

Morning Rundown: Family Calls for Prayer for Ailing Filmmaker and Author Warren Marcus

Here's a quick rundown of the top stories on :

Family Calls for Prayer for Ailing Filmmaker and Author Warren Marcus

Through social media, multitudes of friends, family and those touched by his ministry are calling for prayer for author, filmmaker, television producer, speaker and ordained Messianic minister Warren Marcus, who is in the hospital fighting for his life.

Believers are asked to pray for Marcus and also for his wife, Donna; their children, Joe and Tara; and their families.

"Overwhelmed is not a strong enough word to describe all the prayers and stories of how Warren touched you," Donna Marcus wrote on Facebook. "Warren is feeling them. Please continue. I love you all."

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Prophetic Dream: The Lord Says, "I Dealt With Hitler; I Will Deal With Hamas"

On Oct. 18, I had a dream in which I found myself walking the streets of Jerusalem and praying. I sensed the presence of a strong demonic principality. I knew in my spirit that what I was discerning was not new, but it was an ancient evil

assigned to annihilate the Jewish people.

Suddenly, God spoke to me in the dream and said, "I will deal with Hamas as I did with Haman."

The way in which I heard God speak to me caused me to immediately understand that "Hamas" is far more than a modern-day terrorist organization. It is a demonic principality that has roamed the earth for centuries, seeking human vessels and people groups through which it can operate.

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Will This Award-Winning Kevin Sorbo Film Transform American Attitudes?

With the devil's attempts to overwhelm Americans with fear and chaos—in real life and in the media—it's good to know that there are those who are pushing back against the enemy's plans. Movies are being made by those such as Kevin and Sam Sorbo that are not only family friendly but can also make Americans believe in the kingdom values of their country once again.

"Miracle in East Texas," a comedy produced by Sorbo Studios, tells the tale of two aging con men at the dawn of the Great Depression. Not only will it make you laugh—and shed a tear or two—but will bring back the pride in the God-blessed American way.

"It's just a fantastic story, and we love true stories," says Kevin Sorbo, who starred earlier this year in "Left Behind: Rise of the Antichrist." "It's a true story set in 1930, and it's about two men that went through Oklahoma and Texas wooing widows out of their money with fake oil wells. They would sell 500% of the shares, declare it a dry hole and move to the next town.

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John Ramirez Exposes the Dangers of Halloween, Trunk or Treat

In one of his latest videos, evangelist John Ramirez is exposing the dangers of allowing Halloween celebrations to creep into the church, especially in the form of trunk or treat.

“Shame on these pastors that believe they can celebrate something without no consequences,” Ramirez says.

Ramirez points out that there is no such thing as a “safe place” for kids to celebrate Halloween because there is never a time to even remotely entertain the idea of dealing with the satanic realms. He says even the very candy that is consumed on Halloween has been prayed over by those ranking in the satanic realms.

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“You know the candies you purchase at the supermarket ... those candies were prayed for by demonic, devil-worshipping devils, despicable people that don’t wanting nothing to do with your kids,” he says. “They hate your kids, they hate God, they hate the image of God, they hate the church, they hate Christians, and they pray for your candies.”

For Ramirez, allowing this kind of demonic activity into the

church—even dressed up as trunk or treat with Bible character costumes—is really just throwing a cloak over satanic activity. For those who allow this kind of behavior in the church, Ramirez gives a stark warning about the value of their leadership.

“You’re cursing your church; you’re a fake pastor; you’re a fake leader,” he says. “The stuff that you preach are empty words, no edification, no growth, no edifying the body of Christ, no glorifying God; you’re nothing but a phony when you celebrate this thing, and then you think the rest of the year it’s going to be fine.”

He warns that dressing up and going about the business of Halloween is the same as selling your identity to the devil, and that this allows for all kinds of doors of the enemy to creep in and affect your life—including your children’s lives. He says it’s a distraction from the truth of what the church is called to do: Share the gospel and make disciples.

“The harvest is about souls because I didn’t hear no harvest about candy and dressing up in the Bible,” Ramirez says. “We should have prayer in the house of God. We should have repentance in the house of God. We should have salvation in the house of God. We should have baptism in the house of God. Not your dirty, filthy laundry in the house of God.”

Ramirez warns that those who truly hear the voice of the Lord should know the difference between doing something that glorifies Satan and that which glorifies God.

