

Eye on the World

April 7, 2018

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of April 7, 2018.

Compiled by Dave Havir

Luke 21:34-36—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).



An article by Angela Giuffrida titled "Vatican Scrambles After Pope Appears to Deny Existence of Hell" was posted at theguardian.com on March 30, 2018. Following is the article.

The Vatican has scrambled to clarify comments made by Pope Francis to a well-known Italian journalist that appeared to deny the existence of hell.

The Holy See issued a terse statement saying a lengthy article published in La Repubblica on Wednesday by Eugenio Scalfari, 93, the newspaper's founder, was "the fruit of his reconstruction" and not "a faithful transcription of the Holy Father's words."

While the Vatican conceded that Scalfari, an atheist who struck up a friendship with Francis in 2013, had held a private meeting with the pontiff before the Easter weekend, it said an interview had not been granted.

During the meeting Scalfari asked the pope where "bad souls" go, to which he was quoted as responding: "They are not punished. Those who repent obtain God's forgiveness and take their place among the ranks of those who contemplate him, but those who do not repent and cannot be forgiven disappear. A hell doesn't exist, the disappearance of sinning souls exists."

The Vatican said the “literal words pronounced by the pope are not quoted” and that “no quotation of the article should be considered as a faithful transcription of the words of the Holy Father.”

Scalfari is said to pride himself on not taking notes or recording high-profile interviews. But this is not the first time he has been accused of misrepresenting the pope: in 2014 he was rebuked by the Vatican for an article saying Francis had abolished sin.

The friendship has been criticised in the past, with Scalfari once saying that it was the pope who asked for the meetings as he liked to “exchange ideas and sentiments with non-believers.”

The Catholic church’s teachings affirm the existence of hell and its eternity, saying “the chief punishment of hell is eternal separation of God.”

Pope Benedict XVI said in 2007 that hell “really exists and is eternal, even if nobody talks about it much anymore,” while in 1999 Pope John Paul II announced that hell was “the ultimate consequence of sin itself . . . rather than a place, hell indicates the state of those who freely and definitively separate themselves from God, the source of all life and joy.”

The controversy came as Pope Francis washed the feet of 12 prisoners at Rome’s Regina Coeli prison on Holy Thursday. Among the inmates were two Muslims, an Orthodox Christian and a Buddhist. He told them: “Everyone has the opportunity to change life and one cannot judge.”

It was the fourth time since becoming pope that he held mass in an Italian prison. “I am a sinner like you but today I represent Jesus . . . God never abandons us, never tires of forgiving us,” he added.



An article by Myra Adams titled “Exploring the Shroud’s Top 5 Mysteries” was posted at townhall.com on April 1, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Coinciding with the celebration of Jesus Christ’s resurrection—the foundational basis of Christianity—is the annual controversy over whether there exists physical proof of this miraculous event.

The “evidence” is a 14.5 ft. by 3.5 ft. linen cloth known as the Shroud of Turin, believed by millions of Christians to be the authentic burial shroud of Jesus Christ. The cloth is preserved in an underground vault in the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist in Turin, Italy, where it has resided since 1578.

Visible on the cloth in a faint yellowed color is a full front and back body image of a tortured adult male bearing the wounds of crucifixion.

Additionally, every mark on the body image is consistent with the biblical accounts of Christ’s suffering.

For example, there are over 100 scourge marks, while bloodstain patterns on his scalp and forehead suggest the painful “crown of thorns.”

A large blood stain on his side is compatible with a spear wound. His knees are bruised, but his legs are not broken.

Does the “Man of the Shroud” reflect how Jesus looked the second before his resurrection?

Answering that question is precisely why the Shroud’s mysterious yet scientifically proven properties have baffled generations of scientists and researchers. Also the reason why the Shroud continues to be the most analyzed artifact in the world.

Let’s explore the Shroud’s top five mysteries.

■ **Mystery #1: The Shroud photographs as a photo-negative image.**

In 1898 an Italian photographer named Secondo Pia obtained permission to apply the “new” technology of photography to the Shroud.

When developing his photos, Pia was astonished to discover the Shroud’s first “modern” unexplained mystery—the Shroud photographs as a photo-negative image. That means the Shroud is a negative image that shows up positive when seen in a photographic negative.

■ **Mystery #2: “The Shroud is not the product of an artist.”**

Fast forward to 1978 when 40 distinguished scientists, famously known as STURP—Shroud of Turin Research Project, obtained permission to perform what was then state of the art optical and chemical tests on the Shroud. The key objective of STURP was to determine the nature of the cloth’s image and bloodstains.

In 1981 STURP issued their comprehensive report. The last paragraph of the summary stated: “We can conclude for now that the Shroud image is that of a real human form of a scourged, crucified man. It is not the product of an artist.

The blood stains are composed of hemoglobin and also give a positive test for serum albumin. The image is an ongoing mystery and until further chemical studies are made, perhaps by this group of scientists, or perhaps by some scientists in the future, the problem remains unsolved.”

