Introduction

OT & NT principles apply to present day America?

From Ancient Israel theocracy to US constitutional republic

Right v. Left - but Right v...

Our calling: not to save a nation, but to love God and our neighbor and to make known Jesus, and declare the Kingdom of God

Much easier to do in a place of freedom

If we embrace scriptural principles, peace and tranquility to break out, resulting in a deduction in human suffering and poverty
Part 1 - What Shall We Say?
Chapter 1 - Why Are We Quiet?

Barna - 2013 - 90% of pastors agree that Bibles speaks out on political & social issues
90% of pastors will not speak out on those same issues

Pew - 2014 - 49% want their churches to speak out on political & social issues
48% do not

Barna - 2015 - 22 issues laymen want their pastors teach them about
"we are not afraid to speak out, but we don't know what to say"

July 2, 1954 - the Johnson Amendment
29 categories in the 501(c) category
Only one category - 501(c)3 - was impacted

Cannot oppose or endorse a candidate
But - is ambiguous
A cultural myth developed: no pastor / church is to speak out on any "political" issue

"No governmental intrusion into the pulpit"
We don't need "pulpit police"
This is true separation of church & state

Separation of Church & State
Jefferson - January 1, 1802 - "wall of separation"
Jefferson Gathering - Wednesday nights in the US Capitol for Members of Congress &
their Staff
And on Sundays for the Capitol Police & Federal Employees

Bible:
1. Speaks
2. Overarching principles
3. Inferences
4. Silent
Chapter 2 - Why Should Anyone Listen to Me?

1. Holy Spirit
2. Whole Bible
3. Literature
4. Context
5. Word Study
6. OT - NT connection
7. Literal
8. Revelation
9. Principles
10. Adherence

"Judge not" means "don't judge UNLESS you are willing to be judged by the same standard."

"That's just your opinion" / No - it's the Word of God

CNN - "what God says"
Chapter 3 - What is Needed Now

10 spies that gave a bad report - Numbers 13

The troubling Q: why with big churches, Christian universities, publishers, Christian radio & TV is the nation going to hell?"

"Only preach Jesus" - we all should
But - what about preaching the Kingdom of God ("Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven") - the implication for transformation of culture

Wesleyan story of anti-slavery struggle and the right of women to vote

6 P's
- principles
- policies
- politics
- platform
- parties
- person (candidate)

Years ago / Topic that is now too "political"

50 - Abortion
30 - Homosexuality
15 - Marriage
10 - Israel
8 - Debt
5 - Socialism

Not a call to be more political, but to be more biblical

Those most hostile - form relationships

Samford University Beeson Divinity School, Hodge Chapel - Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Q: purpose of government - protect the citizenry; restrain evil

"By their Creator" - key phrase in the Declaration of Independence

Rights come from God - this is unique to America's founding document
- American exceptionalism

Evil exist!
"Line in the sand"

View of humanity

1. Good
2. Evil
3. Created good, but sin entered in, Jesus came to deal with that, Holy Spirit can I dwell & help us live above sinful pasts

Founding Fathers
harmatiology - doctrine of sin
3 branches of government to check on each other- because humans are capable of evil
Chapter 5 - First Amendment and Religious Liberty

Laws of Nature & Nature's God

The focal point - tragically - is: the coerced acceptance & affirmation of homosexual practice, homosexual so called "marriage" and transgenderism

Radical homosexual agenda & Religious Liberty cannot coexist

Hate speech - what is that?

The Garlow Perspective commentaries - lawsuits against believers

Sexual anarchist
Sexual antinomianism
Chapter 6 - Schools, Universities, and the Christian Faith

What is the impact of the court cases on education and educational results?

College - 3 waves of the loss of Christian colleges:
1. Ivy League
2. 1800's
3. Current

Dr. Everett Piper's questions:
- what is your view of Scripture?
- what is truth?

Colleges with the name Wesleyan:
12 no longer adhere to biblical values (Methodist background colleges)
1 is questionable
3 are dependable (Wesleyan denominational schools)
Chapter 7 - Political Correctness

Political correctness is a "weapon of mass distraction"

Issue: control

Purpose of movement: rejection of Judeo-Christian values

Tolerance has become a one way street

Example: November 2008 - Prop 8 - defending marriage in CA

Supreme Court March

Tools of the Left: fear & intimidation

SB1146 - in CA
An attempt to prevent all the Christian colleges from being Christian
Part 3 - Family and Life Issues
Chapter 8 - Marriage

Genesis begins with a Marriage of a male & a female
Revelation closes with a Wedding of a Bride & a Groom
Paul - Ephesians 5:23
Matthew 19 - Jesus affirms marriage as a man & a woman