“You have no Holy Spirit, pastors, and you don’t have no calling; you’re nothing but a goat—that’s why you celebrate Halloween,” Ramirez says.

Ramirez also warns against the pumpkin lanterns that many people carve and place in and outside of their homes because pumpkin tends to be used by those in Santeria.

“Pumpkin belongs to a demon principality in Santeria,” Ramirez says. “The mother of the rivers, she operates with pumpkin, honey and money and gold. And she is a transfiguration of Jezebel in the Bible.”

And for those who believe that repentance can come later after they’ve participated in the Halloween festivities, Ramirez says this is a key that someone is nothing more than a lukewarm believer. He also warns that just like David, there is nothing we can hide from the Lord that He will not find out about and then respond to us accordingly.

“David thought that ... he could commit adultery and thought that he could hide it,” he says. “David thought that somehow, he could set it up in a way that you know he can get away with it.”

So before you go out to a church trunk or treat, reconsider what kinds of spiritual doors you may be opening up for yourself and your family. {eoa}

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Abby Trivett *is a marketing copywriter and coordinator for Charisma Media.*

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☒ In addition to writing the books “The Priestly Prayer of the Blessing” and the accompanying “Praying the Priestly Prayer” for Charisma House, the Lord has used Warren to produce inspirational television programs for Dr. Jerry Falwell’s “Liberty Broadcasting Network and to work with the Inspiration Network in Charlotte, North Carolina. He served as the executive producer of Sid Roth’s “It’s Supernatural!” weekly television program, paying special attention to the dramatic reenactments that help bring to life the testimonies of real people’s encounters with the supernatural of God.

Warren’s covenant with God shone when he went to work for CBN, where he produced the animated Bible series for children “Superbook” and “Flying House,” which has been translated in manifold languages and distributed worldwide. {eoa}

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Shawn A. Akers is the online editor at Charisma Media.

A Shameful Statement From Palestinian Christians

Before Israel launched its attack on Hamas terrorists in response to their barbaric, murderous acts, I put out a call to pray for the people of Gaza, knowing that many innocent civilians would lose their lives. Since then, I have been in meetings with other Christians where we prayed for the protection of Gazan civilians and for the Israeli Defense Force to use wisdom and restraint in its rightful attempts to eradicate Hamas.

Many other Christian leaders I know, all of them pro-Israel, have expressed similar sentiments, and when I preached on Oct. 8 on sharing God's pain, I mentioned His pain for the suffering Palestinians as well.

As followers of Jesus, we should care about all those who are suffering right now, regardless of whether they are Muslim or Jewish, Christian, Palestinian, Israeli or other.

At the same time, we must categorically rebuke those who make false accusations against Israel, repeating standard antisemitic tropes and peddling libelous media reports, especially when they do so in the name of Jesus.

I'm speaking here of "A Call to Repentance: An Open Letter from Palestinian Christians to Western Church Leaders and Theologians," published by Palestinian Christian leaders and calling for Christian leaders in the West to repent of their one-sided support of Israel. Some of the contents of the letter are truly revolting.

First, in the midst of constant references to Palestinian

suffering, there is not a single word about the butchering of more than 1,300 Israelis by Hamas, other than statements like, "We come alongside fellow Christians in condemning all attacks on civilians, especially defenseless families and children."

So, despite 17 references to "Israel" in their letter, they do not say one word about the butchered Israeli children. Not one.

Not one word about the families burned alive. Not one.

Not one word about the women raped and tortured. Not one.

Not one word about the babies slaughtered in their cribs—or worse still, decapitated. Not one.

Not one word about the Holocaust survivors executed in cold blood. Not one.

Not one word about the taking of more than 200 hostages, including babies and the elderly. Not one.

This is reprehensible and immoral. It is spitting in the face of the one they profess as Lord. And it is inexcusable.

Second, there is not a single reference to Hamas. Not one.

There is not a single reference to terrorists or terrorism. Not one.

But there is a reason for the silence. They know full well that to say anything publicly against Hamas is not only to express disloyalty to the larger Palestinian cause. It is to put themselves in danger.

Where is the Christian courage and conviction? Where is the prophetic rebuke of terrorism? How can these brothers and sisters, in the name of morality and justice, fail to rebuke barbaric acts that put Isis to shame?