■ **Mystery #3: How was the image formed?**

STURP’s mission to solve the mystery of the substance used to form the image only deepened when their summary concluded:

“No pigments, paints, dyes or stains have been found on the fibrils. X-ray, fluorescence, and microchemistry on the fibrils preclude the possibility of paint being used as a method for creating the image. Ultra Violet and infrared evaluation confirm these studies.”

Mystery #4: The Shroud is encoded with 3D distance information.

Again, from STURP's final report summary: "Computer image enhancement and analysis by a device known as a VP-8 image analyzer show that the image has unique, three-dimensional information encoded in it."

This 3D encoded information first visualized by STURP on a primitive image analyzer in 1978, was updated in 2010 and served as the basis for the History Channel's documentary, "The Real Face of Jesus?" Seen by millions, the popular documentary aired annually on Easter weekend between the years 2010—2017.

I asked Ray Downing, the 3D artist who starred in the documentary and produced a life-portrait of Jesus based on the Shroud's 3D information, to further explain this phenomenon.

Downing said: "What the Shroud mysteriously seems to retain is information about the distance the cloth was from parts of the body it presumably rested on, as well as parts of the body it was not in direct contact with."

■ **Mystery #5:** Shroud image is uniform in intensity across both frontal and dorsal images.

Here to explain this unexplainable uniform intensity is Russ Breault, a world renowned Shroud expert who also starred in "The Real Face of Jesus?"

Breault says: "The image appears because something caused the accelerated dehydration and oxidation of the cellulose fibers comprising the linen—NOT because of any substance applied to the cloth. The image is only two micro-fibers deep—about 1% of a single thread and is uniform in intensity throughout the cloth—with no deviation—a feat impossible with human hands!"

There are many more Shroud mysteries, but the previous five are the most baffling to scientists.

■ **Now the stage is set for what I call "Controversy #1"—the 1988 carbon-14 dating.**

In 1988 the Shroud underwent a process known as carbon-14 dating. The test dated the Shroud between the years 1260—1390. Immediately headlines around the globe screamed that the Shroud was a "medieval forgery" Today that moniker is still prevalent among Shroud naysayers, but those dates do not address or negate the five mysteries.

Subsequently, during last 30 years, the carbon -14 dating has been continually questioned and criticized.

Again, here is Russ Breault to elaborate on this lingering controversy: "The carbon dating controversy centers around tiny samples of the Shroud cut from an outer corner of the cloth. The area cut is from the most held and handled section thought to have been added during the Middle Ages as a repair or a re-weave. Then, in 2005, evidence for the repair was published in a peer-reviewed journal by chemist Ray Rogers, a STURP team member. Furthermore, a new Shroud dating analysis method originating at Padua University in Italy was published in 2013.

That research dated the Shroud between 280 BC–AD 220, a 500-year timeframe that includes AD 33, the year traditionally associated with Christ’s crucifixion.”

Unfortunately, the Vatican has yet to authorize any new comprehensive 21st century scientific examinations of the Shroud guaranteeing that it will remain one of the world’s greatest mysteries.



A video and an article by Jon Rogers titled “Bizarre Easter Ritual See Mexican Catholics Whip Each Other to ‘Free Them of Sin’ ” were posted at thesun.co.uk on April 1, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Devout Mexicans took to the streets on Easter Sunday and were whipping each other in a twist on tradition.

Usually the hardcore Catholic faithful parade through the streets flagellating themselves as an act of penitence as sinners and to mark the suffering of Christ.

But some in Mexico appear to have gone a stage further and started whipping one another instead.

Men in the Mexican town of Soltepec took to the streets on Saturday in a tradition that is supposed to cleanse the body of sin during Holy Week.

The tradition is believed to date back to the 16th century.

The elders of the community are said to be worried the meaning of this act of faith could be lost over time and hope that the younger participants will continue the tradition in the future.

The penitents or ‘magdarame’ practice the ‘mortification of the flesh’ as a way to ‘put to death’ their perceived sinful nature.

Martin Luther, the founder of the Lutheran Church, regularly practised self-flagellation.

Less brutal forms of mortification include fasting, abstinence and kneeling.

In 2005, Rev Michael Geisler, an Opus Dei Catholic priest wrote: “Self-denial helps a person overcome both psychological and physical weakness, gives him energy, helps him grow in virtue and ultimately leads to salvation. It conquers the insidious demons of softness, pessimism and lukewarm faith that dominate the lives of so many today.”



An article by David Crouch titled “ ‘Being Cash-Free Puts Us at Risk of Attack’: Swedes Turn Against Cashlessness” was posted at theguardian.com on April 3, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

Sweden's central bank governor has called for public control over its payment system. Others say a fully digital system is vulnerable to fraud and attack.