Full image of God - as male & female come together
The complimentary halves of humanity coming together

El Shaddai
El - mighty like a mountain
Shaddai - Breast that nourishes a newborn baby

adam vs. Adam
adam - humanity
Adam - the man Adam

Splitting of the adam
The splitting of humanity into male & female

Tsela - rib?
Means "side" or "half"

Ish - man - has the letter "yod" not found in Ishah
Ishah - woman - has the letter "hey" not found in Ish
Yod, Hey - YH - name of God
YHWH - 6800 times in Hebrew Old Testament
Complimentarity of male & female

Egg & sperm
Plumber - pipes

Jesus - Matthew 19:6 "for this reason"
What reason? Created male & female

Revelation - Marriage vs. marriage
Marriage - Christ & the Church
marriage - earthly marriages of man & woman
Ephesians 5:23

Legal: 31 states affirmed marriage; 3 did not

SCOTUS never ruled on merit of Prop 8
Only ruled that the people of CA did not have a right to argue before SCOTUS
Chapter 9 - School Choice and Parental Authority

Q: Child belongs to the parents or to the state?
Neither
God!

Statist view: government owns the children

Primary educator - parents
Proverbs 22
Deuteronomy 6

Parental rights - Government view: "equal partners"
No! Parents have authority, according to God
Chapter 10 - Abortion

Passages affirming life in the womb:
- Psalm 139
- Jeremiah 1
- Genesis 25
- Psalm 22
- Exodus 21
- Proverbs 24

"Unwanted pregnancy but a wanted child"

Fetus - human rights

Washington DC March

Buchenwald concentration camp
Like the abortuaries / killing centers in America

Ripping babies apart
Dismembering / selling
Those supporting abortion should have to watch DVD of abortion
Chapter 11 - Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Order of God instituting:
1. male / female - gender specificity
2. marriage
3. procreation

Order of demonic attacks:
1. procreation
2. marriage
3. male / female gender specificity

"I was born this way" - no scientific fact
We are all "born with.. some proclivities and weaknesses"

Six key passages re: homosexuality:
- Genesis 19
- Leviticus 18
- Leviticus 20
- Romans 1
- I Corinthians 6
- I Timothy 1

Responding - John 1:14 - Jesus responded with "grace" and "truth"
Chapter 12 - Healthcare

Q: who is responsible for your health?
   You are
   Then your family

Affordable Care Act v. Religious Freedom Restoration Act
Aspects of Obamacare that, for example, force people and churches to pay for abortion

Department of Managed Health Care - Sacramento, CA - Aug 22, 2014 - coerced
paying for elective abortions on every person with health insurance in the entire state of California

Role of government - Romans 13; 1 Peter 2 - to protect the citizens; restrain those who are evil

Church's role v Government's role
Church can provide for health & welfare and has done it for centuries
Governments role: protect citizens; restrain evil
Part 4 - Economics  
Chapter 13 - Capitalism

Capitalism v Socialism

Garden of Eden - Adam "worked"
Work was not caused by the Fall
Work preceded the Fall
Work -our daily jobs - is good
It is our way of partnering with God, co-creators in the ongoing work of creation

"Pursuit of happiness" - quite likely first meant the right to private property ownership

Crony capitalism is simply a phrase describing theft

Q: is capitalism selfish?
Not if "perimetered" by Judeo-Christian values

Q: is socialism biblical?
Acts 2:45 - text often used to justify socialism
But it was not forced by the government
Was an act of charity done voluntarily by the church for a specific situation
Chapter 14 - Taxes

Three ways to tax:
   Progressive - % increases as income increases
   Fair - based on purchases
   Flat - the same % regardless of how much you make

Dr. Ben Carson - 10%
If God gets 10%, why should the government get more?

Exodus 30 - poll tax - over 20, for all males

No property tax - because the earth is the Lords

Feudal vs. Allodial
   Feudal - even if property paid off, government still taxes, so property not free & clear
   Allodial - if property paid off, it is owned free & clear; no government claims to it

Consumption tax - no evidence this is biblical

Tax based - on Bible - based on productivity

McCullough v. Maryland, 1819:
   Power to tax is the power to destroy
   (The reason for separation of church & state)

Q: is any taxation rate more biblical than others?

