the purity of the FREE Enterprise system becomes corrupted which causes PROSPERITY and blessing to decline.

The bottom line is if we want our country to preserve its historical PROSPERITY, there's a strong argument to be made for defending FREEDOM. Even for those who don't

like bible-based Christianity, the facts of history are irrefutable: FREEDOM prospers. Even for the many who would choose to use their freedom to reject Jesus, they would be way better off economically to support bible-based governance anyway because it's the ONLY road that ever leads to real economic blessing.

# THREE:

## The Stewardship of Freedom

As you now know from previous articles, the Bible says freedom was God's idea and that Jesus came so all people could be free. To reiterate it clearly says that knowing the TRUTH is what sets us free (John 8:32), that Jesus is the TRUTH (John 14:6) and that wherever His SPIRIT is present, there's FREEDOM (2 Corinthians 3:17).

The folks who started our country must surely have been some of the wisest people who ever walked the planet. Many of them had grown up during the *First Great Awakening* (1730-1755) and had learned from their Pastors that true freedom comes ONLY from God. At the same time, they were living under an English monarchy that was progressively suppressing their freedom. So, they concluded that the new type of government they wanted would be based on biblical principles and would include protections against the natural tendencies of governments and people to usurp God-given freedom.

Today we see many of our freedoms being threatened just as those wise forefathers predicted would happen if we ever took God out of governance. Part of our problem is that we've failed to fully acknowledge that all real freedom DOES

come from Him. And like all His gifts, it was given with a responsibility on our part to protect it from any influences that would try to destroy it. The truth is, we protect what we value; and if we aren't protecting our freedom today, isn't that most likely the result of NOT valuing this precious gift as we should?

How we use God's gifts is called STEWARDSHIP. A steward is someone appointed to manage and be responsible for something that belongs to another person. The Bible says everything belongs to God which makes all of us stewards over His belongings. Freedom is one of those belongings. He's made it available to us and as good stewards we should value it because of where it came from.

We're instructed to take care of it so it can produce its assigned purpose. Everything God says and does has a related purpose. The PURPOSE of God's freedom is to create an environment where the Gospel can be FREELY communicated so that everyone will have a fair chance to FREELY accept or reject Christ.

Someday Christian believers will be asked to account for our assignments. How did we handle the FREEDOM God gave us in this special country of ours? Did we value it and give it a high priority? Did we pray for it and for the leaders called to implement it? Did we vote responsibly to celebrate the authority God has given us to participate in the selection of our own leaders? Did we defend our FREEDOM in the face of those who would do it harm? Did we use it wisely so that those coming behind us will be assured of being able to hear the Gospel?

To God, Freedom is a really big deal. And so is being a good steward. What will we be able to say when Jesus asks us some day what we did with His FREEDOM? Were we good and faithful stewards of it or were we unrighteous stewards (Luke 16:1-13)?

# **FOUR:**

## **The Pursuit of Freedom**

This is the fourth in a series of articles about FREEDOM in America. In previous articles we discussed that according to the Bible, ALL Freedom comes from God. In fact, its very existence requires His presence (2 Corinthians 3:17). Further, we concluded that God's BEST for people is that we live in FREEDOM so that people are able to freely accept OR reject the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Whatever God makes available is something everyone should eagerly PURSUE because EVERYTHING He gives is GOOD. Certainly, FREEDOM is one of those GOOD things that ALL people desire. And historically, the ones who've experienced it the most are the ones who've encouraged God's involvement. When God is directing things, FREEDOM will always be one of the attending benefits. Along the way, people will have to resist the temptation to restrict His involvement which He WILL allow us to do if that's our choice even though the consequence will ALWAYS be the loss of FREEDOM.

Surely in the history of the world, the special people who led the founding of America understood this relationship better than anybody ever has. One of the main things that

defined them was that many were coming out of one of the great Christian revivals in history called the *First Great Awakening* that occurred between about 1730 and 1755. Millions were saved and a revamped Christianity emerged that focused more on the divine destiny of individuals.

