## We are a Christian Nation

by Catherine Millard, © 1987

This fact may come as somewhat of a surprise to many, as you are certainly not going to see this in today's textbooks. Sadly, God's role in the founding of this nation has slowly and systematically been removed from school text materials, so that today, if we do find a reference to the hand of God in the founding of America, it is the exception rather than the rule. Satan deceives not only by commission, but also by omission. Consider the following events from early American history:

In 1607, the Lord's Supper was celebrated by earliest settlers in the land, in Jamestown, Virginia, as is beautifully depicted in the upper panel of the famed "Patriots' Window" in Christ Church, Philadelphia.

The Mayflower Compact (1620) begins, "In the name of God, Amen. Having undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith..."

The constitution of New England Confederation (1643) states: "Whereas we came into these parts of America with one and the same end and aim, namely to advance the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ and to enjoy the liberties of the Gospel in purity with peace."

Imprisoned for his faith in Christ and love of the Word of God, English nobleman William Penn found himself dreaming of forming a colony in the New World where he and his followers could worship the Lord in Spirit and Truth, away from Religious persecution. On August 18, 1681, he sent a letter to "the King or Kings of the Indians" via his emissaries, expressing his intent to live "justly and peaceably with them, under God." Some twenty years later, Penn granted a charter of liberties and privileges to his province. In 1751, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of this Charter, the Pennsylvania Assembly ordered a commemorative bell, with a verse of scripture from Leviticus 25:10 upon its face: "And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof..." This message was inscribed upon the Liberty Bell when it rang in 1776 to proclaim American Independence.

All 36 delegates to the first Continental Congress were men of ability and prominence in their respective colonies. When they convened in Philadelphia's Carpenters' Hall in 1774, they unanimously invited Jacob Duche, the Rector of Christ Church – "the Nation's church," to preside over the meeting with prayer to Almighty God. It was thus that the tradition of Chaplain to the Congress was begun. This scene of the first Congress on their knees with hands clasped and heads bowed, praying to Almighty God for a blessing upon the nation, is portrayed in the famous painting by T.H. Matteson (c. 1848), "The First Prayer in Congress." In 1861, the "Liberty Window," portraying this painting, was installed in Christ Church. Its counterpart, "The Patriots Window," also in Christ Church, portrays President and Mrs. Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Betsy Ross, Robert Morris, Alexander Hamilton, Dr. Benjamin Rush, Joseph Hopkinson, John Penn and Francis Hopkinson worshipping in their family pews.

On January 1, 1795, George Washington wrote: "I...do recommend to all religious societies and denominations, and to all persons whomsoever, within the United States, to set apart and observe Thursday, the 19th day of February next, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer and on that day to meet together and render sincere and hearty thanks to the great Ruler of the nations for the manifold and single mercies which distinguish our lot as a nation...

The only United States President to also serve as Supreme Court Chief Justice, William Howard Taft wrote: "...with its stately simplicity and the high qualities of manhood it honors, it is fitting that the aluminum tip that caps it (the Washington Monument) should bear the phrase 'Laus Deo' (that is to say, 'Praise be to God').

We can see that for 380 years, from the very beginning in 1607 to the present time, we are a Christian nation. However, the historical evidence to that effect is deliberately being replaced, both on the level of written records (such as textbooks) and on the cultural and artistic scene, by humanistic substitutes and lies.

The Liberty Bell, with its rich American Christian heritage, has now been removed from its original place of prominence in Independence Hall and relegated to a low, square and squat "pavilion," in a grass plot opposite the famous site, where it first rang. It is thus completely dissociated from the Teachers' Guide, and the 30-minute tour and lecture given by the Park personnel to visiting student groups. Treated as a separate entity from her intricate involvement in America's biblical history and Independence she is described in the Park's Teachers' Guide as "a world symbol of freedom," rather than what she truly is: "A sacred symbol of American Independence."

Christ Church, founded in 1695, was designated a national shrine by Congress in 1950 and in 1958 became part of the Independence National Historic Park in Philadelphia. There are no less than seven signers of the Declaration of Independence buried there.

The painting, "The First Prayer in Congress" once part of the Independence National Historical Museum collection, has strangely disappeared. The Supervisory Curator informs me that in the past fifteen years, no less than four scholars have searched for it without success. All that remains in their records is a print of the original, of which I have obtained a photograph.

The "Liberty" and "Patriots" windows in Christ Church were permanently removed in September of 1986 by eight vestrymen of the church. Shortly thereafter, all postcards depicting these scenes of our early biblical history were also removed from the racks of their bookstore, thereby removing knowledge of crucial events in the founding of *this nation under God*.

September, 1986 marked the beginning of a year-long celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. Not content with removing all traces of America's Christian heritage from the textbooks, humanists and atheists in positions of power are now resorting to the removal of any visible art, sculpture and/or artifacts which would stir hearts and minds of young and old alike, celebrating the nation's Christian heritage. In the city of Philadelphia now stands new art forms, intended to glorify man instead of God. There is a stone sculpture with the letters L O sitting on the letters V E; and obscene bronze sculpture entitled "Government by the People" and in front of city hall, a sculpture of a clothespin. So outlandish is the "Government by the People"

sculpture, that guides on a well-known national tour service have been instructed not to mention it. An inscription upon the base of this statue states that it is dedicated to "the family, the well-spring of society, the future hope of America."

On a recent tour which I conducted to Mount Vernon, plantation home of George and Martha Washington, I was dismayed to observe that Martha Washington's personally-autographed family bible had been permanently removed from the Museum, where it had been displayed for many years. Upon enquiring from the Librarian as to its whereabouts, I was told that it "had definitely needed a rest" and had consequently been removed to the archives. "It has been out there much too long," she said, "light and exposure not being good for the paper." From my close scrutiny of this magnificent example of America's Christian heritage, which is so closely interwoven with the lives of the men and women who founded the nation; Martha Washington's family bible seems to be in excellent condition, and most interesting for people from all over the nation and world to see and admire. Of particular interest is the fact that Martha Washington would read her New Testament each morning in her bedchamber from 5:00 a.m. - 6:00 a.m. before commencing her daily duties and responsibilities.

Once we realize that most, if not all of the history textbooks in the public schools omit mention of the above factual evidence that we are a Christian nation, then our eyes can be opened to the spiritual warfare around us in public education. We would encourage you to look earnestly into God's role in the founding of America and see for yourself how Almighty God, - the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; the God of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and the God of America's founders, has been systematically and deliberately eliminated from American history, culture and art. We urge Christian educators to become knowledgeable about their nation's biblical past in order to open the hearts and minds of American youth to a vibrant heritage.