What if we followed the taxation schedules of ancient Israel?
   (10% - believers)
   Then....
   Poll tax - say - every person per 21 - $250 / yr - so everyone pays something
   10% - if government would do only what government is supposed to do, it could get by on 10% of the income of Americans & American businesses
   10% - a voluntary "set aside" (replacing Social Security) in which the government would not tax it "going in" or "coming out;" would cause Americans to prepare for the future
   3 1/3% - like ancient Israel - 10% every third year - as a "poor tax" - to care for those in need - administered through local outlets - specifically the faith communities
Chapter 15 - Debt

Bush, 43, ran the national debt from $5 trillion to $10 trillion
Obama took the debt from $10 trillion to $20 trillion
(Rounded numbers)

Obama called Bush's debt "Irresponsible; unpatriotic" - then increased the debt twice as much

What % of Congressmen attend a Bible believing church...where there is ever a sermon on the biblical underpinnings of the issue of our national debt?

Not more political - just more biblical

Pastors conference - they did not talk about national debt - as it was not an important issue
But it is a biblical, moral, ethical, theological issue
"Thou shalt not steal from future generations!"
Chapter 16 - Welfare

War on poverty

Solutions:

1. The family - where there's a dad & mom, poverty drops

2. Christian conversion - changes hearts, makes productive

3. Dignity of work - biblical view of work

4. The church - 3 1/3%; what if the church had this to work with - administered locally, where freeloaders could be removed; where true need was known

This would be the true separation of church and state
Chapter 17 - Minimum Wage

Who cares?

1. Healthy work environment

2. Don't take advantage of workers

3. Pay in a timely fashion

4. Free market where wage can be negotiated (Matthew 20) not by government or unions that make the environment hostile

5. Concern for the unemployed by those who can hire (Matthew 20)

6. Be willing to reduce profits, if possible, to hire more (Matthew 20); business could IF government would tax less and stop over regulating

7. Livable wage v. beginning wage; distinguish the difference


9. Investing in employees and their families

Models
Chapter 18 - Social Security

Ratio of workers to those retired
   42:1 - originally
   2:1 - soon

"But I deserve to retire..." - People moving unnecessarily to unproductivity

Q: who is supposed to take care of me?
I am; then my family; if I cannot and no family, then my church

Widows & orphans with no family?
The church & the community

Solutions:
   Genesis 1 - be fruitful & multiply; have children
   Psalm 137 - view children as a blessing from God
   Proverbs 31 - train children to rise and call you blessed in your old age - and care for you
Part 5 - Law and Society
Chapter 19 - The Judiciary

Obergefell - June 26, 2015 - SCOTUS decision to destroy historic marriage

Hostility towards Christians

No Constitutional defense for either rulings on abortion or for homosexual so called "marriage"
14th amendment has nothing to do with either one

1973 Roe v. Wade

How the Constitution should be viewed:
  Strict construction
  Or
  Original intent

Solution?
  1. Dismiss the court / threatened by Jefferson
  2. Defy the court - suggested by some
  3. Defund the court - also suggested by some

"Law of the land" is NOT the SCOTUS, but the Constitution
Chapter 20 - Hate Crimes

Q: what is a "hate" crime? Is there such a thing as a "love" crime?

Animus of the heart is being used to determine consequences rather than the act committed

When one's ideology is taken into consideration, the court is giving preferential treatment

Justice not based on one's attitude or ideas, but based on what one did

Justice v. Revenge
Justice - should be blind & fair
Revenge - to give different sentences based on one's ideology

Hate speech is determined by whomever is in power
Example:
  Ake Green, Sweden, a pastor sentenced to a month in prison for preaching from Romans 1
Chapter 21 - Social Justice

Q: What is social justice?
It has become a mask for Marxism

Galatians 3:28 addresses:
1. Racism
2. Sexism
3. Classism

Social justice advocate:
1. Socialism
2. Sexism
3. Racism
4. Wealth distribution
5. Poverty
6 Guilt & blame
7. Terrorism
8. Anti-police rhetoric
Chapter 22 - Racism, Judicial and Prison Reform

Foundation:
- Genesis 1:26-27 - made in the image of God
- Galatians 3:28 - we all have equal standing before God
- John 13:34 - love one another
- Acts 10:34 - God shows no favoritism

The Reconciled Church

Messages from stories:
1. Contacts - many poor, especially blacks, lack this
2. Daddy's are needed in every home, yet most black children lack this
3. Issues - do we who are white really understand "their issues?"
4. Need - "I needed that" - the value of apologizing and affirmation

John 4:4 - if it is necessary for Jesus to cross cultural barriers, we should do the same

5 Areas:
1. Education - the value of volunteering to tutor, as an example
2. Economic investment - the economic policies make a difference (consider the story of Detroit, MI). Ideas have consequences
3. Judicial reform - we can make a difference; many blacks lack proper representation in court
4. Prison reform - this needs a total overhaul
5. Families intact - this is the biggest factor

Judicial - see story on 181-182

Prison - see story on 182-183
TORI - a remarkable success story - see pages 183 & following

April 9, 2016 - special event - Lincoln Memorial
Part 6 - Foreign Policy and World Issues
Chapter 23 - National Defense

Q: What causes war?