One of the facts in our history is that during the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the American clergy took a leading role in RESISTING the unrighteous authority of the English Monarchy. They understood the biblical principle that FREEDOM could only come to a country by way of a healthy relationship with God on a national level and they boldly taught this idea to their congregations. The British themselves said after the Revolutionary War that had it not been for the influence of the “*Black Robed Regiment*,” they would not have lost. The historical truth is, many pastors and ministers fought the enemy in the field LEADING the members of their congregations into battle. They considered that the PURSUIT of individual freedom was worth it, a gift of great value from God that required His involvement and their direct, hands-on leadership.

That’s why biblical principles are at the core of our founding documents for all to see. It’s also why the various personal writings both public and private of our Founding Fathers warned against ever trying to remove God from government. Did you know that President George Washington dedicated America to God on April 30, 1789 during his inauguration speech in New York City? Historians say that only two countries in history have been so dedicated by their principal government leaders: the United States and Israel.

In sum, FREEDOM and the presence of God ALWAYS go together. They are inseparable. Even though some folks

may try to revise history, the truth is what it is: there were those in 1776 who knew the value of freedom, knew that it came from Christ and were willing to PURSUE it at the risk of losing personal possessions and life itself. Against all odds, they were willing to PURSUE God's best for their new country and RESIST the greatest military presence in the world. And they won!

# **Five:**

## **The Value of Freedom**

Today (Memorial Day) is a good day to be thankful for our FREEDOM. That's because true God-given FREEDOM has great value, something to be honored and esteemed even if many of us take it for granted. Surely though, we can be thankful today that for more than two hundred years, Americans have been the freest people who ever lived.

The most important thing about true and lasting FREEDOM is that it's always accompanied by the presence of God (2 Corinthians 3:17). That's what makes it so desirable. On the other hand, people are incapable of originating true FREEDOM. We can only restrict and diminish it. Our natural human tendency is to dominate other humans to bring them into servitude and bondage. That's why the six-thousand-year history of the planet has so few examples of FREEDOM among its nations.

Occasionally people have tried to institute freedom without God, but it didn't last. Human-designed freedom is too fragile, an imitation incapable of enduring. But whatever God makes has within its nature the forces of perfection and eternity. God doesn't make temporary things. However,

they only endure as long as He continues to be present with them.

Once established though, true FREEDOM will never be abandoned by God. It will ALWAYS be people separating it from His presence that cause its failure. People who love God know better than to try to take over the operation of His special gifts. They're too valuable to tamper with. But unfortunately, most people don't know God.

In fact, many people think they can increase the value of God-made FREEDOM by adding manmade values to it. God's FREEDOM isn't fair enough, it's not equitable or tolerant enough, it's not correct enough and it's too religious. In fact, the presence of God makes some people feel uncomfortable so let's denigrate those who talk about Him so everyone can feel more comfortable with some better freedom than the one God gives.

But, the FREEDOM of God is something of unmatched value. People down through the ages have longed for it, but in the end when it was offered, they didn't want the One who comes with it. His presence is what makes it so valuable. True FREEDOM and the Presence of God are inseparable and that's the essence of it.

Christians should know this. We should know that true FREEDOM is a special gift from God to be honored and held in high esteem. That's why it's hard to understand how almost 50% of professing American Christians aren't registered to vote. It's hard to understand how only half of registered Christians actually do vote. And it's hard to understand how half of the ones who do vote align themselves with unbiblical agendas that work against God's

FREEDOM. The fact is, it's our responsibility to preserve God's FREEDOM to protect the ones who don't know any better for as long as we can.

When something is perceived to have great value, the proper response is genuine gratitude. We can show our appreciation by honoring and esteeming it and by thanking the One who loved us enough to make it available. We can also stop tampering with it acknowledging that it isn't possible to improve it.

Indeed friend, there's no such thing as secular FREEDOM. It will never work and it won't endure. But the FREEDOM God gives has great value that will last forever. That's why today's a good day to be grateful.

# **Six:**

## **The Defense of Freedom**

This is the final article in a series about FREEDOM in America. Previously we saw that according to the Bible, ALL Freedom comes from God and its very existence requires His presence (2 Corinthians 3:17). So, we concluded that God's intention for all people is that we live in FREEDOM. The truth of history is that the people and the nations that've been the FREEST are the ones that were able to develop and hold onto a close relationship with God.