This was a challenge I gave them directly when I spoke at

their Christ at the Checkpoint conference in 2018. Sadly, rather than do the right thing, they have been silent in the face of evil. (And note carefully in my address that I began my comments with tears, expressing my pain for the suffering of my Palestinian brothers and sisters.)

Third, this open letter repeats the libelous claims that Israel bombed a hospital and a church, referencing, "the heinous massacre at Al-Ahli Anglican-Baptist Hospital and the bombardment of the Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Porphyrius which wiped out entire Palestinian Christian families."

Again, it is deeply grievous that lives were lost, especially the friends and family members of some of the writers of the letter. We should all mourn with them.

But repeating lies will not bring those loved ones back.

Israel did not bomb the hospital. The casualties are 100% the result of a failed Palestinian Islamic Jihad missile, and even at that, the numbers have been cruelly exaggerated.

As for the church, as verified by aerial footage provided by the IDF, the truth is that Israel was bombing a nearby building and was slightly off target, hitting a building near to the church, which then caused structural damage to part of the church building. What a contrast between this and the letter's claim that this was an "atrocious Israeli bombardment of innocent civilians on Oct. 19, 2023."

As noted by the Open Source Intelligence Monitor, "Once again the Mainstream Media caused a Total Meltdown of People around the World last night who thought that Israel had Purposefully Bombed a 1,000-Year-Old Church which was being used as a Shelter by Palestinian-Christians; how quickly everyone seems to forget that Hamas is known to place their Launch Sites and Arms Stockpiles near or inside Churches, School, Hospitals, and Residential Buildings so when they get Damaged by the Cross-Fire or Debris, like what happened here, they can make

the IDF seem like the Villain.”

For this open Christian letter to repeat these libels is to partner with falsehood and to further demonize Israel. That is wicked in God’s sight.

Fourth, the letter repeats standard anti-Israel, even antisemitic tropes, including references to “the ongoing ethnic cleansing of Palestine, and the oppressive and racist military occupation that constitutes the crime of apartheid.”

The letter even provides a tacit justification of the Hamas atrocities when speaking of “the root causes of this war: Israel’s systemic oppression of the Palestinians over the last 75 years since the Nakba.” Do these writers even believe Israel has a right to exist?

More specifically, the letter speaks of “Israel’s cruel blockade of Gaza for the last 17 years has turned the 365-square-kilometer Strip into an open-air prison for more than two million Palestinians—70% of whom belong to families displaced during the Nakba—who are denied their basic human rights. The brutal and hopeless living conditions in Gaza under Israel’s iron fist have regrettably emboldened extreme voices of some Palestinian groups to resort to militancy and violence as a response to oppression and despair.”

So, the butchers, the barbarians, the cold-blooded, demented Hamas executioners were simply “extreme voices” who were “regrettably emboldened” by Israel’s evil actions. Such words are a stench in the nostrils of our Lord and a defilement of the names of the dead.

And why is there no mention of the reason for the blockade, namely, that the people of Gaza elected Hamas, which is sworn to the destruction of the Jewish people in the land, as their leaders in 2006? Hamas is a cousin to Isis and Al-Qaeda, a radical Islamic death cult bent on murdering Jews. Yet Israel is guilty of protecting its borders against these terrorists?

And concerned Christians are rebuking Israel for doing this?

And where is there even a passing reference to the fact that Israel has been in an existential battle for survival since the U.N. Partition Plan was announced in 1947, living under constant threat from surrounding hostile Muslim nations? There is none.

But the letter doesn't stop here. It repeats other, inaccurate, but now standard leftwing tropes, comparing the return of the Jewish people to their ancient homeland with "entrenched colonial discourse that has weaponized the Bible to justify the ethnic cleansing of indigenous peoples in the Americas, Oceania, and elsewhere, the slavery of Africans and the transatlantic slave trade, and decades of apartheid in South Africa."

As a colleague of mine commented after reading the letter, "Sounds like decolonization and liberation theology."

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To be sure, I have said and will continue to say that: 1) We should pray for and work towards a just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict for the good of all those involved.

2) Where Israel acts wrongly, as friends of Israel, we should call the leadership to account. As I stated in my 2018 message, "I am not here to defend all the actions of the Israeli government or to defend the behavior of all Israelis or to whitewash Jewish failings. As a Jewish follower of Jesus, I am more than aware of my people's shortcomings."