It is hard to argue that you cannot trust the government when the government isn't really all that bad. This is the problem facing the small but growing number of Swedes anxious about their country's rush to embrace a cash-free society.

Most consumers already say they manage without cash altogether, while shops and cafes increasingly refuse to accept notes and coins because of the costs and risk involved.

Until recently, however, it has been hard for critics to find a hearing. There are signs this might be changing.

In February, the head of Sweden's central bank warned that Sweden could soon face a situation where all payments were controlled by private sector banks.

The Riksbank governor, Stefan Ingves, called for new legislation to secure public control over the payments system, arguing that being able to make and receive payments is a "collective good" like defence, the courts, or public statistics.

"Most citizens would feel uncomfortable to surrender these social functions to private companies," he said.

The central bank governor's remarks are helping to bring other concerns about a cash-free society into the mainstream, says Björn Eriksson, 72, a former national police commissioner and the leader of a group called the Cash Rebellion, or Kontantupproret.

Until now, Kontantupproret has been dismissed as the voice of the elderly and the technologically backward, Eriksson says.

"When you have a fully digital system you have no weapon to defend yourself if someone turns it off," he says.

"If Putin invades Gotland [Sweden's largest island] it will be enough for him to turn off the payments system. No other country would even think about taking these sorts of risks, they would demand some sort of analogue system."

No system based on technology is invulnerable to glitches and fraud, says Mattias Skarec, 29, a digital security consultant. Yet Sweden is divided into two camps.

- The first says "we love the new technology."
- The other just can't be bothered.

Fraudsters have already learned to exploit the system's idiosyncrasies to trick people out of large sums of money, even their pensions.

An opinion poll this month revealed unease among Swedes, with almost seven out of 10 saying they wanted to keep the option to use cash, while just 25% wanted a completely cashless society.

The Pirate Party—which made its name in Sweden for its opposition to state and private sector surveillance—welcomes a higher political profile for these issues.

Look at Ireland, Christian Engström says, where abortion is illegal. It is much easier for authorities to identify Irish women who have had an abortion if the state can track all digital financial transactions, he says.

And while Sweden's government might be relatively benign, a quick look at Europe suggests there is no guarantee how things might develop in the future.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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- An article titled "17 Dead, Over a Thousand Injured After Palestinians Clash With IDF on Gaza Border" was posted at jpost.com on March 30, 2018.
 - A Reuters article titled "Erdogan Calls Netanyahu 'Terrorist' As Insults Fly After Gaza Death" was posted at reuters.com on April 1, 2018.
 - An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Bernie Sanders Defends Violent Hamas Terrorists As 'Demonstrators' " was posted at townhall.com on April 2, 2018.
 - An article by Stewart Paterson titled "Palestinians Prepare for Fresh Protests As Funerals Begin for 16 People Killed by Israeli Forces in Gaza's Bloodiest Day in Four Years—As Israel Threatens to Target 'Terror Organization' " was posted at dailymail.co.uk on March 31, 2018.
 - An article by Jeffrey Goldberg titled "Saudi Crown Prince: Iran's Supreme Leader 'Makes Hitler Look Good' " was posted at theatlantic.com on April 2, 2018.
 - A video and an article by Tovah Lazaroff titled "Israel Thwarts Major Islamic Jihad Missile Attack Against Naval Vessels" were posted at jpost.com on April 4, 2018.
 - An article by Bridget Johnson titled "Hamza Bin Laden Vows to 'Redistribute the Riches' of Saudi Arabia to Poor in Call for Uprising" was posted at pjmedia.com on April 3, 2018.
 - An article by Chris Pleasance and Charlie Faulkner titled "Putin Cements Powerful New Alliance With Iran and Turkey in Challenge to Trump and the West As the Three Leaders Vow to Bring a 'Lasting Ceasefire' to Syria at Summit in Ankara" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on April 4, 2018.
 - An article by Charlotte Neal titled "Vladimir Putin Escalates Crisis With Britain As He Orders More Than 50 UK Diplomats to Leave Russia—Increasing Total Expelled to Over 70" was posted at mirror.co.uk on March 31, 2018.
 - An article by Cheyenne Roundtree titled "London Murder Rate is Higher Than New York's for the First Time Ever After Twelve Killings in Just 19 Days" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on April 1, 2018.

