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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Orlando, Florida)

For Immediate Release

March 8, 1983

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE 41ST ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

Citrus Crown Ballroom
Sheraton Twin Towers Hotel
Orlando, Florida

3:04 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you very much. And reverend clergy all, Senator Hawkins, distinguished members of the Florida Congressional delegation and all of you, I can't tell you how you have warmed my heart with your welcome. I'm delighted to be here today.

Those of you in the National Association of Evangelicals are known for your spiritual and humanitarian work. And I would be especially remiss if I didn't discharge right now one personal debt of gratitude. Thank you for your prayers. Nancy and I have felt their presence many times in many ways. And believe me, for us they've made all the difference. The other day in the East Room of the White House at a meeting there, someone asked me whether I was aware of all the people out there who were praying for the President and I had to say, "Yes, I am. I've felt it. I believe in intercessory prayer." But I couldn't help but say to that questioner after he'd asked the question that -- or at least say to them that if sometimes when he was praying he got a busy signal it was just me in there ahead of him. (Laughter).

I think I understand how Abraham Lincoln felt when he said, "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

From the joy and the good feeling of this conference, I go to a political reception. (Laughter). Now, I don't know why but that bit of scheduling reminds me of a story -- (laughter) -- which I'll share with you. An evangelical minister and a politician arrived at Heaven's gate one day together. And St. Peter, after doing all the necessary formalities, took them in hand to show them where their quarters would be. And he took them to a small single room with a bed, a chair and a table and said this was for the clergyman. And the politician was a little worried about what might be in store for him. And he couldn't believe it then when St. Peter stopped in front of a beautiful mansion with lovely grounds, many servants and told him that these would be his quarters. And he couldn't help but ask, he said, "But wait, how -- there's something wrong -- how do I get this mansion while that good and holy man only gets a single room?"

And St. Peter said, "You have to understand how things are up here. We've got thousands and thousands of clergy. You're the first politician who ever made it." (Laughter). (Applause).

But I don't want to contribute to a stereotype. (Laughter).

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So I tell you there are a great many God-fearing, dedicated, noble men and women in public life, present company included. And, yes, we need your help to keep us ever mindful of the ideas and the principles that brought us into the public arena in the first place. The basis of those ideas and principles is a commitment to freedom and personal liberty that, itself, is grounded in the much deeper realization that freedom prospers only where the blessings of God are avidly sought and humbly accepted.

The American experiment in democracy rests on this insight. Its discovery was the great triumph of our Founding Fathers, voiced by William Penn when he said: "If we will not be governed by God, we must be governed by tyrants." Explaining the inalienable rights of men, Jefferson said, "The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time." And it was George Washington who said that "of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

And finally, that shrewdest of all observers of American democracy, Alexis de Tocqueville, put it eloquently after he had gone on a search for the secret of America's greatness and genius -- and he said:

"Not until I went into the Churches of America and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand the greatness and the genius of America. America is good. And if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great." (Applause.)

Well, I am pleased to be here today with you who are keeping America great by keeping her good. Only through your work and prayers and those of millions of others can we hope to survive this perilous century and keep alive this experiment in liberty, this last, best hope of man.

I want you to know that this administration is motivated by a political philosophy that sees the greatness of America in you, her people, and in your families, churches, neighborhoods, communities -- the institutions that foster and nourish values like concern for others and respect for the rule of law under God.

Now, I don't have to tell you that this puts us in opposition to, or at least out of step with, a prevailing attitude of many who have turned to a modern-day secularism, discarding the tried and time-tested values upon which our value civilization is based. No matter how well intentioned, their value system is radically different from that of most Americans. And while they proclaim that they are freeing us from superstitions of the past, they have taken upon themselves the job of superintending us by government rule and regulation. Sometimes their voices are louder than ours, but they are not yet a majority. (Applause.)

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An example of that vocal superiority is evident in a controversy now going on in Washington. And since I'm involved, I've been waiting to hear from the parents of young America. How far are they willing to go in giving to Government their prerogatives as parents?

Let me state the case as briefly and simply as I can. An organization of citizens sincerely motivated and deeply concerned about the increase in illegitimate births and abortions involving girls well below the age of consent sometime ago established a nationwide network of clinics to offer help to these girls and hopefully alleviate this situation.

Now, again, let me say, I do not fault their intent. However, in their well-intentioned effort, these clinics have decided to provide advice and birth control drugs and devices to underage girls without the knowledge of their parents.

For some years now, the federal government has helped with funds to subsidize these clinics. In providing for this, the Congress decreed that every effort would be made to maximize parental participation. Nevertheless, the drugs and devices are prescribed without getting parental consent or giving notification after they've done so. Girls termed "sexually active" -- and that has replaced the word "promiscuous" -- are given this help in order to prevent illegitimate birth or abortion.

We have ordered clinics receiving federal funds to notify the parents such help has been given. (Applause.) One of the nation's leading newspapers has created the term "squeal rule" in editorializing against us for doing this and we're being criticized for violating the privacy of young people. A judge has recently granted an injunction against an enforcement of our rule.

I've watched TV panel shows discuss this issue, seen columnists pontificating on our error, but no one seems to mention morality as playing a part in the subject of sex. (Applause.)

Is all of Judeo-Christian tradition wrong? Are we to believe that something so sacred can be looked upon as a purely physical thing with no potential for emotional and psychological harm? And isn't it the parents' right to give counsel and advice to keep their children from making mistakes that may affect their entire lives? (Applause.)

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Many of us in government would like to know what parents think about this intrusion in their family by government. We're going to fight in the courts. The right of parents and the rights of family take precedence over those of Washington-based bureaucrats and social engineers. (Applause).

But the fight against parental notification is really only one example of many attempts to water down traditional values and even abrogate the original terms of American democracy. Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God is acknowledged. (Applause). When our Founding Fathers passed the first amendment they sought to protect churches from government interference. They never intended to construct a wall of hostility between government and the concept of religious belief itself. (Applause).

The evidence of this permeates our history and our government. The Declaration of Independence mentions the Supreme Being no less than four times. "In God We Trust" is engraved on our coinage. The Supreme Court opens its proceedings with a religious invocation. And the Members of Congress open their sessions with a prayer. I just happen to believe the schoolchildren of the United States are entitled to the same privileges as Supreme Court Judges and Congressmen. (Applause). Last year, I sent the Congress a constitutional amendment to restore prayer to public schools. Already this session, there's growing bipartisan support for the amendment and I am calling on the Congress to act speedily to pass it and to let our children pray. (Applause).

Perhaps some of you read recently about the Lubbock school case where a judge actually ruled that it was unconstitutional for a school district to give equal treatment to religious and nonreligious students groups, even when the group meetings were being held during the students' own time. The first amendment never intended to require government to discriminate against religious speech. (Applause).

Senators Denton and Hatfield have proposed legislation in the Congress on the whole question of prohibiting discrimination against religious forms of student speech. Such legislation could go far to restore freedom of religious speech for public school students. And I hope the Congress considers these bills quickly. And with your help, I think it's possible we could also get the constitutional amendment through the Congress this year. (Applause).

More than a decade ago, a Supreme Court decision literally wiped off the books of 50 states statutes protecting the rights of unborn children. Abortion on demand now takes the lives of up to 1½ million unborn children a year. Human life legislation ending this tragedy will some day pass the Congress and you and I must never rest until it does. (Applause). Unless and until it can be proven that the unborn child is not a living entity, then its

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right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness must be protected. (Applause.)

You may remember that when abortion on demand began many, and, indeed, I'm sure many of you warned that the practice would lead to a decline in respect for human life, that the philosophical premises used to justify abortion on demand would ultimately be used to justify other attacks on the sacredness of human life, infanticide or mercy killing. Tragically enough, those warnings proved all too true: only last year a court permitted the death by starvation of a handicapped infant.

