

"IN GOD WE TRUST"

By Conrad Barrett



Think about it!!!

"In God We Trust" has been a statement which has graced American money for several generations. Beginning in the 1860's it appeared first on our coinage. In 1957 it appeared on our paper money and has become a part of our monetary history. Nothing can change that.

While some may be offended by the word "God" appearing on our money, others are delighted. It depends upon one's point of view and experiences. What we have learned, or think we have learned, has influence upon our positions on about everything. Opinions, however, are sometimes formed on the basis of good research, but sometimes they are formed on the basis of emotion and without proper foundation. Whatever we think on any subject is an expression of freedom of our minds which we all have; but to formulate thoughts into words, especially when they may adversely affect others, is something about which we should be careful.

There is no contention herein expressed or implied that should lead one to conclude this to be a defense for God, because He needs no defense, approval, or disapproval, from any of us. None can honestly and adequately write or speak in His defense because if He is who He says He is, He needs no defense from anybody, any time, anywhere. Our best efforts offered to favor Him in any form are inadequate regardless of how sincere they may be. If, however, He is not the Almighty, then His name being printed on American money, or anywhere else, is only an expression of nomenclature and therefore, is worthless, regardless of anyone's contention or characterization. It then becomes a moot contention. Putting "In God We Trust" on a piece of American money can hardly be interpreted as an establishment of any religion.

Whether one believes in God or not has nothing to do with His existence. His being is not dependant upon what any of us believe or think. His actions, moreover, are predicated upon a much higher level and therefore, are not to be misinterpreted in the shuffle of human rhetoric.

Long after human voices have been silenced and bodies have been returned to dust, people will continue to live in another world. The soul is God-given and eternal and therefore, demands a meeting with one's Creator. Prepared or not, the soul has a destiny and the reality of a judgment meeting has been finalized. Such a meeting is not an invitation; it is a requirement and all must comply. Think

about it! It has been divinely arranged and, therefore, is beyond the scope of human negotiation. It provides for no appeal.

Testimonies from dying men and women have made their way to the printed pages of both history and literature. Religious and non-religious people have spoken of what they have seen and heard as they were about to make their earthly departure. The argument that dying folks may be delirious and may not speak with coherence may have some merit. But, what if some of them are right? Wisdom would suggest that serious attention be accorded in this matter. Consequences of poor judgment relative to this decision could result in devastation for anyone about to enter into the next world. Think about this.

“In God We Trust” is a good position to take. Without Him, there is no other hope offered. Who else but God provides a plausible answer to life’s beginning? With certainty only He provides the best answer when we make our departure. Agnostics and atheists have died with regrets. Christians die in peace. What a contrast and what a difference!

A quote from many Christians during their dying moments reveal that they see and experience many beautiful and inspirational things. The Bible records that Stephen saw Jesus standing at the right hand of the Father as he was being killed by stones. This testimony is in the book of Acts. Others who have died for this faith have similar testimonies. Some, while still cognizant, describe the beauty and tranquility that they are experiencing during their transition.

The opposite, however, is true for many who have not accepted and embraced Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. Testimonies of fear, apprehension, and even torment describe what some say they see.

“In God We Trust” should be more than a money motto; it should be a truth embraced by all. Individuals need such trust for personal security, and nations need it to quieten the storms which bring about turmoil and devastation in their social structures.

From the time of Adam in the Old Testament until now, men and women have fought and many have died because of various religious persuasions. No nation embracing a multiplicity of gods has survived and excelled. Manufactured gods, regardless of their emphasis, do not benefit anyone. Even a world which over-emphasizes a materialistic philosophy ultimately ends in disaster.

Reaching outside the boundaries of the one true God and His teachings, self-proclaimed teachers and self-proclaimed prophets have confused more people than they have helped. Any religious message which benefits some at the expense of others is not in alignment with our Creator and therefore should be seen as being only religious. History is replete with such examples.

Should anyone care to pause and look in any direction, the inevitable becomes a convincer. Somebody or some personality has to be in control of this mighty universe. The various expressions of life, the colors and diversified boundaries, an open sky, as well as the impregnation of life in all things everywhere, tell us in

their own way that there is a Mastermind. They just didn't happen. They were created.

True faith in God will create two things within us. One, a love and respect for God, our Creator, and two, a love and respect for each other. At this time in our world we need both.

Perhaps now is a good time to leave "In God We Trust" on our money and keep it in our schools and places of government. In reality it should be in all churches, too. Why should we let so few tell so many what to do?

For Brochure Copies Contact:
Christian Chapel Church
4043 Chandler Road
Muskogee, OK 74403
(918) 687-1606
www.christianchapel.org

Designed by Pamela A. Gilfillan