

## Not-So-Free Freedom of Religion

Written by Press-Tribune Staff  
Monday, 01 October 2012 09:54 -

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### Dear Editor:

I reckon I'm just taken aback as I look and listen and see things around me from a red-neck's perspective on life and I am plainly appalled at the condition and apathy that I see in the Church of God today here in America.

So plain and obvious to me that our country was founded upon Christian belief in the Holy Scripture the word of God. Our founding fathers started our Nation on the belief that "In God We Trust." And, we, as the 20th and 21st century Christians, have set back and allowed the Liberal ungodly ideology to all but take over the "politics" of our great country.

Yes, it is true, our founding fathers did not intend for us to have a 'state sponsored church/religion' but they also had no intentions for God Himself to be removed from our government.

All of our laws and the principles that our government were founded upon came from God's Holy Word, you could even say that, the Theologian, John Calvin, was the main reference that our founders used to establish this great country.

And, look at us today. God have mercy on us!

The First Bill of Rights say: Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...

I ask a simple question, can the Federal Government make a law saying, I can't pray in school or that I must pray in school? Or, can they say a cross can't be displayed on public land? Or, can the Federal Government say, 'In God We Trust' must be removed?

Looks like, when I read the First Amendment, 'No law respecting an establishment of religion or the free exercise thereof...' That's funny!

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Back during nineteen-fifty-four, LBJ, (Johnson) had a law passed that, 'a tax exempt non-profit organization' could not verbally or outwardly, support a 'political figure' or they would lose their tax-exemption.

First, Pastors and Preachers should not allow this to stop the God called man to direct his flock as to which candidate is to be supported by the word of God.

Come on Preachers, have the internal fortitude to proclaim the Truth. Why are churches not paying taxes anyway?

Aren't we disobeying our Lord? Did He not say, 'Render unto Caesar what is his and unto God what is His?'

I really am awestruck when I look at the financial shape of our Nation. And it is OUR FAULT. We are the ones that sit back, complain, and say, 'Let's Pray.' That's good, let's pray, and DO SOMETHING AS WELL!"

How about it!?

**Bill O'Brien**  
Haughton