I have directed the Health and Human Services Department to make clear to every health care facility in the United States that the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects all handicapped persons against discrimination based on handicaps, including infants. (Applause.) And we have taken the further step of requiring that each and every recipient of federal funds who provides health care services to infants must post and keep posted in a conspicuous place a notice stating that "discriminatory failure to feed and care for handicapped infants in this facility is prohibited by federal law. It also lists a 24-hour, toll-free number so that nurses and others may report violations in time to save the infant's life. (Applause.)

In addition, recent legislation introduced in the Congress by Representative Henry Hyde of Illinois not only increases restrictions on publicly-financed abortions, it also addresses this whole problem of infanticide. I urge the Congress to begin hearings and to adopt legislation that will protect the right of life to all children, including the disabled or handicapped.

Now, I'm sure that you must get discouraged at times, but you've done better than you know, perhaps. There is a great spiritual awakening in America -- (applause) -- a renewal of the traditional values that have been the bedrock of America's goodness and greatness. One recent survey by a Washington-based research council concluded that Americans were far more religious than the people of other nations; 95 percent of those surveyed expressed a belief in God and a huge majority believed the Ten Commandments had real meaning in their lives.

And another study has found that an overwhelming majority of Americans disapprove of adultery, teenage sex, pornography, abortion and hard drugs. And this same study showed a deep reverence for the importance of family ties and religious belief. (Applause.)

I think the items that we've discussed here today must be a key part of the nation's political agenda. For the first time the Congress is openly and seriously debating and dealing with the prayer and abortion issues -- and that's enormous progress right there. I repeat: America is in the midst of a spiritual awakening and a moral renewal and with your biblical keynote

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And with your biblical keynote, I say today, "Yes, let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never failing stream."
(Applause.)

Now, obviously, much of this new political and social consensus that I have talked about is based on a positive view of American history, one that takes pride in our country's accomplishments and record. But we must never forget that no government schemes are going to perfect man. We know that living in this world means dealing with what philosophers would call the phenomenology of evil or, as theologians would put it, the doctrine of sin.

There is sin and evil in the world. And we are enjoined by scripture and the Lord Jesus to oppose it with all our might. Our nation, too, has a legacy of evil with which it must deal. The glory of this land has been its capacity for transcending the moral evils of our past. For example, the long struggle of minority citizens for equal rights once a source of disunity and civil war is now a point of pride for all Americans. We must never go back. There is no room for racism, anti-semitism or other forms of ethnic and racial hatred in this country. (Applause.) I know that you have been horrified, as have I, by the resurgence of some hate groups preaching bigotry and prejudice. Use the mighty voice of your pulpits and the powerful standing of your churches to denounce and isolate these hate groups in our midst. The commandment given us is clear and simple: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (Applause.)

But whatever sad episodes exist in our past, any objective observer must hold a positive view of American history, a history that has been the story of hopes fulfilled and dreams made into reality. Especially in this century, America has kept alight the torch of freedom, but not just for ourselves, but for millions of others around the world.

And this brings me to my final point today. During my first press conference as President, in answer to a direct question, I pointed out that, as good Marxists-Leninists, the Soviet leaders have openly and publicly declared that the only morality they recognize is that which will further their cause, which is world revolution. I think I should point out, I was only quoting Lenin, their guiding spirit who said in 1920 that they repudiate all morality that proceeds from supernatural ideas -- that is their name for religion -- or ideas that are outside class conceptions. Morality is entirely subordinate to the interests of class war. And everything is moral that is necessary for the annihilation of the old, exploiting social order and for uniting the proletariat.

Well, I think the refusal of many influential people to accept this elementary fact of Soviet doctrine illustrates an historical reluctance to see totalitarian powers for what they are. We saw this phenomenon in the 1930s. We see it too often today. This does not mean we should isolate ourselves and refuse to seek an understanding with them. I

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intend to do everything I can to persuade them of our peaceful intent, to remind them that it was the West that refused to use its nuclear monopoly in the '40's and '50's for territorial gain and which now proposes 50-percent cuts in strategic ballistic missiles and the elimination of an entire class of land-based intermediate-range nuclear missiles. (Applause.)

At the same time, however, they must be made to understand we will never compromise our principles and standards. We will never give away our freedom. We will never abandon our belief in God. (Applause.) And we will never stop searching for a genuine peace, but we can assure none of these things America stands for through the so-called nuclear freeze solutions proposed by some.

The truth is that a freeze now would be a very dangerous fraud, for that is merely the illusion of peace. The reality is that we must find peace through strength. (Applause.)

I would agree to a freeze if only we could freeze the Soviets' global desires. (Applause.) A freeze at current levels of weapons would remove any incentive for the Soviets to negotiate seriously in Geneva, and virtually end our chances to achieve the major arms reductions which we have proposed. Instead, they would achieve their objectives through the freeze. A freeze would reward the Soviet Union for its enormous and unparalleled military buildup. It would prevent the essential and long overdue modernization of United States and allied defenses and would leave our aging forces increasingly vulnerable. And an honest freeze would require extensive prior negotiations on the systems and numbers to be limited and on the measures to ensure effective verification and compliance. And the kind of a freeze that has been suggested would be virtually impossible to verify. Such a major effort would divert us completely from our current negotiations on achieving substantial reductions. (Applause.)

A number of years ago, I heard a young father, a very prominent young man in the entertainment world, addressing a tremendous gathering in California. It was during the time of the cold war and communism and our own way of life were very much on people's minds. And he was speaking to that subject. And suddenly, though, I heard him saying, "I love my little girls more than anything -- " And I said to myself, "Oh, no, don't. You can't -- don't say that." But I had underestimated him. He went on: "I would rather see my little girls die now, still believing in God, than have them grow up under communism and one day die no longer believing in God." (Applause.)

There were thousands of young people in that audience. They came to their feet with shouts of joy. They had instantly recognized the profound truth in what he had said, with regard to the physical and the soul and what was truly important.

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Yes, let us pray for the salvation of all of those who live in that totalitarian darkness -- pray they will discover the joy of knowing God. But until they do, let us be aware that while they preach the supremacy of the state, declare its omnipotence over individual man, and predict its eventual domination of all peoples on the Earth -- they are the focus of evil in the modern world. It was C.S. Lewis who, in his unforgettable Screwtape Letters, wrote: "The greatest evil is not done now in those sordid 'dens of crime' that Dickens loved to paint. It is not even done in concentration camps and labor camps. In those we see its final result. But it is conceived and ordered (moved, seconded, carried, and minuted) in clear, carpeted, warmed, and well-lighted offices, by quiet men with white collars and cut fingernails and smooth-shaven cheeks who do not need to raise their voice."

Because these "quiet men" do not "raise their voices," because they sometimes speak in soothing tones of brotherhood and peace, because, like other dictators before them, they're always making "their final territorial demand," some would have us accept them at their word and accommodate ourselves to their aggressive impulses. But, if history teaches anything, it teaches that simple-minded appeasement or wishful thinking about our adversaries is folly. It means the betrayal of our past, the squandering of our freedom.

So, I urge you to speak out against those who would place the United States in a position of military and moral inferiority. You know, I've always believed that old Screwtape reserved his best efforts for those of you in the church. So, in your discussions of the nuclear freeze proposals, I urge you to beware the temptation of pride -- the temptation of blithely declaring yourselves above it all and label both sides equally at fault, to ignore the facts of history and the aggressive impulses of an evil empire, to simply call the arms race a giant misunderstanding and thereby remove yourself from the struggle between right and wrong and good and evil.

I ask you to resist the attempts of those who would have you withhold your support for our efforts, this administration's efforts, to keep America strong and free, while we negotiate real and verifiable reductions in the world's nuclear arsenals and one day, with God's help, their total elimination. (Applause.)

While America's military strength is important, let me add here that I have always maintained that the struggle now going on for the world will never be decided by bombs or rockets, by armies or military might. The real crisis we face today is a spiritual one; at root, it is a test of moral will and faith.