- A video titled “Watch: More Than 50 Armed Migrants Go on Rampage in German City” was posted at breitbart.com on April 1, 2018.
- An article by Andrew Rosati and Patricia Laya titled “Venezuela’s Currency is Doing Even Worse Than Previously Thought” was posted at bloomberg.com on April 4, 2018.
- An article by Jim Wyss titled “Evangelicals Emerge As Political Force in Central America” was posted at gazette.com on March 31, 2018.
- An article by Brady McCombs titled “New Asian-American and Brazilian Apostles Make Mormon History” was posted at yahoo.com on March 31, 2018.
- An article by Paul Bedard titled “Mexico Aids Easter Invasion of Over 1,000 Illegals Into US” was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on March 31, 2018.
- A Reuters article by Delphine Schrank and Mica Rosenberg titled “Migrant Caravan Heading to U.S. Border Puts Mexico in Tough Spot With Trump” was posted at reuters.com on April 2, 2018.
- An article by Paul Bedard titled “Third Mexican Town Welcomes Migrant ‘Caravan,’ 400 Miles Closer to US” was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on April 2, 2018.
- An article by Jamie White titled “Caravan Releases List of Demands and Expects Trump to Comply” was posted at infowars.com on April 2, 2018.
- An article by Paul Handley titled “Trump Outraged Over Mexico Migrant ‘Caravan’ ” was posted at yahoo.com on April 3, 2018.
- An article by Christopher Sherman titled “Mexico Starts Giving Caravan Migrants Transit Visas” was posted at yahoo.com on April 4, 2018.



An article by Michelle Malkin titled “Caravans, Churches and Criminal Sanctuaries” was posted at michellemalkin.com on April 4, 2018. Following is the article.

Open borders tour guides in Mexico illegally shepherding 1,500 Central Americans to the United States border declared victory this week. Mexican officials reportedly are offering humanitarian visas to avert a showdown.

But the parade of immigration lawlessness marches on—with reckless aiding and abetting by churches across the U.S.

Pueblo Sin Fronteras, the group in charge of the annual “migrant caravan,” launched its effort during Holy Week by invoking the Stations of the Cross with biblical costumery and prop crosses.

When they’re not serving as human traffickers masquerading as human rights activists, these travel agents for amnesty busy themselves constructing shel-

ters along their illicit pathways that span the globe. Catholic groups have sponsored and subsidized such nation-sabotaging campaigns for decades.

■ The Vatican itself donated at least \$20,000 in 2009 to erect a shelter for Central American illegal aliens sneaking through Ixtepec, Mexico, where they hopped on freight trains into our country.

■ Another papal society, Catholic Extension, has poured more than \$12 million dollars into ministries along our southern border over the past five years “to ensure that those who are on a journey are protected by the Church and that we advocate on their behalf,” according to the Catholic News Agency.

■ In Colorado, five illegal aliens have taken sanctuary in houses of worship in the outlaw safe spaces of Mancos, Denver, Carbondale and Boulder—more than any other state. Each had multiple bites at the legal apple that stretched out for years.

Our immigration courts heard their cases, rejected their appeals, turned down the appeals of their appeals and ordered them to leave. Religious groups have provided lawyers and media relations consultants every step of the way.

■ In Washington state, the Jesuit-affiliated St. Joseph Catholic Church of Seattle blasted President Trump’s “destructive and brutal” immigration enforcement and declared “our unwavering solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the immigrant community.” All deportations violate “Catholic Social Teaching” and “the common good,” the parish asserted.

■ In Manhattan’s Upper West Side, the Fourth Universalist Society of New York is harboring a mother and her family who’ve lived here illegally for more than a dozen years and feel entitled to flout their deportation orders.

■ In Springfield, Massachusetts, the South Congregational Church is shielding a Peruvian woman and her two children facing deportation. Mayor Domenic Sarno has called on the city council to revoke the church’s property tax exemption so that no “public dollars shall be allocated for the purpose of interfering with the religious freedoms of South Church in accordance to our Constitution.” In response to a rare public official taking his legal and fiduciary responsibilities seriously, the church’s leader condemned Sarno’s soul.

■ In Las Vegas, the incoming Catholic Bishop George Leo Thomas announced that illegal immigration and gun control will top his spiritual agenda. Echoing the left-wing U.S. Conference on Catholic Bishops, Thomas pledged to support and advocate for the so-called illegal alien Dreamers and welcome them into the church.

■ In San Diego, Catholic and Episcopal leaders united to protest construction of the border wall while waving Mexican flags. “Jesus said we should love our neighbor,” one argued.

True, but Scripture also teaches citizens to honor the rule of law and secular authorities who preserve and defend civil order and safety: “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, who-

ever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment" (Romans 13:1-7).

The Acton Institute's Brooke Levitske put it more bluntly: "Christ expected his followers to treat criminals in prison the way they would treat him, but he said nothing about busting them out of prison."

As a Catholic who believes in strict immigration enforcement, I have argued repeatedly that it is one thing to show compassion to legal immigrants, legitimate refugees and asylees, and those abused and mistreated by smugglers.

It's quite another to conspire against an orderly immigration and entrance system that imposes commonsense limits, eligibility requirements, criminal background checks, medical screening and a commitment to assimilation.

Our laws are clear: 8 U.S. Code Section 1324 makes it a felony to knowingly bring or attempt to bring aliens across the border illegally; to knowingly conceal, harbor or shield them from detection in reckless disregard for the law; and to engage in any conspiracy or to aid and abet such acts.

