

# NEWSBYTES

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“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

## Why Does Our Civilization Choose The Servitude Of Communism Instead Of Liberty?

By **Hal Lindsey**

July 16, 2024



During the US presidential campaign of 1960, John Kennedy would sometimes end his speeches with a particularly moving Abraham Lincoln quote. In Towson, Maryland, September 16th, Kennedy presented it like this. “During the campaign of 1860, Lincoln wrote to a friend, ‘I know there is a God and that He hates

injustice. I see the storm coming and I know His hand is in it.

If He has a place and a part for me, I believe that I am ready.” Kennedy continued, “Now, 100 years later, we know there is a God and that He hates injustice, and we see the storm coming. But if He has a place and a part for us, I believe we are ready.”

He used the quote again in Cleveland a few days later. This time after presenting the Lincoln quote, he made his point even more clear. “Now, 100 years later... the issue is not whether this Nation will exist half slave or half free, but whether the world will.”

In those red-hot days of cold war, the slavery of communism encroached on more and more of the world. The liberal Democrat from Massachusetts made its defeat central to his presidential campaign. Like his Republican friend and political opponent, Richard Nixon, Kennedy had a long history of working against communism.

You can take a cynical point of view and say, “In those days, it was just good politics to fight the commies.” Maybe so. But why then and not now? What changed? Why is communism with its godless rule of an elite few, taught unabashedly on American campuses? Why do the most capitalistic organizations on earth — American corporations — give obedience as well as millions of dollars to organizations run by avowed Marxists?

Why does our civilization careen toward servitude instead of liberty? Most thought communism was defeated with the fall of the Soviet Union. But today, it and other totalitarian ideologies are growing everywhere, especially in the United States. The answer boils down to a principle expressed in Proverbs 14:34. “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.”

When explaining the Constitution’s limits in keeping people free, John Adams said, “We have no government, armed with power, capable of contending with human passions, unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge and licentiousness would break the strongest cords of our Constitution, as a whale goes through a net.”

Morality forms the basis of our freedom. A nation that rejects God and His Word, also rejects the dividends of virtue — one of which is liberty. Psalms 119:45 in the New Living Translation says, “I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to your commandments.” 2 Corinthians 3:17 says, “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

Inner bondage to sin destroys societal freedoms. But “the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free” (Galatians 5:1) also extends outward — from individuals to the whole society. It brings with it the fruit of human liberty and human rights.

In his Gettysburg Address, Lincoln spoke of being highly resolved that “this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom.” The key words here are, “under God.” May we who know God highly resolve once again to spread His

Word. Over time, the freedom He brings to individuals adds rights and freedoms to entire nations.

*Hal Lindsey is an author and Bible prophecy teacher who hosts the weekly news and commentary series "The Hal Lindsey Report."*

## PCA votes to launch investigation into Sarah Young's book 'Jesus Calling'

By [Michael Gryboski](#), Mainline Church Editor Thursday, June 13, 2024



The Presbyterian Church in America's 51st General Assembly, held in Richmond, Virginia, on Thursday, June 13, 2024. | The Christian Post

RICHMOND, Va. — The Presbyterian Church in America has approved a resolution to investigate the influence of Sarah Young's book *Jesus Calling* on the denomination and might decide to ban it.

Less than a year after Young died at age 77, commissioners at the PCA General Assembly on Thursday morning voted to approve Overture 33, which called on two denominational agencies to investigate the book.

Specifically, the amended overture called on the Committee on Discipleship Ministries to make a report assessing “the book’s appropriateness for Christians in general” and to “outline its reasons for withdrawing the book from its inventory previously and not offering it for sale since.”

Additionally, the amended overture called on Mission to the World, a PCA missions ministry, to investigate the ministry group’s “relationship with the book” and consider actions that it “and the General Assembly should take in light of this study of the book and of the agency’s relationship to it.”

The final tally was 947 in favor of the overture, 834 against, and 20 abstaining, with most of the commissioners who came up to speak during the debate opposing the proposal.

Jerid Krulish, a teaching elder from Faith Presbyterian Church of Anchorage, Alaska, spoke against the overture, claiming that it was “a fishing expedition” that was “a waste of the committees’ times.”

“This book is a book that, as far as I can tell, no one in the PCA reads. Ninety-nine point nine percent of us had no idea that Sarah Young was even a member of the PCA,” said Krulish. “It is not in use in the PCA; it is not published by any agency of the PCA.”

Pastor Zachary Groff of Antioch Presbyterian Church spoke in favor of the overture, countering that “there are many people in the PCA that I know who read this book, including the wives of ordained teaching and ruling elders.”