Whittaker Chambers, the man whose own religious conversion

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made him a witness to one of the terrible traumas of our time, the Hiss-Chambers case, wrote that the crisis of the Western World exists to the degree in which the West is indifferent to God, the degree to which it collaborates in communism's attempt to make man stand alone without God. And then he said, "For Marxism-Leninism is actually the second oldest faith first proclaimed in the Garden of Eden with the words of temptation, 'Ye shall be as gods.'"

"The Western world can answer this challenge," he wrote, "but only provided that its faith in God and the freedom he enjoins is as great as communism's faith in man."

I believe we shall rise to the challenge. I believe that communism is another sad, bizarre chapter in human history whose last pages even now are being written. I believe this because the source of our strength in the quest for human freedom is not material but spiritual. And because it knows no limitation, it must terrify and ultimately triumph over those who would enslave their fellow man. For in the words of Isaiah: "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increased strength ... But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary ..." (Applause).

Yes, change your world. One of our Founding Fathers, Thomas Paine, said, "We have it within our power to begin the world over again." We can do it doing together what no one church could do by itself. God bless you and thank you very much. (Applause).

END

3:36 P.M. EST

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THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you very much. And reverend clery all, Senator Hawkins, distinguished members of the Florida Congressional delegation and all of you, I can't tell you how you have warmed my heart with your welcome. I'm delighted to be here today.

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I think I understand how Abraham Lincoln felt when he said, "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

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"Not until I went into the Churches of America and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand the greatness and the genius of America. America is good. And if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great." (Applause.)

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An example of that vocal superiority is evident in a controversy now going on in Washington. And since I'm involved, I've been waiting to hear from the parents of young America. How far are they willing to go in giving to Government their prerogatives as parents?

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Now, again, let me say, I do not fault their intent. However, in their well-intentioned effort, these clinics have decided to provide advice and birth control drugs and devices to underage girls without the knowledge of their parents.

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And with your biblical keynote, I say today, "Yes, let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never failing stream."
(Applause.)

Now, obviously, much of this new political and social consensus that I have talked about is based on a positive view of American history, one that takes pride in our country's accomplishments and record. But we must never forget that no government schemes are going to perfect man. We know that living in this world means dealing with what philosophers would call the phenomenology of evil or, as theologians would put it, the doctrine of sin.

There is sin and evil in the world. And we are enjoined by scripture and the Lord Jesus to oppose it with all our might. Our nation, too, has a legacy of evil with which it must deal. The glory of this land has been its capacity for transcending the moral evils of our past. For example, the long struggle of minority citizens for equal rights once a source of disunity and civil war is now a point of pride for all Americans. We must never go back. There is no room for racism, anti-semitism or other forms of ethnic and racial hatred in this country. (Applause.) I know that you have been horrified, as have I, by the resurgence of some hate groups preaching bigotry and prejudice. Use the mighty voice of your pulpits and the powerful standing of your churches to denounce and isolate these hate groups in our midst. The commandment given us is clear and simple: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (Applause.)

But whatever sad episodes exist in our past, any objective observer must hold a positive view of American history, a history that has been the story of hopes fulfilled and dreams made into reality. Especially in this century, America has kept alight the torch of freedom, but not just for ourselves, but for millions of others around the world.

And this brings me to my final point today. During my first press conference as President, in answer to a direct question, I pointed out that, as good Marxists-Leninists, the Soviet leaders have openly and publicly declared that the only morality they recognize is that which will further their cause, which is world revolution. I think I should point out, I was only quoting Lenin, their guiding spirit who said in 1920 that they repudiate all morality that proceeds from supernatural ideas -- that is their name for religion -- or ideas that are outside class conceptions. Morality is entirely subordinate to the interests of class war. And everything is moral that is necessary for the annihilation of the old, exploiting social order and for uniting the proletariat.

Well, I think the refusal of many influential people to accept this elementary fact of Soviet doctrine illustrates an historical reluctance to see totalitarian powers for what they are. We saw this phenomenon in the 1930s. We see it too often today. This does not mean we should isolate ourselves and refuse to seek an understanding with them. I

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intend to do everything I can to persuade them of our peaceful intent, to remind them that it was the West that refused to use its nuclear monopoly in the '40's and '50's for territorial gain and which now proposes 50-percent cuts in strategic ballistic missiles and the elimination of an entire class of land-based intermediate-range nuclear missiles. (Applause.)

At the same time, however, they must be made to understand we will never compromise our principles and standards. We will never give away our freedom. We will never abandon our belief in God. (Applause.) And we will never stop searching for a genuine peace, but we can assure none of these things America stands for through the so-called nuclear freeze solutions proposed by some.

The truth is that a freeze now would be a very dangerous fraud, for that is merely the illusion of peace. The reality is that we must find peace through strength. (Applause.)

I would agree to a freeze if only we could freeze the Soviets' global desires. (Applause.) A freeze at current levels of weapons would remove any incentive for the Soviets to negotiate seriously in Geneva, and virtually end our chances to achieve the major arms reductions which we have proposed. Instead, they would achieve their objectives through the freeze. A freeze would reward the Soviet Union for its enormous and unparalleled military buildup. It would prevent the essential and long overdue modernization of United States and allied defenses and would leave our aging forces increasingly vulnerable. And an honest freeze would require extensive prior negotiations on the systems and numbers to be limited and on the measures to ensure effective verification and compliance. And the kind of a freeze that has been suggested would be virtually impossible to verify. Such a major effort would divert us completely from our current negotiations on achieving substantial reductions. (Applause.)

A number of years ago, I heard a young father, a very prominent young man in the entertainment world, addressing a tremendous gathering in California. It was during the time of the cold war and communism and our own way of life were very much on people's minds. And he was speaking to that subject. And suddenly, though, I heard him saying, "I love my little girls more than anything -- " And I said to myself, "Oh, no, don't. You can't -- don't say that." But I had underestimated him. He went on: "I would rather see my little girls die now, still believing in God, than have them grow up under communism and one day die no longer believing in God." (Applause.)

There were thousands of young people in that audience. They came to their feet with shouts of joy. They had instantly recognized the profound truth in what he had said, with regard to the physical and the soul and what was truly important.

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Yes, let us pray for the salvation of all of those who live in that totalitarian darkness -- pray they will discover the joy of knowing God. But until they do, let us be aware that while they preach the supremacy of the state, declare its omnipotence over individual man, and predict its eventual domination of all peoples on the Earth -- they are the focus of evil in the modern world. It was C.S. Lewis who, in his unforgettable Screwtape Letters, wrote: "The greatest evil is not done now in those sordid 'dens of crime' that Dickens loved to paint. It is not even done in concentration camps and labor camps. In those we see its final result. But it is conceived and ordered (moved, seconded, carried, and minuted) in clear, carpeted, warmed, and well-lighted offices, by quiet men with white collars and cut fingernails and smooth-shaven cheeks who do not need to raise their voice."

Because these "quiet men" do not "raise their voices," because they sometimes speak in soothing tones of brotherhood and peace, because, like other dictators before them, they're always making "their final territorial demand," some would have us accept them at their word and accommodate ourselves to their aggressive impulses. But, if history teaches anything, it teaches that simple-minded appeasement or wishful thinking about our adversaries is folly. It means the betrayal of our past, the squandering of our freedom.

So, I urge you to speak out against those who would place the United States in a position of military and moral inferiority. You know, I've always believed that old Screwtape reserved his best efforts for those of you in the church. So, in your discussions of the nuclear freeze proposals, I urge you to beware the temptation of pride -- the temptation of blithely declaring yourselves above it all and label both sides equally at fault, to ignore the facts of history and the aggressive impulses of an evil empire, to simply call the arms race a giant misunderstanding and thereby remove yourself from the struggle between right and wrong and good and evil.

I ask you to resist the attempts of those who would have you withhold your support for our efforts, this administration's efforts, to keep America strong and free, while we negotiate real and verifiable reductions in the world's nuclear arsenals and one day, with God's help, their total elimination. (Applause.)