Augustine - rules for justifiable war

Conduct of War
  1. Last resort
  2. Discriminate between combatants & noncombatants
  3. Use proportional force; no unnecessary force
Chapter 24 - Immigration and Border Security

US - immigration - a good track record

Borders are not bad

Failure of both parties to address the issue

Border School - 3 days

Wesleyan's 8 Pronged approach - see page 206-207

Core of the problem: government has failed to enforce its own law
Desuetude - when a law is no longer enforced

Culpability - both parties; our government;
We have many "illegals" because our government acted "illegally"

Two healing steps
   1. Government acknowledge wrongdoing
   2. Propose a pathway of legalization

Obama - misuse of Scripture on this issue
   - Joseph & Mary
   - Exodus 22:21
Chapter 25 - Israel

Genesis 12:3 - bless Israel, you will be blessed; curse Israel, you will cursed

Scriptures re: Israel's regathering:
  - Exodus 20
  - Exodus 34
  - Isaiah 43
  - Amos 9

Zionism - the right of Israel to exist & to defend itself

Historic Christian anti-Semitism - tragic untold story & largely unknown

"The Jews killed Jesus" is not accurate
Jesus was killed by my sins and your sins

Replacement Theology - an attempt to replace Israel with the church, thus negating all of God's promises to Israel
Fulfillment Theology - a more sophisticated form of Replacement Theology in which Jesus replaces Israel

Miraculous regathering of Israel - Exodus 36-37

BDS - an evil anti-Semitic movement:
  - Boycott - products from Israel
  - Divest - remove funds from Israel
  - Sanction - ostracize the nation

PCUSA (not PCA) - the liberal Presbyterian denomination - an example

Many attempts to destroy Israel throughout history

List of wars - page 220-221

Two state solution - already have one (Jordan)

Land for peace - many attempts - 222-223

The T-shirt - every empire that challenges Israel is eventually destroyed
Chapter 26 - Environment and Climate Change

Al Gore - in 10 years the world will be a frying pan (stated in 2006)

The heart of the issue: the way we view government

Donald Hodel
US Secretary of Energy
US Secretary of the Interior

"They want to change the way we do government"
(Socialism)

They say they are for clean water, clean air, clean land
So are we

Creation care is a biblical concept
We care about the earth as believers

Is global warming real?
John Coleman - KUSI, San Diego

When will the earth self destruct?
When God does it
Chapter 27 - Islam and Terrorism

Website:
www.thereligionofpeace.com
Islamic Terrorist Attacks since 9-11: 29,000+

More peaceful than violent Muslims
We know - but that is not our focus

History of Islam

Tenets of Islam
6th pillar
Koran

How to respond?
- not "racial" profiling, but "violence" or "terrorism" profiling
That is not xenophobia; it is smart.

Counsel:
1. Not afraid
2. Speak up
3. Care for those who do not know Christ

Newt G - the "Militant Church" - a church willing to stand up
Chapter 28 - Refugees

Chaldeans - from Iraq - in our community
80,000 known in Iraq in harms way of ISIS
Next time we discussed it - 12,000 were dead
"I am a Chaldean" - close of my speech before Iraqis in our community

IDC

Christ's compassion, Matthew 25

Christians in Middle East can go nowhere.
Muslims can/could go to the 22 Muslim nations in the Middle East

No "religious" test - but a "violence" or "terrorism" test

Trumps full statement:
"Stop immigration UNTIL we know who is coming in"

No shame on America; America is charitable
Don't allow manipulation
No guilt

Again: xenophobic is not the issue; safety is
Part 7 - Political Participation
Chapter 29 - Media

Expectations of the media:
  Objectivity
  Competence

Low confidence in the media

25% - facts correct
18% - fairly

90% of the media vote for Democrats
They have a right to vote for whom they want - but what should happen:
Register openly - at a public website for:
  - disclosure
  - transparency
Chapter 30 - Nullification and Civil Disobedience

1815, Fugitive Slave Law - was rightly violated
That is called "nullification"

Citizen nullification - when it violates God's laws
But when violated, be willing to pay the price

Biblical models:
- Egyptian midwives
- Rahab
- Obadiah hiding God's prophets
- Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego
- Daniel
- Esther
- the Magi
- Peter & John
- Moses

Sir Thomas More - historical example

Manhattan Declaration - read quote on 262
Chapter 31 - A Call to Action and the Reason for Hope

A Call to Action
  Study
  Equip
  Be Disciplined
  Discuss / Engage
  Know the Word

A Reason for Hope
"Jesus is Lord!"