

Greetings from Tyler,

The situation in Haiti remains desperate. Even in the face of being accused of “invasion” by the likes of Hugo Chavez, the U.S. has responded with more help and more supplies than can be distributed. Rather than a shortage of supplies and medicine, the problem seems to be a bottleneck at the Port au Prince airport and an inability to distribute effectively. Heartbreaking personal stories continue to emerge from the disaster, and we can’t help feeling a kind of helpless sorrow at the terrible suffering of tens of thousands. Our prayers are certainly needed on behalf of the ravaged Haitians, and all those who’ve gone there to help.

Here at home, only ten days ago it seemed as if the fate of our nation was sealed. Nothing, it seemed could stop the powerful purveyors of socialist philosophy from enacting their grand vision of massive government intrusion into every nook and cranny of American life.

Almost faster than anybody could keep up, the pipe dreams of 60’s radicals were being hustled through the halls of congress and very close to becoming the law of the land. Short of divine intervention, who could stop it or even slow it down? So far as anybody knew, nobody could. Many of us could scarcely believe what was happening, but it was reality. The most powerful personages of our House and Senate smugly informed the nation that they would pull out every stop, even resort to what many would call rank corruption and bribery to insure success for their wildly unpopular legislation.

Even the most vocal adversaries of “healthcare” by government mandate were utterly resigned to its inevitability. The only thing we could do from an organizational standpoint was to recognize reality and pray for some kind of intervention, though we couldn’t have imagined what form that might take.

Do you believe in miracles?

It’s hard to say whether what we’ve seen in recent days is the result of direct Divine intervention, or rather the immutable laws of nature catching up with those in flagrant violation. Either way, at least for the moment, our national headlong slide into their socialist nightmare appears to be halted. According to the most trustworthy and experienced analysts, hundreds of new government bureaucracies were on the cusp of being created to manage everything from healthcare to carbon credits.

The prospects for America were bad enough. But the politicians rubbed the faces of “we the people” in their boundless arrogance, knowing full well that the agenda they were about enshrine as LAW was in contravention of every precept of freedom we hold. Does the Proverb about pride and its consequence come to mind?

Obviously, we don’t get directly involved in politics. But when the very most basic underpinnings of our Constitution and our God-ordained way of life are at stake, we would be remiss if we took no notice.

Only eight or ten weeks ago, the dogma of global warming was all but shattered in ways that nobody can deny. Have you noticed? Nobody even wants to talk about it lately, because to do so further discredits the whole notion. That happened right after Herman von Rumpoy gave his inaugural speech as the first President of the EU, explaining their goal of global governance under the pretext of saving the planet from climate change. Then the great UN/East Anglia scandal broke, followed immediately by the disastrous Copenhagen summit. Now those who would have

subjected us all to their carbon credit madness can hardly show their faces!

Our country is not out of the woods yet, by any stretch of the imagination. The U.S. has been plunged into debt to a degree that may yet result in national insolvency. Likely we'd never recover if their socialist healthcare laws and carbon nonsense succeeded.. Suddenly it looks most promising that America will be spared that ignominy.

Maybe now America's leaders can turn their attention to the responsibilities laid out in the Constitution, such as securing our peoples from the seething threat of Islamic terrorism. The mounting threat from Iran is all too real as well. But the things we've just witnessed should give us reassurance about the power of prayer. God certainly has the ability to foil the evil plans of those maniacs too.

The GTA program this week brought 527 requests with two hundred eighteen first time contacts. And the subject was—Prayer! Have a great Sabbath.

Mark Armstrong

P.S. from John Mitchell, Minister and Area Coordinator in Sacramento.

Bruce Bradley, long time member of the Church of God, died Sunday afternoon, Jan. 17 of a stroke. Bruce attended and served the Rocklin, CA congregation of the I.C.G. He helped in many ways, particularly in the care of widows and those in need. Bruce was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corp., and still owned and operated his Fair Oaks Upholstery business after some 35 years. Bruce was our “comic relief” in Rocklin (sometimes over the top—for which I had to correct him) but it is for his sincere and loving service to each of us that we will remember him. Their sermon was on the “Resurrection from the Dead,” and we look forward to seeing Bruce at the return of Jesus Christ, of which we are certain. The Rocklin Church will have a memorial/tribute service this coming Sabbath. John Mitchell