While America's military strength is important, let me add here that I have always maintained that the struggle now going on for the world will never be decided by bombs or rockets, by armies or military might. The real crisis we face today is a spiritual one; at root, it is a test of moral will and faith.

Whittaker Chambers, the man whose own religious conversion

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made him a witness to one of the terrible traumas of our time, the Hiss-Chambers case, wrote that the crisis of the Western World exists to the degree in which the West is indifferent to God, the degree to which it collaborates in communism's attempt to make man stand alone without God. And then he said, "For Marxism-Leninism is actually the second oldest faith first proclaimed in the Garden of Eden with the words of temptation, 'Ye shall be as gods.'"

"The Western world can answer this challenge," he wrote, "but only provided that its faith in God and the freedom he enjoins is as great as communism's faith in man."

I believe we shall rise to the challenge. I believe that communism is another sad, bizarre chapter in human history whose last pages even now are being written. I believe this because the source of our strength in the quest for human freedom is not material but spiritual. And because it knows no limitation, it must terrify and ultimately triumph over those who would enslave their fellow man. For in the words of Isaiah: "He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increased strength ... But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary ..." (Applause).

Yes, change your world. One of our Founding Fathers, Thomas Paine, said, "We have it within our power to begin the world over again." We can do it doing together what no one church could do by itself. God bless you and thank you very much. (Applause).

END

3:36 P.M. EST

(DOLAN/RR)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
EVANGELICALS
MARCH 8, 1983/2:30 P.M.
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE
HERE TODAY. THOSE OF YOU
IN THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
EVANGELICALS ARE KNOWN
FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL AND
HUMANITARIAN WORK — AND
I WOULD BE ESPECIALLY
REMISS IF I DID NOT
DISCHARGE RIGHT NOW ONE
PERSONAL DEBT OF
GRATITUDE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
PRAYERS. NANCY AND I
HAVE FELT THEIR PRESENCE
MANY TIMES IN MANY WAYS.
BELIEVE ME, FOR US THEY
HAVE MADE ALL THE
DIFFERENCE. THE OTHER
DAY IN THE EAST ROOM OF
THE WHITE HOUSE SOMEONE
ASKED ME WHETHER I WAS
AWARE OF ALL THE PEOPLE
OUT THERE PRAYING FOR THE

PRESIDENT. YES, I AM —
BECAUSE I'VE FELT IT AND
I BELIEVE IN
INTERCESSIONARY PRAYER.
BUT I COULDN'T HELP BUT
SAY TO THAT QUESTIONER
THAT IF SOMETIMES WHEN HE
WAS PRAYING HE GOT A BUSY
SIGNAL, IT WAS JUST ME IN
THERE AHEAD OF HIM. I
FEEL AS ABE LINCOLN FELT
WHEN HE SAID, "I HAVE
BEEN DRIVEN MANY TIMES
UPON MY KNEES BY THE
OVERWHELMING CONVICTION
THAT I HAD NO WHERE ELSE
TO GO."

FROM THE JOY AND
GOOD FEELING OF THIS
CONFERENCE I GO TO A
POLITICAL RECEPTION. I
DON'T KNOW WHY THAT
SCHEDULING REMINDS ME OF
A STORY, BUT IT DOES.
AN EVANGELICAL MINISTER
AND A POLITICIAN ARRIVED
AT HEAVEN'S GATE

TOGETHER. ST. PETER TOOK THEM IN HAND TO SHOW THEM THEIR NEW QUARTERS. HE TOOK THE MINISTER TO A SMALL ROOM WITH JUST A BED, A SINGLE CHAIR AND TABLE. THE POLITICIAN WAS A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WAS IN STORE FOR HIM. AND HE COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WHEN ST. PETER STOPPED BEFORE A GREAT MANSION, WITH BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS AND MANY SERVANTS AND TOLD HIM ALL THIS WOULD BE HIS. THE POLITICIAN SAID, "BUT HOW CAN YOU GIVE ME THIS MANSION WHILE THAT GOOD AND HOLY MAN ONLY GETS A SINGLE ROOM?"

ST. PETER SAID, "YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THINGS ARE UP HERE; WE'VE GOT THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF CLERGY — YOU'RE THE FIRST

POLITICIAN WHO EVER MADE
IT."

NOW I DON'T WANT TO
CONTRIBUTE TO A
STEROTYPE. I TELL YOU
TRULY, THERE ARE A GREAT
MANY GOD-FEARING,
DEDICATED, NOBLE MEN AND
WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE.
YES, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO
KEEP US EVER MINDFUL OF
THE IDEAS AND PRINCIPLES
THAT BROUGHT US INTO THE
PUBLIC ARENA IN THE FIRST
PLACE. THE BASIS OF
THOSE IDEALS AND
PRINCIPLES IS A
COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM AND
PERSONAL LIBERTY, A
COMMITMENT THAT ITSELF IS
GROUNDED IN THE MUCH
DEEPER REALIZATION: THAT
FREEDOM PROSPERS ONLY
WHERE THE BLESSINGS OF
GOD ARE AVIDLY SOUGHT AND
HUMBLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

THE AMERICAN
EXPERIMENT IN DEMOCRACY
RESTS ON THIS INSIGHT;
ITS DISCOVERY WAS THE
GREAT TRIUMPH OF OUR
FOUNDING FATHERS VOICED
BY WILLIAM PENN: "IF WE
WILL NOT BE GOVERNED BY
GOD, WE MUST BE GOVERNED
BY TYRANTS." EXPLAINING
THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF
MEN, JEFFERSON SAID, "THE
GOD WHO GAVE US LIFE,
GAVE US LIBERTY AT THE
SAME TIME." AND IT WAS
GEORGE WASHINGTON WHO
SAID THAT "OF ALL THE
DISPOSITIONS AND HABITS
WHICH LEAD TO POLITICAL
PROSPERITY, RELIGION AND
MORALITY ARE
INDISPENSABLE SUPPORTS."

AND FINALLY, THAT
SHREWDEST OF ALL
OBSERVERS OF AMERICAN
DEMOCRACY, ALEXIS DE
TOCQUEVILLE, PUT IT

ELOQUENTLY AFTER HE HAD
GONE ON A SEARCH FOR THE
SECRET OF AMERICA'S
GREATNESS AND GENIUS.

"NOT UNTIL I WENT TO
THE CHURCHES OF AMERICA
AND HEARD HER PULPITS
AFLAME WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS
DID I UNDERSTAND THE
GREATNESS AND GENIUS OF
AMERICA. AMERICA IS
[GREAT BECAUSE AMERICA IS]
GOOD. AND IF AMERICA
EVER CEASES TO BE GOOD,
AMERICA WILL CEASE TO BE
GREAT."

I AM PLEASED TO BE
HERE TODAY WITH YOU WHO
ARE KEEPING AMERICA GREAT
BY KEEPING HER GOOD.
ONLY THROUGH YOUR WORK
AND PRAYERS AND THOSE OF
MILLIONS OF OTHERS CAN WE
HOPE TO SURVIVE THIS
PERILOUS CENTURY AND KEEP
ALIVE THIS EXPERIMENT IN

LIBERTY, THIS LAST BEST
HOPE OF MAN.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW
THIS ADMINISTRATION IS
MOTIVATED BY A POLITICAL
PHILOSOPHY THAT SEES THE
GREATNESS OF AMERICA IN
YOU, HER PEOPLE, AND IN
YOUR FAMILIES, CHURCHES,
NEIGHBORHOODS,
COMMUNITIES — THE
INSTITUTIONS THAT FOSTER
AND NOURISH VALUES LIKE
CONCERN FOR OTHERS AND
RESPECT FOR THE RULE OF
LAW UNDER GOD.