3) The shedding of innocent Palestinian blood is just as grievous as the shedding of innocent Israeli blood, and as followers of Jesus, we should mourn with those who mourn.

Right now, that includes the Palestinian people too.

As I posted on Oct. 9, "Tragically, many innocent Palestinians will suffer terribly in the days to come, including women and children. That should matter to us as human beings, let alone as followers of Jesus. ... So, yes, the suffering of Palestinians is as grievous as the suffering of Israelis."

Right now, I grieve for the pain of the people of Gaza, along with their brothers and sisters in the West Bank (ancient Judea and Samaria). Their suffering is deep, and their losses are massive. And, tragically, this is only the beginning of the story, as Israel has no moral choice but to remove Hamas from power and cripple its genocidal goals. Yet, ironically, Christians living in Israel under the supposedly monstrous Jewish leadership have far more liberty and rights than do the Christians living in Gaza.

Finally, while the letter says that Christians siding with Israel have hurt our Christian witness, the other side of the coin is that the Jewish people in Israel and worldwide have been deeply moved by this Christian support, which is going a long way to helping undo the terrible history of "Christian" antisemitism.

I appeal, then, to the writers and signers of this open letter: Please reconsider your words, please speak up on behalf of the Israeli victims, please rebuke the murderous terrorists by name and please present a truthful picture to the world.

We want to stand with you. We want to stand for justice. We want to show solidarity as brothers and sisters in Jesus.

But we cannot partner with falsehoods or double standards or libels.

In the name of our Lord, I appeal to you to repent of this deeply flawed call to repentance so that together, we can

pursue righteousness, goodness, equity and mercy. {eoa}

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"It's just a fantastic story, and we love true stories," says Kevin Sorbo, who starred earlier this year in "Left Behind: Rise of the Antichrist." "It's a true story set in 1930, and it's about two men that went through Oklahoma and Texas wooing widows out of their money with fake oil wells. They would sell 500% of the shares, declare it a dry hole and move to the next town.

"It was really evil what these guys were doing because it was

right in the heart of the Depression when the country was at its highest unemployment we've ever had," he says. "They ultimately make the largest oil strike ever. They are eventually arrested and ... "

Sorbo stars in the film along with John Ratzenberger of "Cheers" fame. The movie has won 10 film festival awards, including best Comedy and Best Director (Sorbo) and best Faith-Based Movie.

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"They can't pigeonhole it because it has so much going on," Sorbo says. "It's the kind of movie that Hollywood used to want to do."

Kevin's wife, Sam, says the oil strike itself was a miracle from God, but there is more.

"The ensuing miracles [are] really what make the story so incredible," she says. "The fact that it's an entirely true story was wonderful."

"You leave the theater with an uplifted feeling like you learning something, feeling like you can be a better person, feel good about yourself," Sam Sorbo explains. "It's a lot of fun. It's great for families. ... The film deals with the theme of forgiveness. It's an important theme in our culture especially today's culture and redemption. The cancel culture where you make one mistake and you're gone."

The script for "Miracle in East Texas" was written decades ago by Oscar-nominated writer Dan Gordon for actors Paul Newman and Robert Redford—best known for their roles in "The Sting" and "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid." The film also stars Hollywood stalwarts Louis Gossett Jr. and Tyler Mane.

With the war between Israel and Hamas continuing to rage, people across the globe are choosing sides with that conflict, and many have chosen to support Hamas, despite the evil these terrorists are perpetrating.

With “Miracle in East Texas,” the two main characters, as Kevin Sorbo mentions, are evil at first, but they redeem themselves throughout the film.

“This is one of those rare films that combines comedy, drama, romance and real-life events,” Kevin Sorbo says. “It’s an interesting journey these two characters make and the transformation you see with them. The miracles make honest men out of these swindlers and they change their ways.

“As independent filmmakers, we understand and continue to create trusted entertainment for the entire family,” he adds. “This is a message to the big studios on what families really want.”

The Fathom film “Miracle in East Texas” will premiere in select theaters on Oct. 29 and 30. {eoa}

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Larry Tomczak’s Week in Review: Everything Believers Must Know About Israeli-Hamas

War

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hos. 4:6a). May this indictment not be spoken over you and me with our families and churches. We are in the midst of a war, and it can quickly spread to a regional conflict and beyond.