FREEDOM is a condition that all people naturally desire, so much so that sometimes we're willing to put at risk the things that are most important to us in order to obtain and hold onto it. During the Revolutionary War, there were more than 50,000 American casualties from 1776 to 1783 as our forefathers fought against the world's mightiest military force in pursuit of an opportunity to try a system of governance based on the principles of Bible-based FREEDOM. The odds were against them. Tens of thousands of colonists faced imprisonment and the loss of their estates or execution as traitors if England had prevailed. But for them, just the possibility of such FREEDOM was worth the risk.

Once real FREEDOM has been obtained though, it has to be DEFENDED or it will deteriorate and eventually be lost. There are always people who want to control other people because that's our nature. Many of those same folks don't like God very much and resent FREEDOM because it's God-given. Out of this comes the same question America faced in 1776: is FREEDOM important enough to risk everything?

If our answer is yes, then it's vital to understand what has to be done in DEFENSE of something so desirable yet so fragile:

1. Because we have FREEDOM, God allows us to participate in the process of establishing our own leadership. So, we have the vital responsibility of voting. Yet half of professing Christians in America aren't even registered to vote. And on average half of registered Christians don't turn out to vote.
2. Not only should Christians vote, but we should also do whatever's necessary to be INFORMED voters. Then we should vote according to what's best for the Kingdom of God, not our personal agendas or the agendas of our political affiliations, but the Kingdom's agenda.
3. What's best for the Kingdom of God is what the Bible says is best. So, to be a defender of freedom, we need to study our Bibles so we know what God's priorities are. Sometimes Christians vote with values in mind that haven't come from a righteous source and if we don't vote with God in mind then the consequence will eventually be loss of freedom.

4. Finally, a successful DEFENSE requires that we stand for Truth as defined by God. When people try to take away our freedom, we have to RESIST the loss of such a valuable possession. If we don't RESIST, if we don't take a stand for Truth, if we won't DEFEND our FREEDOM even in the face of suffering personal loss, we'll gradually lose this wonderful, special gift from God.

Jesus said to seek first the Kingdom of God in all things. Thus, what's best for the Kingdom should be what guides us in all things. We'll either do our part with God's help to DEFEND our FREEDOM or gradually lose a precious gift God intends for us to possess and enjoy forever.

# Seven:

## A New Appreciation (2021)

Most people believe that freedom comes from governments: sometimes they let us have some and other times they take it away. Nevertheless, even though it may seem that way, it isn't a fully accurate depiction. Indeed, the truth according to your Bible is that all freedom comes from God. And yes, governments do take some of it away at times which means that whatever freedom they "*give*" to us comes out of what they previously took away. It already belongs to us. God gave it to us in Christ but some people it seems are determined to take it away.

For example, the Pandemic has been a time when varying amounts of freedom have been taken away. It became a lower priority in our country than certain other concerns even though freedom is one of the most precious gifts ever given to mankind. The loss of freedom on top of our confrontation with sickness and death made life particularly difficult in 2020 and we've come through all that now to the other side only to find out that the freedoms that were given up don't just automatically come back to us.

Folks who study their bibles know that all people are born with a sin nature defined as a natural tendency toward sin. In fact, we can't help but sin which is why we need a Messiah to rescue us from what we would otherwise become. Unfortunately, part of that residual tendency wants to control other people so that we can feel better about ourselves and the farther any of us are away from God, the harder we try to control others and make them conform to our ways of thinking and doing things.

We're presently having to watch people across our country fight to get their freedoms back. We elect our governors and local administrators to "serve" the people they represent. But pride gets in the way for a bunch of them and they become potentates who are reluctant to give back the "power" that people have given up. When control is at stake, science and actual experience and reason are ignored or circumvented, or redefined or overruled so that potentates can maintain their power. *"Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely."*

So, here is my take-away from the Pandemic experience: I have seen that freedom once given up is difficult to regain which has given me a new appreciation for preserving and protecting something so precious that only God can give any of it. Freedom is up there just under salvation in my list of priorities. Don't try to make me to wear your mask. Explain why I ought to wear one and I will make up my own mind. Forget about forcing me to take your vaccine. Give me your point of view but I will make my own decision and whether I take it or not is none of your business! And don't try shutting down my Church ever again! I'm just saying: DON'T DO IT!

I have a new appreciation for freedom and it's my job to watch over what God has given me and be a good steward. I'm now on guard watching out for those who WILL try to come steal some! How about you?