NOW I DON'T HAVE TO
TELL YOU THAT THIS PUTS
US IN OPPOSITION TO, OR
AT LEAST OUT OF STEP
WITH, A PREVAILING
ATTITUDE OF MANY WHO HAVE
TURNED TO A MODERN DAY
SECULARISM, DISCARDING
THE TRIED AND TIME-TESTED
VALUES UPON WHICH OUR
VERY CIVILIZATION IS

BASED. NO MATTER HOW WELL INTENTIONED, THEIR VALUE SYSTEM IS RADICALLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF MOST AMERICANS. AND, WHILE THEY PROCLAIM THEY ARE FREEING US FROM SUPERSTITIONS OF THE PAST, THEY HAVE TAKEN UPON THEMSELVES THE JOB OF SUPERINTENDING US BY GOVERNMENT RULE AND REGULATION. SOMETIMES THEIR VOICES ARE LOUDER THAN OURS, BUT THEY ARE NOT YET A MAJORITY.

AN EXAMPLE OF THAT VOCAL SUPERIORITY IS EVIDENT IN A CONTROVERSY NOW GOING ON IN WASHINGTON. SINCE I'M INVOLVED, I'VE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR FROM THE PARENTS OF YOUNG AMERICA. HOW FAR ARE THEY WILLING TO GO IN GIVING TO

GOVERNMENT THEIR
PREROGATIVES AS PARENTS?

LET ME STATE THE
CASE AS BRIEFLY AND
SIMPLY AS I CAN. AN
ORGANIZATION OF CITIZENS
SINCERELY MOTIVATED AND
DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT
THE INCREASE IN
ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS AND
ABORTIONS INVOLVING GIRLS
WELL BELOW THE AGE OF
CONSENT ESTABLISHED
CLINICS NATIONWIDE TO
OFFER HELP TO THESE GIRLS
AND HOPEFULLY ALLEVIATE
THIS SITUATION.

AGAIN LET ME SAY, I
DO NOT FAULT THEIR
INTENT. HOWEVER, IN
THEIR WELL-INTENTIONED
EFFORT, THESE CLINICS
PROVIDE ADVICE AND BIRTH
CONTROL DRUGS AND DEVICES
TO UNDERAGE GIRLS WITHOUT
THE KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR
PARENTS.

FOR SOME YEARS NOW,
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
HAS HELPED WITH FUNDS TO
SUBSIDIZE THESE CLINICS.
IN PROVIDING FOR THIS,
THE CONGRESS DECREED THAT
EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE
MADE TO MAXIMIZE PARENTAL
PARTICIPATION.
NEVERTHELESS, THE DRUGS
AND DEVICES ARE
PRESCRIBED WITHOUT
GETTING PARENTAL CONSENT
OR GIVING NOTIFICATION.
GIRLS TERMED "SEXUALLY
ACTIVE" — THAT HAS
REPLACED THE WORD
"PROMISCUOUS" — ARE
GIVEN THIS HELP IN ORDER
TO PREVENT ILLEGITIMATE
BIRTH OR ABORTION.

WE HAVE ORDERED
CLINICS RECEIVING FEDERAL
FUNDS TO NOTIFY THE
PARENTS SUCH HELP HAS
BEEN GIVEN. ONE OF THE
NATION'S LEADING

NEWSPAPERS HAS CREATED THE TERM "SQUEAL RULE" IN EDITORIALIZING AGAINST US, AND WE ARE BEING CRITICIZED FOR VIOLATING THE PRIVACY OF YOUNG PEOPLE. A JUDGE HAS GRANTED AN INJUNCTION AGAINST ENFORCEMENT OF OUR RULE.

I HAVE WATCHED TV PANEL SHOWS DISCUSS THIS ISSUE, HAVE READ COLUMNS PONTIFICATING ON OUR ERROR BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO MENTION MORALITY AS PLAYING A PART IN THE SUBJECT OF SEX.

IS ALL OF JUDEO-CHRISTIAN TRADITION WRONG? ARE WE TO BELIEVE THAT SOMETHING SO SACRED CAN BE LOOKED UPON AS A PURELY PHYSICAL THING WITH NO POTENTIAL FOR EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HARM? AND

ISN'T IT THE PARENTS
RIGHT TO GIVE COUNSEL AND
ADVICE TO KEEP THEIR
CHILDREN FROM MAKING
MISTAKES THAT MAY AFFECT
THEIR ENTIRE LIVES?

MANY OF US IN
GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO
KNOW WHAT PARENTS THINK
ABOUT THIS INTRUSION IN
THEIR FAMILY BY
GOVERNMENT. WE ARE GOING
TO FIGHT IN THE COURTS.
THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND
THE RIGHTS OF FAMILY TAKE
PRECEDENCE OVER THOSE OF
WASHINGTON-BASED
BUREAUCRATS AND SOCIAL
ENGINEERS.

BUT THE FIGHT
AGAINST PARENTAL
NOTIFICATION IS REALLY
ONLY ONE EXAMPLE OF MANY
ATTEMPTS TO WATER DOWN
TRADITIONAL VALUES AND
EVEN ABROGATE THE
ORIGINAL TERMS OF

AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.
FREEDOM PROSPERS WHEN
RELIGION IS VIBRANT AND
THE RULE OF LAW UNDER GOD
ACKNOWLEDGED. WHEN OUR
FOUNDING FATHERS PASSED
THE FIRST AMENDMENT THEY
SOUGHT TO PROTECT
CHURCHES FROM GOVERNMENT
INTERFERENCE. THEY NEVER
MEANT TO CONSTRUCT A WALL
OF HOSTILITY BETWEEN
GOVERNMENT AND THE
CONCEPT OF RELIGIOUS
BELIEF ITSELF.

THE EVIDENCE OF THIS
PERMEATES OUR HISTORY AND
OUR GOVERNMENT: THE
DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE MENTIONS THE
SUPREME BEING NO LESS
THAN FOUR TIMES; "IN GOD
WE TRUST" IS ENGRAVED ON
OUR COINAGE; THE SUPREME
COURT OPENS ITS
PROCEEDINGS WITH A
RELIGIOUS INVOCATION; AND

THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
OPEN THEIR SESSIONS WITH
A PRAYER. I JUST HAPPEN
TO BELIEVE THE SCHOOL
CHILDREN OF THE UNITED
STATES ARE ENTITLED TO
THE SAME PRIVILEGES AS
SUPREME COURT JUSTICES
AND CONGRESSMEN. LAST
YEAR, I SENT THE CONGRESS
A CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT TO RESTORE
PRAYER TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
ALREADY THIS SESSION,
THERE IS GROWING
BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR
THE AMENDMENT & I AM
CALLING ON THE CONGRESS
TO ACT SPEEDILY TO PASS
IT. LET OUR CHILDREN
PRAY.

PERHAPS SOME OF YOU
READ RECENTLY ABOUT THE
LUBBOCK SCHOOL CASE WHERE
A JUDGE ACTUALLY RULED
THAT IT WAS
UNCONSTITUTIONAL FOR A
SCHOOL DISTRICT TO GIVE
EQUAL TREATMENT TO

RELIGIOUS AND
NONRELIGIOUS STUDENT
GROUPS, EVEN WHEN THE
GROUP MEETINGS WERE HELD
DURING THE STUDENTS' OWN
TIME. THE FIRST
AMENDMENT NEVER INTENDED
TO REQUIRE GOVERNMENT TO
DISCRIMINATE AGAINST
RELIGIOUS SPEECH.

SENATORS DENTON AND
HATFIELD HAVE PROPOSED
LEGISLATION IN THE
CONGRESS ON THE WHOLE
QUESTION OF PROHIBITING
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
RELIGIOUS FORMS OF
STUDENT SPEECH. SUCH
LEGISLATION COULD GO FAR
TO RESTORE FREEDOM OF
RELIGIOUS SPEECH FOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS,
AND I HOPE THE CONGRESS
CONSIDERS THESE BILLS
QUICKLY. AND WITH YOUR
HELP, I THINK IT'S
POSSIBLE WE COULD ALSO

GET THE CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT THROUGH THE
CONGRESS THIS YEAR.

