

# Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## How is FREEDOM working for you, America?

(Jerry Fite)

At the age of 26, Frenchman Alexis de Toqueville absorbed American life for ten months in 1831-1832. He documented his experiences and reactions in a four-volume work titled, “Democracy in America” with volume one being published in 1835. As a representative of France, sent to examine the institution of prison in America, he left reflecting upon the influence of religion.

He believed religion “*should be considered the first*” among America’s “*political institutions*,” concluding it was necessary for Americans to “*maintain Christianity...at all cost.*”

Fast forward to 1965. “Progressive” political thought reached a pinnacle moment with President Lydon Johnson voicing humanistic thought. At the University of Michigan, he proudly declared, “*It is a place where the city of man serves not only the needs of the body and the demands of commerce but the desires for beauty and the hunger for community.*” American leadership had embraced the “city of man,” not the city or community of God as blessing America.

When sodomy laws were still on the books in fourteen states, the test case of Lawrence

V. Texas reached the Supreme Court. In 2003, a 6-3 vote was cast to legalize private sexual intercourse between two consenting adults of the same sex. Sodomy laws had become archaic in modern America.

Anthony Kennedy in his “majority opinion,” wrote, “*The heart of liberty is the right to define one’s own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life.*”

“Progressivism” today believes the Bible and religion is too archaic to keep up with modern scientific breakthroughs influencing modern life. A two-thousand -year- old *religion* based upon a first century *revelation* are both obsolete in “progressive” minds, who believe they know best how America can obtain happiness. The freedom to define one’s own concept of existence is the pursuit for happiness as biological identity, marriage, and the family revealed in and regulated by Scripture is deemed obsolete, and an enemy of modern progress.

God, in His Word, reveals that we have been made free from sin through Jesus Christ. Jesus, in the context of the bondage of sin, declared “*the truth shall make you free*” (John 8:32). That freedom comes to us through the

Gospel or “*the law of the Spirit*,” which continues to regulate righteous conduct through the same revealed Gospel honored as “*the perfect law of liberty*” (Romans 8:2, James 1:25).

God for over 2,000 years has been telling us we were made free from sin “*to serve others*,” not fulfill our own “*fleshly lusts*” (Galatians 5:13, 24). Serving others from the selfless and disciplined heart of *love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, and self-control* has not lost any modernity in blessing others (cf. Galatians 5:22-23).

Modern “progressivism” is seeking to make the Bible irrelevant in modern America. Doing away with sodomy laws, which reflected the Bible’s inspired condemnation of homosexuality, was not enough to make progressives happy, but it had to define “marriage” as well, contradicting marriage as being between male and female (cf. Romans 1:26, Genesis 2:24). Are women athletes being blessed when competing biological males are free to identify as females contrary to our Creator (Genesis 1:27)? Look out America, “*evil men and imposters wax worse... deceiving and being deceived*,” not freer and happier (2 Timothy 3:13)!