

### School Prayer For The New America

Now I sit me down in school  
Where praying is against the rule  
For this great nation under God  
Finds mention of Him very odd  
If Scripture now the class recites  
It violates the Bill of Rights  
And anytime my head I bow  
Becomes a Federal matter now  
Our hair can be purple, orange, or green  
That's no offence; it's a freedom scene  
The law is specific, the law is precise  
Spoken prayers are a serious vice  
For praying in a public hall  
Might offend those with no faith at all  
In silence alone we must meditate  
God's name is prohibited by the State  
We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks  
And pierce our noses, tongues, and cheeks  
They've outlawed guns, but first the Bible  
To quote the Good Book makes me liable  
We elect a pregnant senior queen  
And the "unwed daddy" our senior king  
But to stand for what is right and wrong  
We're told such judgments do not belong

We get our various types of birth control  
Study witchcraft, vampires, totem poles  
But the 10 Commandments are not allowed  
No word of God must reach this crowd  
It's scary here, I must confess  
When chaos reigns, the school's a mess  
So Lord, this silent plea I make  
Should I be shot, my soul please take

### **WHAT IS FREEDOM IN CHRIST?**

As Americans, we know a great deal about freedom. We love and cherish freedom. After all, we live in "the land of the free!" Freedom grants certain rights and demands certain obligations. Our rights or privileges are based not upon our own desires, but upon the limits placed on society and the resulting order. Just so, we live in peace because of "law and order." Law is that legislation formulated and handed to the people. Order is that law enforced. The result is peace in a civilized society. The opposite is chaos, anarchy, rebellion and turmoil. Every straight-thinking person wants the former, not the latter.

As Christians we enjoy the best freedom. This is the freedom which is rich beyond compare and endures forever. This is the freedom from sin, the freedom as found only in Christ! Sadly, American Christians understand more about democratic freedom than they do Christian freedom. This is fairly easy to prove. In fact, you can prove this to yourself even now as you read. Do you agree with the basis of freedom in our country as described in

the first paragraph? If so, you are capable of understanding Christian freedom. But, are you willing to apply these same two principles of law and order? Are you willing to recognize that Christian freedom is based upon law, the law of Christ (I Corinthians 9:21) and upon order or enforcement of that law, effected through obedience (Hebrews 5:9; John 8:36), or congregational discipline (II Corinthians 10.3-6)?

Too many believe in a different form of freedom. Many who claim to be Christians preach and teach a freedom that is based on what they call a freedom *from* law, a freedom built upon a perverted view of God's love, a "law of no law." They say, "We have the right to believe and practice as we choose." This rebellion against God's law is also a form of freedom. It is the freedom Paul speaks of in Romans six, "For when ye were servants of sin, ye were FREE IN REGARD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS" (Romans 6:20). When anyone, Christian or not, presents themselves to sin as obedient servants, they are free regarding righteousness. Of course, we understand that Paul is teaching that this kind of freedom is actually bondage!

Friends, do not be fooled into believing in this sort of "freedom" as though you may live as you please, while naming the name of Christ. "For ye, brethren, were called for freedom; only use not your freedom for an occasion to the flesh, but through love be servants one to another" (Galatians 5:13). Please understand that when you became a Christian, you were called to freedom, but not to freedom *from* law, nor to do as you please! Remember the words of Galatians 5:16,17: "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are contrary the one to the other; that YE MAY NOT DO THE THINGS THAT YE WOULD."

# RAGER ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

SUNDAY MORNING	BIBLE STUDY	9:30 A.M.
	WORSHIP	10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY EVENING	WORSHIP	6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	BIBLE STUDY	7:30 P.M.
Preachers:	Robin W. Haley	614-751-1082
	James Grayson	614-409-0941

March 22, 2009

Weekly Budget: \$1360.00

Weekly Item Needed: coffee, sugar

### Wednesday's Wisdom:

*"To which group do you belong: the wicked, or those who fear God?" Zach Haley*

**Still in need of prayers:** Hubert's sister Bertie Ayers; Steve's sister Gloria Stegner; Cheryl's sister in law Lora Young; brother Lloyd Moore.

**Melanie's mom**, Cynthia Fox, had a safe trip over from Oklahoma to visit. We hope she had a nice visit, and that she will have a safe trip back home this week.

### Please keep these dates in mind and on your calendars:

3/29—Question/Answer night during evening worship

4/1—Grayson/Newton wedding

4/18—Rager Road's Young Men's Lecture Series  
(Fellers...meet tonight after PM worship!)