And remember Israel has a nuclear weapon, and the Israelis are fighting for their very survival as a nation.

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Take 10 and invest it to learn what the Bible teaches and what we must know in the midst of this demonically inspired conflict. The devil knows his time is short, and he wants to thwart the purposes of God, which have a focal point—the Middle East.

God’s prophetic clock is moving rapidly and it’s time to be informed and helping others in this critical area so we are not led astray when we should be leading the way. {eoa}

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Were People Really Chanting ‘Death to America’ in Times

Square?

Eagles Wings founder and director Bishop Robert Stearns and his family spent five days in Israel earlier this month, including Oct. 7. That was the day when an early-morning brutal surprise attack rocked Jerusalem and saw hundreds of innocent Israelis die.

A few days after he and his family returned to the United States, however, Stearns, who has been doing Israel-connected ministry for what will be 30 years in 2024, said he never felt more in danger than when he stood in the middle of Times Square in New York City. There on American soil, he feared for his life.

That's the day when a throng of individuals—a group that filled an area three full city blocks in size around one of the most famous areas of the most famous city in the world—cheered on the terrorist organization Hamas. They rallied to support a group of people who only days before beheaded dozens of Israeli babies, burned other Israelis alive and took about 200 hostages, including some Americans.

“When we got to New York City and to JFK Airport, we felt like, ‘Whew, we’re safe, we’re home,’” Stearns tells Charisma News in a recent interview. “And then I got a text from a friend saying there was going to be a pro-Hamas rally in Times Square the next day. I thought, ‘now how does anyone hold a rally that would support Hamas after what they’ve done?’”

“There is a thing called evil, and you don’t negotiate with evil,” he says. “I thought that I would go to the rally and share the truth of Christ with those who would listen. It’s in our own backyard in New York City, so it should be fine. But there were thousands of pro-Hamas supporters there, and they were all chanting, ‘Death to Israel; death to America.’ Hamas, in their legal charter, openly calls for the destruction of

the state of Israel. They are not there for the creation of a Palestinian state. They are not there to compromise or build for a better future for humanity. They are there to kill. And in our nation, in Times Square, [people] were there in support of this evil.

“Two days later, I got a call from the governor’s office, Gov. Kathy Hochul,” he continues. “They said the governor was coming to Buffalo for a private meeting. The governor asked if I could come to this meeting. I shared this story that I’m sharing with you.

“I said, Gov. Hochul, with all due respect, I felt safer in Jerusalem with the bombs going exploding overhead than I felt standing in Times Square,” Stearns says. “I’m a lifelong New Yorker. I felt safer in Jerusalem than in New York City because they are not in denial about the reality of the problem and they are not confused with what is at stake.”

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Stearns said it took a friend to help he and his family “escape” Israel through Aman, Jordan, in what he called a “harrowing” experience.

In speaking to Calvary Assembly during its regular service in Orlando Sunday, he pointed to the younger generations’ consciousness of social justice, which he said is needed and valid.

But Stearns says we must also get our facts straight because social justice can be twisted into something “very, very backwards,” as in what is happening now with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Pro-Hamas demonstrations have been held globally including across the U.S. in cities like New York, Chicago, Tampa, Syracuse, Philadelphia, Anaheim, Atlanta and Washington, D.C.

More than 100,000 people turned out in London late last week for a pro-Palestinian rally.

All Israel News reported that secular media outlets such as MSNBC and CNN are constantly spreading false narratives about Israel. Charisma News columnist Dr. Michael Brown reported last week about the “mythical” Israeli bombing of a Gaza hospital.

“All of a sudden, you can make the oppressed into the oppressor,” Stearns says. “You have to know your facts. You need to know the truth of what is happening. We have to lift our eyes from this thing we call denial. Golda Meir, the first woman prime minister of the state of Israel, said, ‘You can’t negotiate with people who have come to kill you. You can negotiate if you’re trying to build a state or live in peace or if you’re trying to build forward a better place for humanity.’”

“Israel left Gaza a long time ago,” Stearns says. “A beautiful city could have been built, with billions in American taxpayer money. What did they do? They chose to spend it on 50,000 rockets that have fallen on Israel day and night. You say, ‘Bishop, you’re getting political.’ No, I’m not getting political; I’m getting biblical. ...”