# Epilogue

*The following article has been excerpted with permission from the publishers of the book: "The Truth About Open Borders." It documents that President George Washington dedicated this country to God following his inauguration as our first President.*

Secular people try so hard to exclude God from the things they want to do. But He just won't cooperate. He goes ahead and does whatever He wants to and then let's the truth be the truth. They try to revise it all the time: discredit the real truth not accepting that it's absolute. And then they substitute a counterfeit truth that most people know doesn't seem quite right. Anyway, I have been amused when such "intelligent" and worldly-wise people care so much about what the truth says that they have to do whatever they can to try to discredit it.

An example of this that I wanted to bring up in this little book about our borders involves the never-ending discussion over what George Washington actually did say, and meant to say, in his inaugural address on April 30, 1783 and whether he was really a committed Christian or some other kind of religious person. This is an important point that bears on the border issue.

There are at least three problems secular historians encounter when they try to reinterpret historical Christian truth from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The first is that they have no real understanding of how Christianity works so their representations of it bear the errors of their ignorance. Secondly, they go into it with a bias that refuses to acknowledge the clear evidence that almost all of our founding fathers were bible-believing Christians which results in demonstrably wrong conclusions. And thirdly, the manner of speaking back then is hard to understand especially if you aren't grounded in the related subject.

Here's the situation: when George Washington was inaugurated that day as our first President, he made a speech in New York City. In it, he clearly connected this new country to God but secular historians stubbornly refuse to see it that way. They persist in saying it had to have been some secular thing he said because George Washington wasn't a true Christian believer defying the clear evidence to the contrary. Here's what he actually said followed by my "translation" to modern English, you be the judge:

#### What he said:

*"No people can be found to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than those of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency..."*

*"It would be peculiarly improper to omit in this first official act my fervent supplications to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States a Government instituted by themselves for these essential purposes."*

#### Modern Translation:

*No people on the earth love God more than the people of the United States. Indeed, every step they have taken in the creation of this new independent nation seems to have been a result of a providential plan of God.*

*Therefore, in my first official act it would be improper of me to neglect asking the almighty Ruler of the Universe, who presides over all nations of the earth and whose power can cure every human defect, to bless this new government with a lasting dedication to the purposes that the*

*people have themselves instituted which are freedom and happiness for all.*

Is it not obvious that President George Washington acknowledged that the creation of the United States of America was part of a providential plan of God? Is it not also obvious that the new President asked God to empower (bless) the new government with a continuing dedication to the fulfillment of the specific purposes the people had derived for themselves under that providential plan? If these things are true, then America is the only democratic country in the history of the world whose primary leader dedicated it to the plans and purposes of Creator God. It is our connection to God that makes us an exceptional country and the launch place for the Great Commission to disciple the nations.

If indeed the creation of the United States of America was part of God's providential plan, then its borders have been set by Him like no other country in history. Tamper with our borders at your own risk! God has a plan and purpose for this country that relies on established borders. And, His plan WILL be carried out exactly as He wants it to be.

And by the way, in case you aren't sure about the Christianity of George Washington, I offer as irrefutable evidence the following single entry among many in his private Prayer Journal:

***Monday Morning:***

***“Direct my thoughts, words and work. Wash away my sins in the immaculate blood of the lamb, and purge my heart by thy Holy Spirit, from the dross of my natural corruption, that I may with more freedom of mind and liberty***

*of will serve thee, the everlasting God, in righteous-ness and holiness this day, and all the days of my life.*

*“Increase my faith in the sweet promises of the Gospel. Give me repentance from dead works. Pardon my wanderings, & direct my thoughts unto thyself, the God of my salvation. Teach me how to live in thy fear, labor in thy service, and ever to run in the ways of thy commandments. Make me always watchful over my heart, that neither the terrors of conscience, the loathing of holy duties, the love of sin, nor an unwillingness to depart this life, may cast me into a spiritual slumber. **But daily frame me more and more into the likeness of thy son Jesus Christ, that living in thy fear, and dying in thy favor, I may in thy appointed time attain the resurrection of the just unto eternal life.***

*Bless my family, friends & kindred unite us all in praising & glorifying thee in all our works begun, continued, and ended, when we shall come to make our last account before thee blessed Saviour, who hath taught us thus to pray, our Father.”*

From the Private Prayer Journal of:  
President George Washington

*You can find more information about the book “The Truth About Open Borders” at the following website:*

[https://www.amazon.com/Truth-About-Open-Borders/dp/1725799065/ref=tmm\\_pap\\_swatch\\_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&srf=](https://www.amazon.com/Truth-About-Open-Borders/dp/1725799065/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&srf=)

# Receive Jesus as Your Lord and Savior

Choosing to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior is the most important and the most favorable decision you will ever make.