We reserve the right to regulate entry into our country for the same reasons the Vatican itself has high barriers, armed guards and metal detectors. Yet, Pope Francis has lambasted President Trump and our walls as "not Christian."

If you don't like our laws, change them. If you can't respect our sovereignty, go organize a caravan of alien trespassers and seek permanent shelter at the Sistine Chapel. Good luck with that.



An article by Ken Blackwell titled "Why Citizenship Matters" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 2, 2018. Following is the article.

It's not about being against foreigners. All nations put their people first. If there's hard work to do in the world, they turn to the U.S.A.

The left hates President Donald Trump for many reasons. One of the most important is because he really believes in America first. He doesn't just say it. He bases his policies on that principle—which shouldn't be controversial.

It's nothing against foreigners. They put their people first. They don't provide the U.S. with "foreign aid." They don't protect America from foreign enemies. If there's dirty work to do in the world, they turn to Washington.

It's about time we were equally serious about taking care of our own. The first duty of the federal government—and states and localities too—is to protect and support the American people.

As the Preamble of the Constitution explains, the federal government's purpose is to "insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

If we don't take care of ourselves no one else will.

The political foundation of our republic is citizenship—which means enjoying the benefits but also paying the price of being an American.

Becoming a U.S. citizen is an honor, something people all over the world desire. And citizenship is important precisely because it brings full participation in U.S. society.

Once you become a citizen—but only then—can you help decide what America is and will become.

So naturally only citizens should vote. But sadly, today, that idea offends many Democrats, who see themselves as citizens of the world. To them, it's not a problem if you come to America illegally, and it's not a problem if you vote illegally.

Thus, the left, which includes once mainstream organizations such as the League of Women Voters, works hard to prevent us from learning how many illegal ballots are cast.

But the American Civil Rights Union has challenged that activity by filing federal lawsuits against numerous jurisdictions which have more people registered to vote than residents.

There are jurisdictions where 100-year-olds and 200-year-olds not only are registered but are actively voting, where people are registered in more than one state, and where non-citizens register and vote, while election officials do little to nothing to remove them from the voter rolls.

Four years ago, three professors at Old Dominion University estimated that at least 620,000 non-citizens were registered to vote nationwide, and the number could be substantially higher.

They concluded: "We find that some non-citizens participate in U.S. elections, and that this participation has been large enough to change meaningful election outcomes including Electoral College votes, and Congressional elections."

If you believe in democracy, these findings are disturbing. Consider Starr County, Texas, which decades ago helped make "Landslide Lyndon" Johnson's career in his first race for U.S. Senate. The local District Attorney, Omar Escobar, testified before the state legislature that current registration procedures were "an invitation to fraud."

Even small numbers of improper votes can have significant impacts. President Donald Trump carried the states of Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin by especially narrow margins—just .3 percent and 12,000 votes in the first. In Virginia one (yes, one) vote determined the outcome of a delegate contest last November, which in turn determined control of the entire legislative body.

The obvious solution is to require proof of citizenship to register to vote. Naturally, the left calls such a requirement "onerous." Yet proof of citizenship, most obviously a birth certificate, needs only be procured once.

Anyway, the law should apply even if complying is difficult. The majority is cheated—betrayed, really—when illegal votes change the result of an election. Government has no more fundamental duty than to protect the integrity of the electoral process.

Unfortunately, a federal court previously blocked an attempt by Alabama, Georgia, and Kansas to add a citizenship requirement to the federal registration form, which otherwise only requires that the registrant swear to be a citizen.

Only Kansas was actively enforcing a state citizenship requirement, but that state's secretary of state, Kris Kobach, is now fighting a lawsuit brought by the ACLU (who else!?) claiming it's illegal for the state to ensure that those registering to vote are doing so legally.

Critics of election safeguards argue that only a handful of cases of fraudulent behavior have been found. But these are the very people making it virtually impossible to determine the magnitude of the problem.

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, Thomas Jefferson told us. It also is the only defense for free elections.



An article by Lowell Ponte titled "California's Illegal Alien Voting Law is Secession" was posted at americanthinker.com on April 2, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

On April 12, 1861, the Confederacy opened fire on Fort Sumter, igniting a civil war that before its end killed more than 800,000 Americans.

Mark the date April 1, 2018, April Fool's Day, as the day Civil War 2.0 began. On that day, the State of California began to automatically register illegal aliens who have driver licenses to vote. This new law immunizes illegals against any state criminal penalty for registering and voting.

- Leftist scholars say our states control their voting criteria and can legally register non-citizens to vote in state, county, and local elections.
- States, including California, however, may not register illegals to vote in federal elections—for members of Congress, U.S. senators, or president.
- Allowing citizens of other countries vote in California would illegally "dilute" the votes not only of Californians, but of all American citizens by giving foreigners political power in selecting American lawmakers and presidents.
- Democrats who collude in such theft of citizen voting rights—letting your vote be canceled out by a foreigner—should face criminal prosecution under the Conspiracy Against Rights Act (18 USC §241).