“The Palestinian people deserve to live in peace, with a hope for the future,” he adds. “But they have to put aside hatred, this blind ideology by the way they’ve been brainwashed. We have the problem for three or four decades through the school systems of brainwashing these young people, so now you’ve got a brainwashed society.”

Stearns says believers must lift up their heads in the midst of the battle because God is a good Father. They must lift their heads from distraction and to make a decision to be less focused on pleasure and entertainment and prepare themselves as soldiers for the end-times battle that we are now in.

The battle is happening in a place that doesn't matter much to many Americans, but it still affects them greatly.

"We are living in a moment where all of us are going to have to be fully declared disciples of Jesus," Stearns says. "What can you do right now to bless and help Israel? Do this: This tiny thing will change the world. Pray over your meal and then add this line: 'God, we pray for the peace of Jerusalem.'

"You will come into agreement with Psalm 126, and you know what will happen when you do that?" he asks. "You will start to pay more attention, and you're going to tune into what's happening with Jerusalem. Your kids are going to hear you praying for Jerusalem, your grandkids.

"And make sure you get into a church that completely stands with Israel," Stearns says. "School yourself on replacement theology. I challenge people to talk to their senior pastor and ask if your church stands with Israel and the Jewish people. If it doesn't, then you need to find a new church and get into one that is not susceptible to antichrist spirit because many churches are already on their way to an Antichrist mentality."

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Shawn A. Akers is the online editor at Charisma Media.

A Better Alternative: Moving Away From the Broken Health

Insurance Industry

The insurance industry doesn't know there is a better way.

Nearly 30 years in the insurance industry led me to the conclusion that there is a superior approach to health care.

I first learned about health care sharing during a health care conference about a decade ago and eventually reached out to leadership and became a member. I was intrigued because it is very much unlike insurance, but it immediately struck at the heart of the matter: it enables Christian love through direct support for one another during times of need.

And the programs don't simply borrow fundamentally flawed approaches that I witnessed in the insurance industry. The programs were designed from the ground up for a positive, direct doctor-patient relationship, a Christian-to-Christian human connection, and a straightforward, practical way for members to pay their medical bills.

As a college student, I lived close to Hartford, Connecticut, which has long been known as the insurance capital of the world. Insurance companies were eager to pursue University of Connecticut students, whom they believed would be good recruits. Being open to the possibilities, I engaged in a cooperative work program with one large insurance company a full semester prior to graduation.

But why would anyone be interested in working in insurance? I wasn't sure myself until I was placed in the health division of one of the larger insurance companies. What intrigued me as an economics major was that health insurance product designs were fundamentally flawed.

Economics is all about incentives. It became clear to me that the incentives model for patient decision-making in health insurance was not aligned to the interests of patients and

consumers. For example, patients have little financial incentive to consider cost and quality in their health care choices. The model certainly did not foster the market competition that would drive improvements in efficiency or quality in health care.

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Heart of the Matter

After graduating from the University of Connecticut in 1993, I returned to the company as an employee, bringing my economics perspective and desire to make a difference. Later, I also worked for the two largest operators of the most widely known name in health insurance.

My message to the teams I was involved with was that we should go to the heart of the matter and resolve core problems in the design of insurance products. What I believe to this day is that many insiders were interested, particularly my final employer before I started with the health care sharing ministry I now work for, but external industry and public policy constraints were enormous obstacles to the major value creation breakthroughs we strived for.

Some recent insurance innovations have shown promise, including paying members or lowering their out-of-pocket amount as they chose providers carefully based on price and quality.

Another interesting concept was reference pricing, which was used by some large employers as a non-network insurance offering to their employees. This approach determines a fair price, so it limits payment for care to a maximum. However, because in health care it is very difficult to get prices up front and to know what an acceptable price is, this approach often causes major friction between patients and providers.

By and large, insurance has been using the same approach to manage health care costs for decades. This includes:

- High deductibles.
- Restricting the choice of providers with narrow networks.
- Utilization review to challenge doctor-patient care decisions
- Health and wellness programs focused on disease management, vaccinations and health screenings.

These approaches have some impact, but not all positive. In fact, I would argue some do more harm than good.