The Bible, which is the Word of God, promises that if you will sincerely believe in Jesus, believe that God raised Him from the grave and then allow Him to take over your life as Lord you will be saved. You don't have to DO anything; you just have to decide to believe and let Him take over.

God has already forgiven everyone on the planet for their sins. BUT in order to be saved, we're required to RECEIVE His forgiveness by believing in Jesus and trusting Him to lead us into the future.

A good way to confirm your decision is to say the following prayer out loud:

*Jesus, I declare today that I believe in you with all my heart and that I am making you my Lord and Savior. I believe that God raised you from the dead and I thank you that all my sins have been forgiven. I also declare today my intention to study your Word so I can become your disciple and live my life according to your leading. Thank you for eternal life.*

According to the Bible, the very instant that you commit your life to Jesus, you are born again into His likeness as a totally new person and a part of the family of God!

# Receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Once you become a child of God, your loving heavenly Father wants to give you a supernatural empowerment so that you can live the exciting new life He has in mind for you. According to the Bible, all you have to do is ask Him for it and then believe that you receive it the same way you believed that you received salvation and eternal life when you simply asked Him for them.

Just pray the following way and believe:

*Father God, I recognize my need for Your power to live this new life the way You want me to. I acknowledge that when I was born again, I received your Holy Spirit to dwell in me and I ask you for the full release of His power which I now receive as an act of faith according to the promise in Your Word.*

That's all it takes to receive the fullness of God's super-natural power and now that it has come upon you, some syllables from a language you don't recognize will begin to rise up from your inner person and into your mouth (1 Corinthians 14:14). As you speak them out loud by faith, you'll be releasing God's power from within and it will strengthen you (1 Corinthians 14:4).

The Bible calls this "*Speaking in Tongues*" and you can do this whenever and wherever you choose. When you speak this way, direct them to God in the form of a prayer and even though you may not understand what you are saying, God WILL understand because it will be the Holy Spirit within you giving the utterances you're speaking.

# **The Author**



**Dr. Bill Miller**

# About the Author

Dr. Bill Miller is an ordained cross-denominational minister, elder and the founder of a national nonprofit Christian organization called *Make A Way Ministries*.

He has been involved in family counseling and teaching since 1985 and has assisted tens of thousands of families in the area of overcoming financial problems.

He also pastored the bilingual (English/Spanish) *Faith Life Fellowship Church* in Miami Florida.

Dr. Miller has published a bible-based financial e-newsletter called *Prosperous Life Newsletter* since January 1998 and has written more than 30 books about various financial, administrative and ministry topics.

You will find a number of his books on Amazon.com under the search term: Dr. Bill Miller or by going to his author page at this link:

[https://www.amazon.com/Dr-Bill-Miller/e/B076CTVSTR?ref=sr\\_ntt\\_srch\\_lnk\\_4&qid=1558452911&sr=8-4](https://www.amazon.com/Dr-Bill-Miller/e/B076CTVSTR?ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_4&qid=1558452911&sr=8-4)

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## ***Books by Dr. Bill Miller***

### ***Ministry:***

*Narrow is the Gate: An Introduction to the Christian Religion  
Spirit Led Christian*

*The Power of a Grateful Heart (Spring 2021)*

*New Testament Power for the End Times (June 2021)*

*Prosperity School...Straight from the Bible*

### ***Christianity and Politics:***

*Border Truth...Straight from the Bible*

*The Truth about Socialism (TBD)*

*The Truth about Social Justice (TBD)*

*The Truth about Political Correctness (TBD)*

### ***History:***

*An Inauspicious Hero...The Story of Sumner Bacon*

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*Policy Administration in the Local Church*

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*Deacon Operating and Policy Manual*

*Policy Manual for the Children's Ministry*

*New Members Teaching Guide for the Local Church*



*"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, **Liberty** and the pursuit of Happiness."*