California has one quarter or more of America's illegal aliens—as well as one third of the entire nation's welfare recipients. With a population more than 40 percent Latino, it has become Mexifornia.

The new California motor-voter registration law that took effect April 1 transparently is intended to enfranchise illegals, who vote 2-1 for the ruling Democratic Party, in order to dissolve the American nation into a borderless, bankrupt, bilingual backwater ruled as a colony by a global progressive government.

Progressive President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's slogan was "Tax and tax, spend and spend, elect and elect."

In California's lavish vote-buying welfare state, the top 1 percent of taxpayers earn 24% of the income but reportedly pay at least 48% of all income taxes. The highest-earning 5,700 Californians reportedly pay upwards of 37% of all state income taxes.

This dangerously narrow tax base in the economic near crash of 2008 caused state tax revenue to plummet by 23%. California cannot yet print its own money.

President Trump is trying to fight his way through a thicket of Democrat-appointed left-wing judges to defund or abolish sanctuary cities and illegal invaders, like the thousands of mostly Hondurans calling themselves Migrants en la Lucha, "migrants in the fight," mobilized to be the next wave to overwhelm the border patrol on Easter weekend, much as the radicals wearing Guy Fawkes masks swept over the British police in the movie V for Vendetta.

These are classic radical tactics: either the invaders win or the police who stop them are accused of anti-human brutality.

Imagine a better alternative.

- Suppose that President Trump announces today that the new California law has made all future elections unconstitutional and illegal, because foreigners are now allowed to tilt the outcome.

- Neither he nor the Republican House and Senate will accept the credentials of anyone elected by California (one of eight states, incidentally, that have more registered voters than voting-age citizens).

- Imagine after November's vote that California's two Democratic senators and 53 members of Congress (39 of whom are Democrats) are not seated until a new California election purges all illegal aliens and other foreigners from the voter rolls in federal elections.

- No California presidential votes will be counted in 2020.

- Imagine the federal government requiring voter IDs and declaring it a felony punishable by permanent forfeiture of future U.S. citizenship if a non-citizen votes illegally in any federal election.

California Democrats defied federal law and colluded to let foreigners take control of the U.S. government in Washington, D.C. They started Civil War 2.0 by seceding from the United States and its laws.

Now they should lose all political power outside California, which would end any hope that Progressives will ever again rule the United States.



An article by Walter Williams titled "Discrimination and Disparities" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on April 3, 2018. Following is the article.

I don't mind saying that this column represents a grossly understated review of "Discrimination and Disparities," just published by my longtime friend and colleague Dr. Thomas Sowell. In less than 200 pages, Sowell lays waste to myth after myth not only in the United States but around the globe.

One of those myths is that but for the fact of discrimination, we'd all be proportionately represented in socio-economic characteristics, such as career, income, education and incarceration.

The fact of business is that there is no evidence anywhere on earth, at any time in human history, that demonstrates that but for discrimination, there would be proportionate representation in anything by race, sex, nationality or any other human characteristic.

Sowell shows that socio-economic outcomes differ vastly among individuals, groups and nations in ways that cannot be explained by any one factor, whether it's genetics, discrimination or some kind of exploitation.

A study of National Merit Scholarship finalists shows that firstborns are finalists more often than their multiple siblings combined.

- Data from the U.S., Germany and Britain show that the average IQ of firstborns is higher than the average IQ of their later siblings.
- Such outcomes challenge those who believe that heredity or one's environment is the dominant factor in one's academic performance.
- Moreover, the finding shows that if there is not equality among people born to the same parents and living under the same roof, why should equality of outcomes be expected under other conditions?

In Chapter 2, Sowell provides evidence that people won't take racial discrimination at any cost. The higher its cost the less it will be tolerated, and vice versa. One example is segregated seating on municipal transit in the South. Many companies were privately owned, and their decision-makers understood that they could lose profits by offending their black customers by establishing segregated seating. Transportation companies fought against laws mandating racially segregated seating, both politically and in the courts, but lost. Companies even chose to ignore the law. Faced with heavy fines, though, they began to comply with the law.

The point is that the difference between the white transportation owners and the white politicians and segregationists was the transportation company owners had to bear the cost of alienating black riders and the politicians and segregationists didn't.

Sowell broadens his analysis to show that regulated companies and organizations—such as public utilities and nonprofit entities, including colleges and government agencies—will be at the forefront when it's politically popular to discriminate against blacks but also will be at the forefront when it's politically popular to discriminate in favor of blacks. Why? Because in either case, they don't bear the burden of forgone profits.

In Sowell's chapter titled "The World of Numbers," he points out what I'm going to call out-and-out dishonesty.

In 2000, a U.S. Commission on Civil Rights study pointed out that 44.6 percent of black applicants were turned down for mortgages, while only 22.3 percent of whites were turned down. These and similar statistics led to charges of lending industry discrimination and demands that government do something about it. While the loan rejection rate for whites was 22.3 percent, that for Asians and native Hawaiians was only 12.4 percent.

