



# Christian Heritage News

Newsletter of  
Christian Heritage Ministries

*"Dedicated to the preservation of America's Christian history"*

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## U.S. Senate Chaplain, Richard C. Halverson, Pens Prayer for Florida's First "Christian Heritage Week — May 16-22, 1993"

*"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord..."*  
PSALM 33:12

*"God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, everything good and right about our Nation is rooted and grounded in Judeo-Christian tradition. Faith in God and prayer sustained the colonies through imponderable difficulties and revolutionary war. Faith in God and the Bible conceived the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The value system which has made America the greatest Nation in history is founded on Biblical values.*

*But, mighty God, we are losing that faith and the benefits and blessings which accrue from it. Critically we need a restoration of that faith of our fathers. Help us hear the words of the father of our country, George Washington, as he spoke to Congress in 1789 following his taking of the oath of office...*

*'It would be peculiarly improper to omit, in this first official act, my fervent supplication to that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that His benediction may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States...'*

*For the glory of God and the welfare of the people. Amen."*

Thus began Florida state's first Christian Heritage Week — May 16-22, 1993. Many Christian schools were reached with the message of America's vibrant foundational Christian heritage during this week of revival in Florida. Among these were: Heritage Christian Academy in Englewood; Sarasota Christian School, and Victory Christian Academy in Sarasota; Fort Myers Christian School, and The Evangelical Christian School in Fort Myers; Port Charlotte Christian School; and Venice High School, where I addressed the *Fellowship of Christian Athletes*. Church congregations of The First Baptist Church, The First Christian Church, and the First Presbyterian Church were also reached with this dynamic message together with our Slide Presentations. On Thursday, May 20, the *Suncoast Evangelical Luncheon* was truly a highlight, evangelicals from many parts of Florida being in attendance. Five radio interviews were conducted, reaching many more thousands,

to include: WSEB Christian Radio; WAMR Radio interview and call-in; WKZM Christian Radio, and Fort Myers Christian Radio. Intelligent questions were asked by avid admirers and students of America's true Christian history.

Governor Lawton Chiles of Florida declared:

"WHEREAS the Christian faith has been demonstrated through the lives of many of our forefathers such as Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Patrick Henry and George Mason in their writings; and

WHEREAS, these and many other truly great men and women of America, giants in the structuring of American history, were Christian statesmen and women of calibre and integrity who did not hesitate to express their faith;..."

All who participated in Christian Heritage Week for Florida were greatly blessed, revived and renewed, studying afresh the Christian lives and moral virtue of our founding fathers from original sources. A number of callers on my Christian Radio interviews queried the validity of Christopher Columbus' — and DeSoto's — revisionist, derogatory history. I was able to dispel any doubts on the true, Christian lives and deeds of both these great American heroes from our national great master paintings, sculptures and rare documents which testify to these truths. For instance, *Codex Columbus*, housed in the Rare Book Collection of the Library of Congress, is categorized as a "top national treasure." Each and every letter, communication and document pertaining to Columbus reinforces the fact that he was America's — and one of the world's — greatest Christian heroes. DeSoto is prominently featured in a great master painting within the Main Rotunda of the United States Capitol. In it, one sees the beautiful cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ being erected in the foreground, while his missionary outreach to the Indians is featured in the background. Fifty-eight feet above the stone floor, a 300-foot circular frieze depicts 400 years of America's glorious history. DeSoto's Christian burial is here portrayed with the cross of Christ held high and an open Bible. The Indians greatly mourned him at his death, many having been saved through the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ, Son of God.

Special thanks are extended to State Coordinator, Mrs. Diane Panecki, whose faith and trust in the Lord made "Christian Heritage Week, Florida — May 16-22, 1993" an outstanding success.

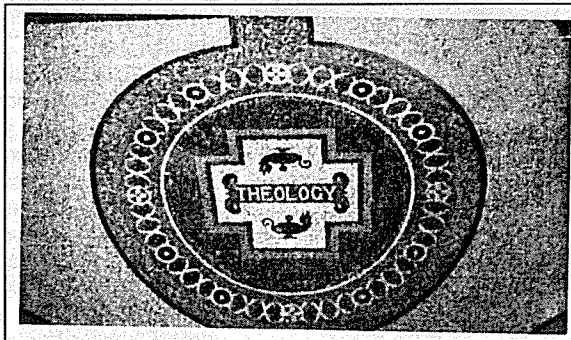
# Library of Congress Removes 1897 Inscriptions From Walls of Main Vestibule In Historic Thomas Jefferson Building and Paints Grottesque Heads over Godly Heritage

On June 29, 1990, the Main historic Vestibule of the Library of Congress was closed to approximately 3 million annual visitors to this building "for well into the 1990's." The reason given was "renovations," although a foremost American architect saw the blueprints prior to its closure, stating that there were no renovations needed. This is the richest building of America's Christian heritage and history in the nation. It was described as "a vision in stone and marble" at its inauguration in 1897. The Main Vestibule consists of the most exquisite marble in the world; angels or cherubim lining the balustrades of its magnificent stairwell.