“Our committees exist in part to help us, as an assembly, to evaluate things of national import that affect the Church as a whole,” he added. “This book is, perhaps, the bestselling book of any member of the PCA.”

Another supporter of the overture was Teaching Elder Chuck Williams of the Christ the King Chapel in Wesley Chapel, Florida, who argued that the book had had “destructive effects” on a church group he was formerly a part of.

“This book defies the sufficiency of Scripture very clearly,” Williams claimed. “Scripture gives us much warning about people claiming to speak from God when they are not called.”

Stephen Young, the widow of Sarah Young, defended his late wife’s work, telling those gathered that “Sarah was a humble servant of Jesus who did not seek self-glory and prayed for her readers to know and deeply love the only Savior, Jesus Christ.”

“Her writings do not add to Scripture but explain it,” he continued. “She would stand with Martin Luther and declare that her conscience was captive to the Word of God.”

“I humbly ask that you join me in voting down these potentially divisive amendments and thank God for the good fruit that continues to be born through Sarah Young’s books.”

A PCA missionary and author, Young is best known for her book *Jesus Calling*, a 365-day devotional originally released in 2004 that has sold tens of millions of copies and was named “Christian Book of the Year” in 2013 and 2018.

The devotional’s success led to other works under the Jesus Calling brand, including the 2021 prayer devotional *Jesus Listens*, children’s devotionals, Bible storybooks and journals.

The book is not without critics, however. Some have expressed concern about the mystical nature of the devotional and how it could mislead people into thinking they received divine revelation.

“The biggest problem with *Jesus Calling* is very simple: Jesus did not speak these words. If these were His words, then *Jesus Calling* would be Scripture, which is by definition the words of God,” said Christian author Randy Alcorn in a 2018 [critique](#).

"So if it's not (and it isn't) on an inspired and trustworthy level like Scripture itself, then it's making a false claim. In fact, regardless of whether it's biblically sound, it's an entire book built on falsehood."

## Jan Markell: Do We Have Time To Make America Great Again?

July 16, 2024



For now, the whole country has dodged a bullet. God surely had mercy. But will He allow time to make America great again? It's a catchy campaign slogan, but is it reality in light of God's end-time planned scenario?

The Left has a terribly dark heart—driven by the god of this world. And they are driving the out-of-control spirit of the Antichrist that has been unleashed in America and the world. It is the same spirit that invaded Israeli kibbutzim on October 7, 2023. It is merciless.

You have to wonder how half of America will vote for this agenda to continue. How on earth did this happen? Because evil and Leftism control the media, academia, entertainment, and even the religious left.

But is there still time in God's economy to make America great after years of unspeakable wreckage? Have you noticed the calamities throughout the planet that affect all of America's policies?

- The time clock for the end of the Church Age, Israel, is in turmoil.
- The globalists continue to destabilize Europe and shake up European leadership.
- There is currently no one in power whom the world admires. It is, in fact, leaderless.
- There is a longing for a Mr. Fix-It.
- Violence and lawlessness reign.
- Technology—and, specifically artificial intelligence—is taking over everything, just as it will in the Tribulation.

- Hearts are growing cold (Matthew 24:12) as some in America cheer on the violence perpetrated against a presidential candidate.
- Many church pulpits are silent at this time in history; others are riddled with false doctrine, led by wolves.
- There seems to be a love of evil (II Timothy 3:13) as worldwide, people are celebrating anti-Semitic activity and denouncing people who have done nothing but bless the world.
- Gog is preparing to make a move.

These and two dozen more bullet point issues will be difficult to reverse!

We have all been sickened by what we've seen in the last few years. Conservatives are portrayed as deplorables. Trump himself is repeatedly compared to Hitler. Endless rhetoric portrays Christians and conservatives as the fascists from the 1930s. Pro-lifers and Republicans are mocked and vilified as dangerous. The liberal media suggests that you and I will be the end of democracy.

Gov. Mike Huckabee made a profound statement that this near catastrophe—this assassination attempt—is a “spiritual issue.” America has a spiritual problem. It's that spirit of the Antichrist. I think that's what Mike Huckabee sees.

Donald Trump is not the Antichrist. That man is waiting in the wings. And, make no mistake, the globalists are cheering today. They must have instability and uncertainty. They want the world to look to them to provide both.

There is a seven-year period when they will get their wish.

I'm not sure if we can make America great again, or if it is actually time for a trumpet to blow and for this age to wind down. But can you imagine a world that is reeling from a televised assassination attempt to suddenly experience the absence of millions of people?

Is this the one-two punch that is needed for the installation of Daniel's Seventieth Week? Is this a scenario that will push a Mr. Fix-It onto the world stage? Perhaps so. Perhaps today. Are you ready?