

## Religious and property rights top the list in the new year

by Randy Bright <http://www.tulsabeacon.com/?p=5671>

This coming year is shaping up to be perhaps one of the most pivotal years in American history. I, like a lot of Americans, have a number of things that I would like to accomplish and to see accomplished in the next twelve months.

There are two extremely important issues – religious rights and property rights – on which everything that we as Americans depend upon in order to keep our freedoms.

Religious rights are those that not only allow us to worship in the manner that we choose, but also are those that prevent others from falsely discrediting Christianity in an effort to remove it from American society.

The same is true for Judaism, which is experiencing anti-semitism at levels not seen since World War II. We need to do everything possible to prevent our Judea-Christian roots from being erased from our history books and our collective memories. Without those roots, true religious freedom would not be possible. There is no other religion, including atheism, that will tolerate beliefs other than its own.

Property rights are those that allow the individual to keep what he or she has earned, and to use it for whatever purpose that individual wants to use it for. Without these rights, no one has any incentive to create, innovate or invest, and under those circumstances there can be nothing but poverty. We have numerous examples of countries past and present whose people have spent their lifetimes languishing in poverty and hunger. That is not America, though there are plenty of Progressives that want to bring that very thing upon us, one of whom sits in the Oval Office.

My suggestion to my readers is as it always has been – educate yourself. Read books like the 5000-Year Leap, or listen to podcasts at Wallbuilders.com. You will discover just how much of our history has been intentionally hidden from you by the Progressive movement.

But that is only the start to regaining our freedoms in this country and our status in the world. The great argument between Conservatives and Progressives is that Conservatives know that our rights come from God, not from government. Exercising those rights for the good of the country as well as for the good of the individual creates examples that convince Americans that conservative thoughts and beliefs are the only way to maintain our rights and freedoms.

I happen to believe that one of those examples is a basic building block for American society, the church. And not just the church as a whole, but individual churches whose people believe in charity and serving mankind. Churches should be so effective at this that no government agency should ever be necessary to feed, house and provide basic needs for our citizens. This does not mean that all the church is to do is give these things away. Christians are called to hold others

accountable, so that they not only help those who are helpless, but also help those who are capable of more than simply accepting handouts.

Much is made of the concept of “community” by Progressives. In fact, the new zoning codes embrace the idea that people need to work together to meet basic needs, but not to enrich the lives of all. They believe that “community”, under carefully planned and regulated activities, is the answer to leading a fulfilling life, even if it is devoid of rights. And even though churches have pulled American communities together as a people for hundreds of years, Progressives think that the value of churches should diminish in favor of secular community.

That has to change. The American people need to reclaim its roots so that America can continue to reclaim its destiny as the destination of choice by all people of the world – not just because of the opportunity for financial wealth and personal achievement, but for something even more important – freedom from fear of losing property rights, religious rights, or even the right to live. I have several goals for this year.

The first is to continue to educate my readers by passing on what I believe and what I learn, and by providing anecdotal evidence of the value of conservatism. I also hope to encourage my readers to take hold of these issues with the same passion as I have.

The second goal is to help our nation’s churches to understand how important their congregations are to the well-being and freedoms that we enjoy.

And finally, we must elect those people to our government, from the dog-catcher to the White House, only those who espouse conservative values. That is critical to ensuring that all Americans, regardless of their beliefs, are free.

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