A Better Model

Buckminster Fuller once said, “You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.”

Today, health care sharing ministries have built a better model that makes health insurance obsolete for many people of faith.

With the conviction that health care sharing has a better approach, and that the insurance industry was not going to be able to solve its core problems, I joined a health care sharing ministry staff last year eager to further strengthen our programs, which are built on a rock-solid foundation.

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Steve Bassett is vice president of programs at Samaritan Ministries.

Tom Horn, Christian Media Giant and CEO of SkyWatch TV, Dies After Health Struggle

Christian media giant Thomas R. Horn died today after battling severe cardiovascular issues. The founder, host and CEO of SkyWatch TV and founder of Whispering Ponies Ranch and Defender Publishing, Horn was a longtime television and radio personality, bestselling author of dozens of books and publisher of many others.

SkyWatch TV posted the following statement on X:

Tom Horn has gone home to be with the Lord. Thank you to everyone who lifted him and our family up fervently in prayer these last several days.

– SkyWatchTV (@SkyWatch_TV) October 20, 2023

Per a statement from SkyWatch, Horn “launched two news services where coverage of latest-breaking news and information on cutting-edge stories covering religion, prophecy, discovery, and the supernatural through in-depth investigative reports led to his network of writers being referenced and interviewed by the biggest names in broadcasting.” He appeared on “The Jim Bakker Show,” “Sid Roth’s It’s Supernatural!”, Daystar TV’s “Celebration,” “The 700 Club” and many more.

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Horn's 2019 book, "The Wormwood Prophecy" shed light on end-times prophecy, explaining the symbolism behind the apostle John's use of the term "wormwood" in the book of Revelation. The book's premise came from a supernatural experience, Horn told Charisma's Stephen Strang in a 2019 podcast.

Horn was hospitalized Oct. 12 when physicians discovered he was in the process of an active heart attack while he was entering the hospital for an angiogram and other tests related to recent health concerns. Although he made more than one miraculous improvement, he remained in ICU until his death. On Oct. 17, bestselling author Jonathan Cahn prayed a special Hebrew blessing over Horn before appearing on SkyWatch TV in conjunction with the current crisis in Israel.

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Sharon K. Gilbert, co-host and science reporter at SkyWatch TV, posted her condolences on X following Horn's death:

Gone to Glory: Thank you, Tom Horn, for your tireless service for our Lord and for His kingdom. Your work changed us all – and we are blessed because of it. ☐☐

– Sharon K. Gilbert (@sharonkgilbert) October 20, 2023

Horn leaves behind his wife, Nita; his son, Joe; his daughters, Donna and Ally; and several grandchildren.

Editor's Note: This post will be updated with further details as they become available. {eoa}

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How Do We Keep This Toxic Culture From Infecting American Shores?

Dr. Everett Piper (born 1959), a radio host and former university president, recently wrote a commentary titled "What happens in Israel will not stay in Israel," with a subtitle "Higher education in the U.S. has lost its moral boundaries." The article makes a connection between Hamas militants in Gaza and the vacuous, sordid shape of American education.

Barring a few, all of the nation's first 123 colleges and universities in America were established as distinctly Christian by nature, origin and purpose.

Piper writes:

This sad display of moral nihilism [in American education] should surprise no one. It's been coming for decades and is a sobering reminder of how far our educational system has fallen.

It may be a surprise to the elites in the media, but American higher education, from its inception in the 1600s until the end of the 19th century, operated within the context of a Christian ethos. The guiding philosophy was to propagate knowledge and to prepare upright leadership within a Christian society.

The academy's mission at that time was to promote moral development and civic responsibility. Theoretically and ideally, higher education was considered critical in maintaining our country's moral order.

Seven of the eight Ivy League institutions were founded in like manner. Dartmouth's purpose was to "Christianize" the

American Indian tribes, and its motto, even to this day, is Vox clamantis in deserto: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness." The University of Pennsylvania's motto was Leges Sine Moribus Vanæ: "Laws without morals are useless."

The Founding Fathers' lofty goals included Christian community, biblical teaching and moral education, a derivative of Proverbs 1:7 (NKJV), "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

The sapiential building of the inner man, personal integrity and morality in culture as the norm, coupled with an intense pursuit of scriptural wisdom, were prioritized as paramount in early American educational concepts, with at its core the premise that virtue is quintessential to freedom.