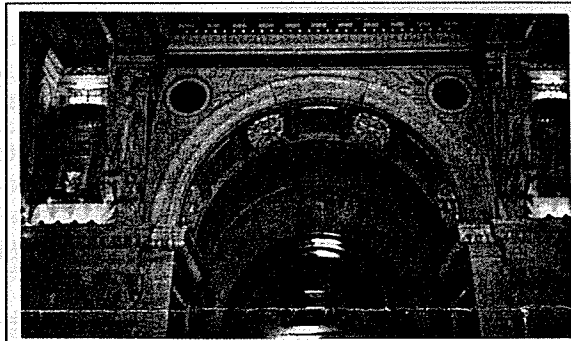
From January 8 to April 30, 1993, the Main Vestibule of this priceless historic Thomas Jefferson building was briefly reopened with an exhibition entitled: ROME REBORN — THE VATICAN LIBRARY AND RENAISSANCE CULTURE. On April 30, 1993, the last day of the brief reopening of the Main Vestibule to the public, I was shepherding a Christian school through a Christian Heritage Tour, teaching America's rich Christian foundations and biblical heritage etched upon wall and ceiling. Having conducted thousands of similar Christian Heritage Tours prior to this landmark's closure in 1990, I naturally turned to point out the two foremost golden inscriptions above each of the inner main entrances of the Main Vestibule. To my utter disbelief, they had been physically removed from the marble wall, together with the beautiful sculptured etchings encasing them! I first thought that my eyesight was failing, but then the stark realization struck — the Library of Congress had even gone so far as to tangibly remove these 1897 inscriptions from public view. This is an irreplaceable loss to the American people. Each and every inscription, together with many



*Main Vestibule of Library of Congress — Medieval Monks illuminating Old and New Testament Scriptures.*

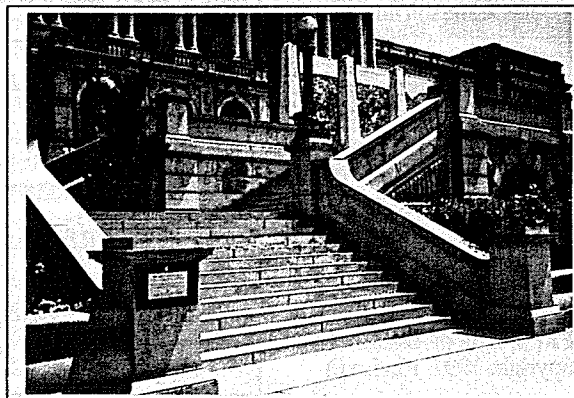


*Main Vestibule of Library of Congress — Mosaic "Theology" depicting great beacons of American Christianity, as Jonathan Edwards.*



*Left-hand side Main front Entrance to the Great Vestibule of the Library of Congress. Henry David Thoreau's golden inscription at top of archway — removed.*

*Below: Main Entranceway to Library of Congress, closed to history-loving Americans for 5-10 years.*



Scriptures, painted upon the walls and ceilings of the Library of Congress, were the sole choice of Charles Elliott, former President of Harvard University, prior to its opening to the public in 1897. In studying his life from original sources, I discovered that Charles Elliott was a great Christian educator, who chose virtuous, uplifting and ennobling words and writings, exemplifying America's strong Christian foundations for these inner walls and ceilings. The two famous golden inscriptions removed by the Library of Congress while "closed to the American public for renovations" were:

*"Books are the treasured wealth of the world." —Henry David Thoreau; and "A good book is the lifeblood of a master spirit." —Milton*

These removals reflect the Library of Congress' opposition to historic inscriptions describing the value and irreplaceable worth of good books; many of America's oldest and most treasured original books now having "Missing in Inventory" markers in their places within the stacks. This phenomenon dates from about 1980, the exact year of the modern James Madison Memorial Building's opening to the public. Since closure of the historic Thomas Jefferson Building on June 29, 1990, the three million Americans visiting their national library each year have been routed to this 1980 modern office building for "tours" and "exhibitions."

Prior to the Main Vestibule of the historic Thomas Jefferson building's closure at 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 1993, we were able to return, photographing these removals, as it is scheduled to be closed for five to ten years for further "renovations."

Before leaving this, "the most beautiful building in the world," we visited the Library of Congress' new "Exhibition

Hall” on the Mezzanine Level of the Main Vestibule, photographing the new grotesque heads, rows and rows of these having been painted over the godly heritage upon its walls prior to “renovations.”

The photographs reprinted depict America’s rich Christian heritage; removals of the inscriptions; and the Library of Congress painted-over “art.”

Does the United States Constitution allow total autonomy on the part of Librarian of Congress Billington, in removing America’s priceless and irreplaceable history from the walls and ceilings of the Thomas Jefferson building? The answer is — no. These treasures pertaining to America’s true Christian identity were painted upon the walls of the Library of Congress prior to its inauguration in 1897 for a purpose — to be passed down to posterity. Thomas Jefferson himself affirmed:

“Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed the conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just and that His justice cannot sleep forever.” (Inscribed within the Jefferson Memorial, in our nation’s capital).

May we fervently pray with Governor William Bradford of the 1620 Pilgrims:

“Let the right hand of the Lord awake!”

—Catherine Millard  
(Excerpted from *The Rewriting of America’s History*, copyright 1992, Revised.)