

February Edition: Religious Freedom and You

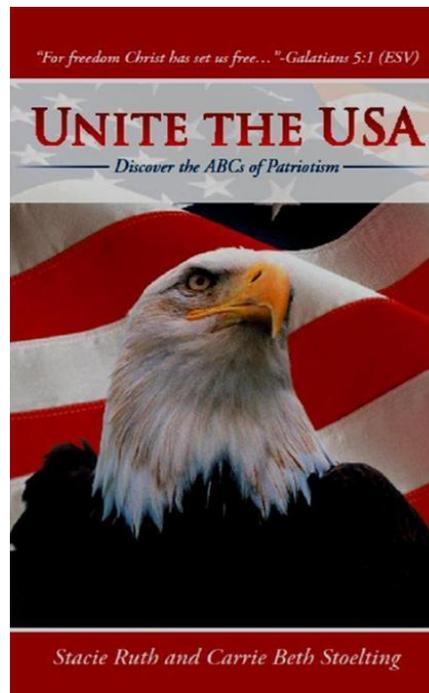


Religious Freedom and You

On our Facebook page, we posted this: "**Just because it's legal doesn't make it right. Refer to the 10 Commandments and Golden Rule first.**" With two sentences, we sought to summarize a lot -including the freedom-stealing situation in Arizona.

Freedom of religion splashed across headlines a lot this week: Governor Jan Brewer vetoed Arizona's religious freedom bill (SB 1062). By vetoing the religious freedom bill, **Governor Brewer stripped religious freedom from Christian and Jewish business owners.** In essence, it forces Christians and Jewish people to either do something (i.e. performing and contributing to a wedding ceremony that goes against their beliefs) or risk being sued and going out of business.

Unite the USA -The Book



Arizona is one of the best pro-2nd Amendment states. Sadly, Gov. Jan Brewer missed the target yesterday as she vetoed a pro-1st Amendment bill. The 2nd Amendment cannot work well without the 1st Amendment. We need both religious freedom and the right to bear arms in order to maintain all freedoms in our country.

Peace through strength and love of God and neighbor. That prevents violence...

Whatever happened to that common sense approach? Across America, one of the basic rights protected in the First Amendment is being violated and Christian and Jewish people are especially being singled out. Many of us are being threatened or sued due to our religious beliefs.

As Christians, we may disagree with other people's viewpoints, but we still respect them as fellow human beings and American citizens. The militant pro-homosexual community does not respect us. The U.S. Constitution applies to everyone -and that includes Christian people and Jewish people, too. With that said, if we don't have the freedom of our own conscience and religion, then we are not really free -- period.

We're featuring an article called *So Much for the Right of Conscience* by Dr. Jerry Newcombe. You will be enlightened by quotes he shared by Presidents George Washington and Thomas Jefferson and Alveda King (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s niece).

Learn what you can do about this: Check out our new book (*Unite the USA: Discover the ABCs of Patriotism*) which addresses this very issue and what you can do about it.

We all must continue to keep praying and keep on keeping on. When it comes to protecting and reclaiming our freedoms, we have no choice: *We must not give up! We must not give in. With God, we must march on! Amen?*

In closing, let us embrace the truth in Psalm 33:22.

Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth Stoelting have written a new book called

Unite the USA: Discover the ABCs of Patriotism. Learn how you can make a positive difference in America.

Leaders such as Rick Santorum have been sharing about *Unite the USA*. Get your copy today!

Learn What You Can Do to Help America

New: Watch our new 90 second video about our book, *Unite the USA*.

In God We Still Trust



Per request from veterans who love patriotic and inspiring music sung by Stacie and Carrie, *In God We Still Trust* was recorded. From the National Anthem to "God Bless America"

you will be inspired and uplifted about our God-given freedoms. All proceeds go to Unite the USA. Help promote faith and freedom in America. Your support is important and appreciated. Buy or download a copy today. God bless you as you celebrate the red, white, and blue!

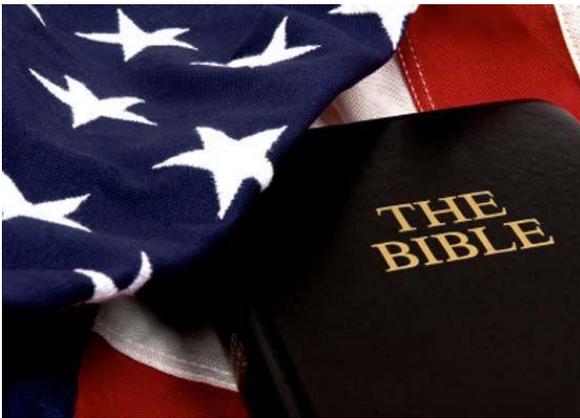
About Dr. Jerry Newcombe

"Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, just as we hope in You."

Hoping in God and praying for America,
Carrie Stoelting and Stacie Stoelting
Founders of Unite the USA

So Much for the Right of Conscience

By Dr. Jerry Newcombe
www.truthinaction.org



The ACLU is busy chipping away at religious freedom in our country again. They have successfully brought suit in the Denver area to force a Christian cake-maker to violate his own beliefs or face a fine.