Spiritual wisdom, however, must be acquired as it is neither hereditary nor intrinsic. "Prize her, and she will exalt you; if you embrace her, she will honor you," Solomon urges his sons in Proverbs 4:8 (BSB). Proverbs 8:15 (NKJV) informs us that exalting spiritual wisdom, with its virtues of knowledge, shrewdness, discretion, counsel and resourcefulness, equips "kings [to] reign and rulers [to] decree justice." As per Bruce K. Waltke, it equips those who have submitted themselves to wisdom's teachings to "high station," "societal status" and "public square authority."

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Unfortunately, for modern America this is no longer the case as our entire educational enterprise, in the words of Piper, "has lost any moral boundaries that confirm common sense, natural law, and intellectual sanity."

Biological boys competing against girls at state track championships and swimming events are just the latest woke

whim-wham of Inside-the-Beltway education bureaucrats. They publicly give pompous precedence to the sinister staples of cultural Marxism, including embittering America's youth with Critical Race Theory, hailing homosexual and gender dysphoria, fomenting race division and instilling into children hate of America and for each other.

Last week it was announced that high school ACT scores have fallen for the sixth straight year, notwithstanding the National Education Association's \$800 billion bureaucracy.

Wouldn't Christianization of the NEA be a better use of taxpayer money?

A general examination of the state of education shows that the NEA is driven by the fiendish pursuit of embedding feral values into the nation's future: its youth.

We might contemplate Jesus' Parable of the Unclean Spirit in Matthew 12:43-45 to get a sense of what we believe ails contemporary secular education. To spell it out: the Warren Court (1953-1969) secularists banned Jehovah God from public education in 1962 (*Engel v. Vitale*) and 1963 (*Abington School District v. Schempp*), discarding biblically based edification that was established by the American Founders throughout the 17th to 19th centuries.

As a result, the morally blemished spirit of religious secularism entered the (now idolatrous) institution and brought with it seven spirits more vile and wicked than itself.

At what point is enough enough?

Regarding the subject of what happens in Israel will not stay in Israel, we like to add the following: In August 2005, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon traded land for peace with the Palestinians with a goal to improve Israel's security and international status in the absence of political negotiations

to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Hamas won the local elections in 2006 and has since then been in charge of the Gaza Strip and West Bank. What Israel received instead of peace were thousands upon thousands of missiles launched from nearby sites, and both Gaza and the West Bank turning into breeding grounds for terrorists.

Hamas took a flourishing section of land that the Israelis had built in addition to the tens of billions of dollars gifted by the United States, the United Nations and the EU. While meant for improvements based on codes and regulations, Hamas spent the money on armaments.

Wouldn't Christianization of Hamas be a better use of taxpayer money?

Prior to Hamas, Gazans led normal lives under Israeli rule. Gaza and the West Bank in the 1970s "constituted the fourth fastest-growing economy in the world—ahead of such wonders as Singapore, Hong Kong, and Korea, and substantially ahead of Israel itself." Medicine, electricity, schools, literacy—all flourished. They benefited from refrigerators and running water. However, as recently as 1967, Gazan school books taught arithmetic with problems like, 'You have 5 Israelis. You kill 5 of them. How many Israelis are left to be killed?'"

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis said last Sunday on "Face the Nation" that "Palestinian Arabs should go to Arab countries; the U.S. should not be absorbing any of those. They teach kids to hate Jews; the textbooks do not have Israel even on the map. They prepare very young kids to commit terrorist attacks. It's a toxic culture, and I think if we import large numbers of [Palestinians] to the United States, it [will] increase antisemitism [and] anti-Americanism."

We concur.

America is entering a period where God's wisdom conjoined with

knowledge, discernment and compassion will be required if we are to sustain freedom for our children and theirs. There will be much opposition, with American Christendom over the last 100 years shirking its responsibility and ignoring Christ's assignment found in Luke 19:13b (KJV): "Occupy until I come."

We pray for spiritual leaders now entering the public square of America that they will "love Christ and the souls of men to the point of willingness to die for the glory of the one and the salvation of the other. But they will fear nothing that breathes with mortal breath."

Gideons and Rahabs are beginning to stand. {eoa}

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David Lane *is the founder of the American Renewal Project.*