MORE THAN A DECADE
AGO, A SUPREME COURT
DECISION LITERALLY WIPED
OFF THE BOOKS OF 50
STATES STATUTES
PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF
UNBORN CHILDREN.

"ABORTION ON DEMAND" NOW
TAKES THE LIVES OF UP TO
1-1/2 MILLION UNBORN
CHILDREN A YEAR. HUMAN
LIFE LEGISLATION ENDING
THIS TRAGEDY WILL SOMEDAY
PASS THE CONGRESS — AND
YOU AND I MUST NEVER REST
UNTIL IT DOES. UNLESS
AND UNTIL IT CAN BE
PROVEN THAT THE UNBORN
CHILD IS NOT A LIVING
ENTITY, THEN ITS RIGHT TO
LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE
PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS MUST
BE PROTECTED.

YOU MAY REMEMBER
THAT WHEN ABORTION ON
DEMAND BEGAN MANY,
INDEED, I'M SURE MANY OF
YOU, WARNED THAT THE
PRACTICE WOULD LEAD TO A
DECLINE IN RESPECT FOR
HUMAN LIFE, THAT THE
PHILOSOPHICAL PREMISES
USED TO JUSTIFY ABORTION
ON DEMAND WOULD
ULTIMATELY BE USED TO
JUSTIFY OTHER ATTACKS ON
THE SACREDNESS OF HUMAN
LIFE, INFANTICIDE OR
MERCY KILLING.
TRAGICALLY ENOUGH, THOSE
WARNINGS PROVED ALL TOO
TRUE: ONLY LAST YEAR A
COURT PERMITTED THE DEATH
BY STARVATION OF A
HANDICAPPED INFANT.

I HAVE DIRECTED THE
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT TO MAKE CLEAR
TO EVERY HEALTH CARE
FACILITY IN THE UNITED

STATES THAT THE
REHABILITATION ACT OF
1973 PROTECTS ALL
HANDICAPPED PERSONS
AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
BASED ON HANDICAPS,
INCLUDING INFANTS. AND
WE HAVE TAKEN THE FURTHER
STEP OF REQUIRING THAT
EACH AND EVERY RECIPIENT
OF FEDERAL FUNDS WHO
PROVIDES HEALTH CARE
SERVICES TO INFANTS MUST
POST AND KEEP POSTED IN A
CONSPICUOUS PLACE A
NOTICE STATING THAT
"DISCRIMINATORY FAILURE
TO FEED AND CARE FOR
HANDICAPPED INFANTS IN
THIS FACILITY IS
PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL
LAW." IT ALSO LISTS A
24-HOUR, TOLL-FREE NUMBER
SO THAT NURSES AND OTHERS
MAY REPORT VIOLATIONS IN
TIME TO SAVE THE INFANT'S
LIFE.

IN ADDITION, RECENT
LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN
THE CONGRESS BY
REPRESENTATIVE HENRY HYDE
NOT ONLY INCREASES
RESTRICTIONS ON
PUBLICLY-FINANCED
ABORTIONS, IT ALSO
ADDRESSES THIS WHOLE
PROBLEM OF INFANTICIDE.
I URGE THE CONGRESS TO
BEGIN HEARINGS AND TO
ADOPT LEGISLATION THAT
WILL PROTECT THE RIGHT OF
LIFE TO ALL CHILDREN,
INCLUDING THE DISABLED OR
HANDICAPPED.

I'M SURE YOU MUST
GET DISCOURAGED AT TIMES,
BUT THERE IS A GREAT
SPIRITUAL AWAKENING IN
AMERICA, A RENEWAL OF THE
TRADITIONAL VALUES THAT
HAVE BEEN THE BEDROCK OF
AMERICA'S GOODNESS AND
GREATNESS.

ONE RECENT SURVEY BY
A WASHINGTON-BASED
RESEARCH COUNCIL
CONCLUDED THAT AMERICANS
WERE FAR MORE RELIGIOUS
THAN THE PEOPLE OF OTHER
NATIONS; 95 PERCENT OF
THOSE SURVEYED EXPRESSED
A BELIEF IN GOD AND A
HUGE MAJORITY BELIEVED
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS HAD
REAL MEANING FOR THEIR
LIVES.

ANOTHER STUDY HAS
FOUND THAT AN
OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF
AMERICANS DISAPPROVE OF
ADULTERY, TEENAGE SEX,
PORNOGRAPHY, ABORTION AND
HARD DRUGS. AND THIS
SAME STUDY SHOWED A DEEP
REVERENCE FOR THE
IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY TIES
AND RELIGIOUS BELIEF.

I THINK THE ITEMS WE
HAVE DISCUSSED HERE TODAY
MUST BE A KEY PART OF THE

NATION'S POLITICAL
AGENDA. FOR THE FIRST
TIME THE CONGRESS IS
OPENLY AND SERIOUSLY
DEBATING AND DEALING WITH
THE PRAYER AND ABORTION
ISSUES — THAT'S ENORMOUS
PROGRESS RIGHT THERE. I
REPEAT: AMERICA IS IN
THE MIDST OF A SPIRITUAL
AWAKENING AND A MORAL
RENEWAL. WITH YOUR
BIBLICAL KEYNOTE, I SAY
TODAY LET "JUSTICE ROLL
ON LIKE A RIVER,
RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE A
NEVER-FAILING STREAM."

NOW, OBVIOUSLY, MUCH
OF THIS NEW POLITICAL AND
SOCIAL CONSENSUS I HAVE
TALKED ABOUT IS BASED ON
A POSITIVE VIEW OF
AMERICAN HISTORY, ONE
THAT TAKES PRIDE IN OUR
COUNTRY'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AND RECORD. BUT WE MUST
NEVER FORGET THAT NO

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES ARE GOING TO PERFECT MAN; WE KNOW THAT LIVING IN THIS WORLD MEANS DEALING WITH WHAT PHILOSOPHERS WOULD CALL THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF EVIL OR, AS THEOLOGIANS WOULD PUT IT, THE DOCTRINE OF SIN.

THERE IS SIN AND EVIL IN THE WORLD, AND WE ARE ENJOINED BY SCRIPTURE AND THE LORD JESUS TO OPPOSE IT WITH ALL OUR MIGHT. OUR NATION, TOO, HAS A LEGACY OF EVIL WITH WHICH IT MUST DEAL.

THE GLORY OF THIS LAND HAS BEEN ITS CAPACITY FOR TRANSCENDING THE MORAL EVILS OF OUR PAST. FOR EXAMPLE, THE LONG STRUGGLE OF MINORITY CITIZENS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS, ONCE A SOURCE OF DISUNITY AND CIVIL WAR, IS NOW A POINT OF PRIDE

FOR ALL AMERICANS. WE
MUST NEVER GO BACK.
THERE IS NO ROOM FOR
RACISM, ANTI-SEMITISM OR
OTHER FORMS OF ETHNIC AND
RACIAL HATRED IN THIS
COUNTRY. I KNOW YOU HAVE
BEEN HORRIFIED, AS HAVE
I, BY THE RESURGENCE OF
SOME HATE GROUPS
PREACHING BIGOTRY AND
PREJUDICE. USE THE
MIGHTY VOICE OF YOUR
PULPITS AND THE POWERFUL
STANDING OF YOUR CHURCHES
TO DENOUNCE AND ISOLATE
THESE HATE GROUPS IN OUR
MIDST. THE COMMANDMENT
GIVEN US IS CLEAR AND
SIMPLE — "THOU SHALT
LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR AS
THYSELF."