Those statistics didn't see the light of day. Why? They didn't fit the racial discrimination narrative.

It would have been difficult for the race hustlers to convince the nation that lending institutions were discriminating against not only black applicants but white applicants, as well, in favor of Asian and native Hawaiian applicants.

At several points in the book, Sowell points to the tragedies created in the pursuit of social justice.

He gives the example of the Gujaratis expelled from Uganda and the Cubans fleeing Cuba. Many of the Gujaratis arrived in Britain destitute but rose again to prosperity.

It's the same story with the Cubans who came to the U.S. and prospered. By losing their most productive people, both Uganda and Cuba became economic basket cases.

The general public, educators and politicians would benefit immensely from reading "Discrimination and Disparities," if only to avoid being unknowingly duped.



An article by Judge Andrew Napolitano titled "What is Robert Mueller Looking For?" was posted at townhall.com on April 5, 2018. Following is the article.

Robert Mueller is the special counsel appointed by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein in May 2017 to probe the nature and extent of Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign.

The investigation began in October 2016 under President Barack Obama when the FBI took seriously the boast of Carter Page, one of candidate Donald Trump's foreign policy advisers, that he had worked for the Kremlin.

The FBI also had transcripts of telephone conversations and copies of emails and text messages of Trump campaign personnel that had been supplied to it by British intelligence. Connecting the dots, the FBI persuaded a judge on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court to issue a search warrant for the surveillance of Page, an American.

Page never registered as a foreign agent, and working for the Kremlin and not registering as a foreign agent is a crime for which the FBI should have investigated Page.

Such an investigation would have included surveillance, but not from the FISA court. Surveillance in a criminal case requires a search warrant from a U.S. District Court based upon the constitutional requirement of probable cause of crime—meaning that it is more likely than not that the thing to be searched (internet and telephone communications) will produce evidence of criminal behavior.

But the FBI didn't seek that. Instead, it sought a warrant to surveil Page's communications based on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act standard, which is probable cause of communicating with a foreign power.

This lower, easier-to-demonstrate and unconstitutional standard is the tool of choice these days for FBI agents because it requires less effort and is used in a court that grants 99.9 percent of search warrant applications.

The temptation to use the FISA court and its easy standard instead of a U.S. District Court and its privacy-recognizing constitutional standard to get a search warrant is often too much for the FBI to resist.

This is a form of corruption because it presents a path for criminal investigators to invade the privacy of Americans that the Constitution protects.

Yet the FBI used whatever it learned from the surveillance of Page to get that surveillance extended. Even the Trump Department of Justice went to the FISA court to spy on Page.

Lost in all this is the purpose of FISA—to prevent government surveillance of Americans and limit it to agents of foreign powers.

When Jeff Sessions became attorney general, he recognized that he himself would most likely be a witness in the Mueller investigation because of his involvement in the Trump campaign, so he removed himself from all matters pertaining to Russia, and his deputy, Rosenstein, appointed Mueller to run the investigation.

What is Mueller looking for?

When the feds are examining a potential crime committed by a group, their treasure-trove of evidence can often be a member of the group who reveals the criminal behavior of his former colleagues.

That's why the feds often indict people for crimes that appear to be irrelevant to the ones they are investigating—in this case, lying to the FBI and bank fraud allegedly committed before the 2016 election.

When such an indicted person can then be persuaded to turn on his former colleagues in return for a lesser charge or a lighter sentence, prosecutors can have a field day.

This is a form of bribery—you tell us on the witness stand what we want to hear and we'll go easy on you—that is permitted only to prosecutors; and the courts condone it.

If defense counsel gave as much as a lollipop to a witness to shade his testimony, both would be indicted.

From the backgrounds of those whom Mueller's grand juries have indicted and from the deals they have cut with him, it appears that Mueller is looking at three areas of potential criminal behavior.

Mueller has already established as a base line the saturation of the 2016 presidential campaign by Russian intelligence agents. If his indictments of these Russians are accurate, they were here virtually and physically and they spent millions to help Trump. But the indicted Russians are not coming back to the U.S. for their trials.

■ Mueller is examining their potential American confederates for the crime of conspiracy—or, as my colleagues in the media call it, collusion.

This would be an agreement by campaign officials to accept something of value from a foreign person, entity or government, even if the thing of value—for example, Hillary Clinton emails—was never actually delivered.

The crime is the agreement, and it is prosecutable after at least one of those who agreed takes a material step in furtherance of the agreement.

■ Mueller's second area of examination is possible obstruction of justice by President Trump himself.

Obstruction is the interference with a judicial proceeding for a corrupt purpose. Was FBI Director James Comey fired because Trump couldn't work with him or because he was hot on the president's trail and Trump wanted to impede that? If it was the former, it would have been licit. If it was the latter, it could have been criminal.