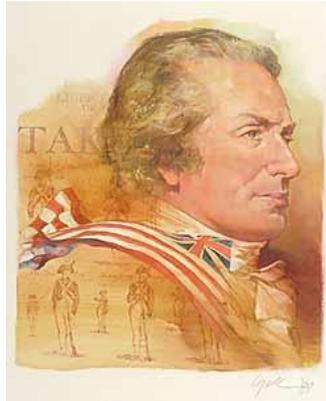
This story is becoming increasingly common, where a Christian baker, florist, photographer in good conscience cannot support the homosexual lifestyle. Yet the authorities are forcing them to violate their conscience or lose their livelihood.

The latest case involves Jack Phillips of Masterpiece Cakeshop. Writing for the AP (12/6/13), Ivan Moreno notes: "A baker who refused to make a wedding cake for a same-sex ceremony must serve gay couples despite his religious beliefs or face fines, a judge said Friday....The order says the cake-maker must 'cease and desist from discriminating' against gay couples."



Dr. Jerry Newcombe is a key archivist of the D. James Kennedy Legacy Library, a spokesman and cohost of Kennedy Classics. He has also written or co-written 23 books, including (with Dr. Kennedy) *What if Jesus Had Never Been Born?* and (with Peter Lillback), *George Washington's Sacred Fire*. Learn more about Dr. Newcombe at www.truthinaction.org.

Featured Founding Father



Nicholas Gilman, Jr. (August 3, 1755 - May 2, 1814) was a Founding Father from New Hampshire. He was a soldier in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. Later, he served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and was a signer of the U.S. Constitution. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives during the first four Congresses, and served in the U.S. Senate from 1804 until his death in 1814.

In God We Still Trust

Mark Silverstein of the ACLU said: "What the judge decided was that the baker's religious beliefs don't give him a right to discriminate and violate Colorado law."

Phillips' attorney, Nicolle Martin, said, "He can't violate his conscience in order to collect a paycheck....If Jack can't make wedding cakes he can't continue to support his family."

So is this what the "tolerance" movement comes down to? Forced acceptance of that which one knows instinctively is wrong. People of good will now must obey the politically correct dictates of the state or be forced out of business? Is this what America is all about now?

Any student of the settlers and founding fathers of America knows that they believed strongly in the right of conscience. That's the genius of America.

The freedom of conscience for the dissident has been part of the greatness of America. Rev. Roger Williams helped create the first haven for conscience in his Rhode Island colony. William Penn engaged in a "holy experiment" in creating Pennsylvania as a haven for conscience sake.

The founding fathers spoke often of the importance of conscience (as can be seen in a search through Bill Federer's book, *America's God and Country*).

Ben Franklin remarked, "a good conscience is a continual Christmas."

George Washington sent an order (9/14/1775) regarding the Quebec campaign to make sure that the right of conscience was not violated: "...as far as lies in your power, you are to protect and support the free exercise of the religion of the country, and the undisturbed enjoyment of the rights of conscience in religious matters, with your utmost influence and authority."

Washington also wrote to a Baptist group (5/10/1789), noting, "any man, conducting

In God We Still Trust

Our country needs to turn to Jesus. Listen to "In God We Still Trust" for inspiration to keep "fighting the good fight". For hope and encouragement, listen to Stacie Ruth and Carrie Beth sing "In God We Still Trust".

Booking Info



Celebrate the true spirit of America with Carrie Beth and Stacie Ruth. Book Stacie and Carrie for concert or conference! E-mail info@unitetheusa.org for more information.

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himself as a good citizen, and being accountable to God alone for his religious opinions, ought to be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own conscience."

Thomas Jefferson's Notes on the State of Virginia (published in 1785) said, "Our rulers can have no other authority over such natural rights, only as we have submitted to them (in a social compact). The rights of conscience we never submitted, we could not submit. We are answerable for them to our God..."

The "sacred right of conscience" has been (and should be) one of the hallmarks of America.

But the ACLU---founded by Roger ("Communism is the goal") Baldwin seems to be committed to remaking America in the image of the founders of the country...the country of the failed Soviet Union. With their godless base. And so, if they continue to be successful, another Christian entrepreneur will face this dilemma: violate his conscience or go out of business.

In a sense, the unspoken premise of these kinds of cases is that to discriminate against a homosexual is on the same level of discriminating against someone because of the color of their skin. By discriminating against a gay couple, the baker is like those racists during the Jim Crow days that treated blacks as second class citizens.

But there are many ex-gays (freed through the gospel). There are no ex-blacks. Dr. Alveda King, niece of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., once told me, "if racism is a sin and homosexuality is a sin, then, certainly, Dr. King would not have marched for anything that was against the Word of God."

She adds, "And so, you cannot equate racism with sexual preference---they're two different things entirely. We can, as adults decide how we express ourselves sexually, but we cannot reappoint ourselves racially." Would that our elites today recognize that and honor the consciences of others---even if they disagree with their position.