BUT WHATEVER SAD
EPISODES EXIST IN OUR
PAST, ANY OBJECTIVE
OBSERVER MUST HOLD A
POSITIVE VIEW OF AMERICAN

HISTORY, A HISTORY THAT
HAS BEEN THE STORY OF
HOPES FULFILLED AND
DREAMS MADE INTO REALITY.
ESPECIALLY IN THIS
CENTURY, AMERICA HAS KEPT
ALIGHT THE TORCH OF
FREEDOM — NOT JUST FOR
OURSELVES BUT FOR
MILLIONS OF OTHERS AROUND
THE WORLD. AND THIS
BRINGS ME TO MY FINAL
POINT TODAY.

DURING MY FIRST
PRESS CONFERENCE AS
PRESIDENT, IN ANSWER TO A
DIRECT QUESTION, I
POINTED OUT THAT AS GOOD
MARXISTS-LENINISTS THE
SOVIET LEADERS HAVE
OPENLY AND PUBLICLY
DECLARED THAT THE ONLY
MORALITY THEY RECOGNIZE
IS THAT WHICH WILL
FURTHER THEIR CAUSE,
WHICH IS WORLD
REVOLUTION.

I THINK I SHOULD
POINT OUT I WAS ONLY
QUOTING LENIN, THEIR
GUIDING SPIRIT, WHO SAID
IN 1920 THAT THEY
REPUDIATE ALL MORALITY
THAT PROCEEDS FROM
SUPERNATURAL IDEAS OR
IDEAS THAT ARE OUTSIDE
CLASS CONCEPTIONS;
MORALITY IS ENTIRELY
SUBORDINATE TO THE
INTERESTS OF CLASS WAR;
AND EVERYTHING IS MORAL
THAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE
ANNIHILATION OF THE OLD
EXPLOITING SOCIAL ORDER
AND FOR UNITING THE
PROLETARIAT.

I THINK THE REFUSAL
OF MANY INFLUENTIAL
PEOPLE TO ACCEPT THIS
ELEMENTARY FACT OF SOVIET
DOCTRINE ILLUSTRATES AN
HISTORICAL RELUCTANCE TO
SEE TOTALITARIAN POWERS
FOR WHAT THEY ARE. WE

SAW THIS PHENOMENON IN
THE 1930'S; WE SEE IT TOO
OFTEN TODAY. THIS DOES
NOT MEAN WE SHOULD
ISOLATE OURSELVES AND
REFUSE TO SEEK AN
UNDERSTANDING WITH THEM.
I INTEND TO DO EVERYTHING
I CAN TO PERSUADE THEM OF
OUR PEACEFUL INTENT; TO
REMIND THEM THAT IT WAS
THE WEST THAT REFUSED TO
USE ITS NUCLEAR MONOPOLY
IN THE FORTIES AND
FIFTIES FOR TERRITORIAL
GAIN AND WHICH NOW
PROPOSES 50-PERCENT CUTS
IN STRATEGIC BALLISTIC
MISSILES AND THE
ELIMINATION OF AN ENTIRE
CLASS OF LAND-BASED,
INTERMEDIATE-RANGE
NUCLEAR MISSILES.

AT THE SAME TIME,
HOWEVER, THEY MUST BE
MADE TO UNDERSTAND WE
WILL NEVER COMPROMISE OUR

PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS.
WE WILL NEVER GIVE AWAY
OUR FREEDOM. WE WILL
NEVER ABANDON OUR BELIEF
IN GOD.

A NUMBER OF YEARS
AGO, I HEARD A YOUNG
FATHER ADDRESSING A
TREMENDOUS GATHERING IN
CALIFORNIA. IT WAS
DURING THE TIME OF THE
COLD WAR WHEN COMMUNISM
AND OUR OWN WAY OF LIFE
WERE VERY MUCH ON
PEOPLE'S MINDS. HE WAS
SPEAKING TO THAT SUBJECT.
SUDDENLY, I HEARD HIM
SAYING, "I LOVE MY LITTLE
GIRLS MORE THAN ANYTHING
IN THE WORLD, BUT I WOULD
RATHER SEE THEM," AND I
THOUGHT — OH, NO, NOT
THAT. BUT I HAD
UNDERESTIMATED HIM. HE
WENT ON: "I WOULD RATHER
SEE THEM DIE NOW, STILL
BELIEVING IN GOD, THAN

HAVE THEM GROW UP UNDER
COMMUNISM AND ONE DAY DIE
NO LONGER BELIEVING IN
GOD."

THERE WERE THOUSANDS
OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THAT
AUDIENCE. THEY CAME TO
THEIR FEET WITH SHOUTS OF
JOY. THEY RECOGNIZED THE
PROFOUND TRUTH IN WHAT HE
HAD SAID.

LET US PRAY FOR THE
SALVATION OF ALL THOSE
WHO LIVE IN THAT
TOTALITARIAN DARKNESS —
PRAY THEY WILL DISCOVER
THE JOY OF KNOWING GOD.

BUT UNTIL THEY DO,
LET US BE AWARE THAT
WHILE THEY PREACH THE
SUPREMACY OF THE STATE,
DECLARE ITS OMNIPOTENCE
OVER INDIVIDUAL MAN, AND
PREDICT ITS EVENTUAL
DOMINATION OF ALL PEOPLES
OF THE EARTH — THEY ARE
THE FOCUS OF EVIL IN THE

MODERN WORLD. IT WAS
C. S. LEWIS WHO, IN HIS
UNFORGETTABLE SCREWTAPE
LETTERS, WROTE:

"THE GREATEST EVIL
IS NOT NOW DONE IN THOSE
SORDID 'DENS OF CRIME'
THAT DICKENS LOVED TO
PAINT. IT IS NOT DONE
EVEN IN CONCENTRATION
CAMPS AND LABOR CAMPS.
IN THOSE WE SEE ITS FINAL
RESULT. BUT IT IS
CONCEIVED AND ORDERED
(MOVED, SECONDED,
CARRIED, AND MINUTED) IN
CLEAR, CARPETED, WARMED,
AND WELL-LIGHTED OFFICES,
BY QUIET MEN WITH WHITE
COLLARS AND CUT
FINGERNAILS AND
SMOOTH-SHAVEN CHEEKS WHO
DO NOT NEED TO RAISE
THEIR VOICE."
BECAUSE THESE "QUIET MEN"
DO NOT "RAISE THEIR
VOICES," BECAUSE THEY

SOMETIMES SPEAK IN
SOOTHING TONES OF
BROTHERHOOD AND PEACE,
BECAUSE, LIKE OTHER
DICTATORS BEFORE THEM,
THEY ARE ALWAYS MAKING
"THEIR FINAL TERRITORIAL
DEMAND," SOME WOULD HAVE
US ACCEPT THEM AT THEIR
WORD AND ACCOMMODATE
OURSELVES TO THEIR
AGGRESSIVE IMPULSES.
BUT, IF HISTORY TEACHES
ANYTHING, IT TEACHES:
SIMPLE-MINDED APPEASEMENT
OR WISHFUL THINKING ABOUT
OUR ADVERSARIES IS
FOLLY — IT MEANS THE
BETRAYAL OF OUR PAST, THE
SQUANDERING OF OUR
FREEDOM.

SO I URGE YOU TO
SPEAK OUT AGAINST THOSE
WHO WOULD PLACE THE
UNITED STATES IN A
POSITION OF MILITARY &
MORAL INFERIORITY. YOU

KNOW, I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT OLD SCREWTAPE RESERVES HIS BEST EFFORTS FOR THOSE OF YOU IN THE CHURCH. SO IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS OF THE NUCLEAR FREEZE PROPOSALS, I URGE YOU TO BEWARE THE TEMPTATION OF PRIDE — THE TEMPTATION BLITHELY TO DECLARE YOURSELVES ABOVE IT ALL AND LABEL BOTH SIDES EQUALLY AT FAULT, TO IGNORE THE FACTS OF HISTORY AND THE AGGRESSIVE IMPULSES OF AN EVIL EMPIRE, TO SIMPLY CALL THE ARMS RACE A GIANT MISUNDERSTANDING AND THEREBY REMOVE YOURSELF FROM THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG, GOOD AND EVIL.