■ The third of Mueller's areas is financial dealings by the pre-presidential Trump.

These bear little surface relationship to Russian involvement in the campaign, yet evidence of wrongdoing must have come to Mueller from his FBI agents or his cooperating witnesses, and he is following the money as prosecutors do.

Where will all this go?

The president cannot seem to find an experienced criminal defense lawyer. Mueller has 16 experienced federal prosecutors and a few dozen FBI agents passionately at work. And he also has witnesses he legally bribed and a few hundred thousand documents from the White House and from Trump's financial affairs that the president has not personally reviewed.

And now Mueller wants to interview the president. Who will have the upper hand if that happens?



“Eye on the World” comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Finances

- An article by Guy Benson titled “Booming: Jobless Claims Hit Lowest Level Since the Nixon Administration” was posted at townhall.com on March 29, 2018.
- An article by Mona Charen titled “This is What You Call a Conservative Budget?” was posted at townhall.com on March 30, 2018.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled “Trump Tax Bill Devastates Walgreens by Forcing It to Increase Worker Wages by \$100 Million” was posted at townhall.com on March 29, 2018.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled “Report: Trump’s Trade War Threatens to Hurt Hollywood” was posted at cnsnews.com on March 30, 2018.
- An article by Delphine Touiton titled “Washington, Beijing Flexing Muscles in Trade Dispute” was posted at yahoo.com on April 2, 2018.

Illegal immigration

- An article by Katie Pavlich titled “Violent ICE Detainee Got Away Because His Handcuffs Were Removed for TSA” was posted at townhall.com on March 29, 2018.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled “380 Sheriffs Warn Congress Failure to Secure Border ‘Will Cost More Innocent Lives’ ” was posted at cnsnews.com on March 30, 2018.
- An article by Paul Elias titled “California Governor Pardons 5 Men Facing Deportation” was posted at sacbee.com on March 30, 2018.
- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled “U.S. Arrests 99 MS-13 Gangsters Who Entered As ‘Unaccompanied Minors’ ” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 2, 2018.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled “Border Union Chief: ‘Trump Effect is Now Gone’ Because Agencies ‘Haven’t Followed Through on His Vision’ ” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 2, 2018.
- A video and an article titled “Illegal Immigrants in California Allowed to Pay In-State Tuition” were posted at yahoo.com on April 2, 2018.
- An article by Rob Shimshock titled “California College Tuition Going Up, But Not for Illegal Alien Students” was posted at dailycaller.com on April 1, 2018.

■ An article by Benjy Egel titled "More Than a Million Undocumented Immigrants Have Received California Driver's Licenses" was posted at sacbee.com on April 4, 2018.

■ An article by Kevin Daley titled "HHS Mulls Appeal After Judge Forces Trump Administration to Provide Abortion for Illegals" was posted at daily-caller.com on March 31, 2018.

Comments about weapons

■ An article by David Placher titled "What's Causing Baltimore's Population Loss? It's No Mystery" was posted at baltimoresun.com on April 2, 2018.

Comments about Trump Support

■ An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Trump's Approval Rating Just Blew Past Obama's at This Point in the Presidency" was posted at townhall.com on April 2, 2018.

■ An article by Guy Benson titled "Critics Blast Trump's Planned Deployment of National Guard Troops to the Border, But Guess Who Else Did That? [Bush and Obama]" was posted at townhall.com on April 4, 2018.

Comments about Trump Opposition

■ An article by Christian Caryl titled "Donald Trump isn't Winston Churchill; He's Neville Chamberlain" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on April 3, 2018.

■ An article by Susan Jones titled "Texts Indicate FBI was Briefing Obama WH in Early Stages of Trump-Russia Investigation" was posted at cnsnews.com on March 29, 2018.

■ An article by Matt Vespa titled "So, the Anti-Gun March was Just Another Event for Educated, Middle-Aged Women to Bash Trump and NRA?" was posted at townhall.com on March 29, 2018.

News about the media

■ An article by Brian Flood titled "CNN Mocked for Glorifying JFK's 'Legendary' Infidelity After Harping on Sex Allegation Against Trump" was posted at foxnews.com on April 2, 2018.

■ An article by Laretta Brown titled "'Roseanne' Actress Confused by Women Voting for Trump: They're 'Under the Thumb' of Their Husbands" was posted at townhall.com on March 30, 2018.

■ An article by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar titled "Don't Be Fooled, 'Roseanne' is Really TV's Most Anti-Trump Show" was posted at hollywoodreporter.com on April 3, 2018.

General interest

■ An article by Christian Toto titled "Conservative Women Decry Feminist Double Standard on Sexist Attack" was posted at washingtontimes.com on March 29, 2018.

■ An article by Mary Bowerman titled "'Condom Snorting Challenge' Shows Teens Inhaling Condoms" was posted at usatoday.com on April 2, 2018.



Isaiah 55:6-11—“Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”