I ASK YOU TO RESIST THE ATTEMPTS OF THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE YOU WITHHOLD YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS

ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS
TO KEEP AMERICA STRONG
AND FREE, WHILE WE
NEGOTIATE REAL AND
VERIFIABLE REDUCTIONS IN
THE WORLD'S NUCLEAR
ARSENALS AND ONE DAY,
WITH GOD'S HELP, THEIR
TOTAL ELIMINATION.

WHILE AMERICA'S
MILITARY STRENGTH IS
IMPORTANT, LET ME ADD
HERE THAT I HAVE ALWAYS
MAINTAINED THAT THE
STRUGGLE NOW GOING ON FOR
THE WORLD WILL NEVER BE
DECIDED BY BOMBS OR
ROCKETS, BY ARMIES OR
MILITARY MIGHT. THE REAL
CRISIS WE FACE TODAY IS A
SPIRITUAL ONE; AT ROOT,
IT IS A TEST OF MORAL
WILL AND FAITH.

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS,
THE MAN WHOSE OWN
RELIGIOUS CONVERSION MADE
HIM A "WITNESS" TO ONE OF

THE TERRIBLE TRAUMAS OF OUR AGE, THE HISS-CHAMBERS CASE, WROTE THAT THE CRISIS OF THE WESTERN WORLD EXISTS TO THE DEGREE IN WHICH THE WEST IS INDIFFERENT TO GOD, THE DEGREE TO WHICH IT COLLABORATES IN COMMUNISM'S ATTEMPT TO MAKE MAN STAND ALONE WITHOUT GOD. FOR MARXISM-LENINISM IS ACTUALLY THE SECOND OLDEST FAITH, HE SAID, FIRST PROCLAIMED IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN WITH THE WORDS OF TEMPTATION: "YE SHALL BE AS GODS."

THE WESTERN WORLD CAN ANSWER THIS CHALLENGE, HE WROTE, "BUT ONLY PROVIDED THAT ITS FAITH IN GOD AND THE FREEDOM HE ENJOINS IS AS GREAT AS COMMUNISM'S FAITH IN MAN."

I BELIEVE WE SHALL
RISE TO THIS CHALLENGE; I
BELIEVE THAT COMMUNISM IS
ANOTHER SAD, BIZARRE
CHAPTER IN HUMAN HISTORY
WHOSE LAST PAGES EVEN NOW
ARE BEING WRITTEN. I
BELIEVE THIS BECAUSE THE
SOURCE OF OUR STRENGTH IN
THE QUEST FOR HUMAN
FREEDOM IS NOT MATERIAL
BUT SPIRITUAL, AND,
BECAUSE IT KNOWS NO
LIMITATION, IT MUST
TERRIFY AND ULTIMATELY
TRIUMPH OVER THOSE WHO
WOULD ENSLAVE THEIR
FELLOW MAN. FOR, IN THE
WORDS OF ISAIAH:

"HE GIVETH POWER TO
THE FAINT; AND TO THEM
THAT HAVE NO MIGHT HE
INCREASED STRENGTH....
BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON
THE LORD SHALL RENEW
THEIR STRENGTH; THEY
SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS

AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL
RUN, AND NOT BE
WEARY ..."

THANK YOU AND GOD
BLESS YOU.

#

(DOLAN/RR)

MARCH 8, 1983
2:30 PM
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

PRESIDENT'S BACKUP COPY:

ADDRESS TO NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE TODAY. THOSE OF YOU IN THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS ARE KNOWN FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL AND HUMANITARIAN WORK -- AND I WOULD BE ESPECIALLY REMISS IF I DID NOT DISCHARGE RIGHT NOW ONE PERSONAL DEBT OF GRATITUDE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS. NANCY AND I HAVE FELT THEIR PRESENCE MANY TIMES IN MANY WAYS. BELIEVE ME, FOR US THEY HAVE MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. THE OTHER DAY IN THE EAST ROOM OF THE WHITE HOUSE SOMEONE ASKED ME WHETHER I WAS AWARE OF ALL THE PEOPLE OUT THERE PRAYING FOR THE PRESIDENT. YES, I AM -- BECAUSE I'VE FELT IT AND I BELIEVE IN INTERCESSIONARY PRAYER. BUT I COULDN'T HELP BUT SAY TO THAT QUESTIONER THAT IF SOMETIMES WHEN HE WAS PRAYING HE GOT A BUSY SIGNAL, IT WAS JUST ME IN THERE AHEAD OF HIM. I FEEL AS ABE LINCOLN FELT WHEN HE SAID, "I HAVE BEEN DRIVEN MANY TIMES UPON MY KNEES BY THE OVERWHELMING CONVICTION THAT I HAD NO WHERE ELSE TO GO."

FROM THE JOY AND GOOD FEELING OF THIS CONFERENCE I GO TO A POLITICAL RECEPTION. I DON'T KNOW WHY THAT SCHEDULING REMINDS ME OF A STORY, BUT IT DOES. AN EVANGELICAL MINISTER AND A POLITICIAN ARRIVED AT HEAVEN'S GATE TOGETHER.

ST. PETER TOOK THEM IN HAND TO SHOW THEM THEIR NEW QUARTERS. HE TOOK THE MINISTER TO A SMALL ROOM WITH JUST A BED, A SINGLE CHAIR AND TABLE.

THE POLITICIAN WAS A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WAS IN STORE FOR HIM. AND HE COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WHEN ST. PETER STOPPED BEFORE A GREAT MANSION, WITH BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS AND MANY SERVANTS AND TOLD HIM ALL THIS WOULD BE HIS. THE POLITICIAN SAID, "BUT HOW CAN YOU GIVE ME THIS MANSION WHILE THAT GOOD AND HOLY MAN ONLY GETS A SINGLE ROOM?"

ST. PETER SAID, "YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND HOW THINGS ARE UP HERE; WE'VE GOT THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF CLERGY -- YOU'RE THE FIRST POLITICIAN WHO EVER MADE IT."

NOW I DON'T WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO A STEROTYPE. I TELL YOU TRULY, THERE ARE A GREAT MANY GOD-FEARING, DEDICATED, NOBLE MEN AND WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE. YES, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP US EVER MINDFUL OF THE IDEAS AND PRINCIPLES THAT BROUGHT US INTO THE PUBLIC ARENA IN THE FIRST PLACE. THE BASIS OF THOSE IDEALS AND PRINCIPLES IS A COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM AND PERSONAL LIBERTY, A COMMITMENT THAT ITSELF IS GROUNDED IN THE MUCH DEEPER REALIZATION: THAT FREEDOM PROSPERS ONLY WHERE THE BLESSINGS OF GOD ARE AVIDLY SOUGHT AND HUMBLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

accepted

THE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT IN DEMOCRACY RESTS ON THIS INSIGHT; ITS DISCOVERY WAS THE GREAT TRIUMPH OF OUR FOUNDING FATHERS VOICED BY WILLIAM PENN: "IF WE WILL NOT BE GOVERNED BY GOD, WE MUST BE GOVERNED BY TYRANTS." EXPLAINING THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF MEN, JEFFERSON SAID, "THE GOD WHO GAVE US LIFE, GAVE US LIBERTY AT THE SAME TIME." AND IT WAS GEORGE WASHINGTON WHO SAID THAT "OF ALL THE DISPOSITIONS AND HABITS WHICH LEAD TO POLITICAL PROSPERITY, RELIGION AND MORALITY ARE INDISPENSABLE SUPPORTS."

AND FINALLY, THAT SHREWDEST OF ALL OBSERVERS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY, ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE, PUT IT ELOQUENTLY AFTER HE HAD GONE ON A SEARCH FOR THE SECRET OF AMERICA'S GREATNESS AND GENIUS.

"NOT UNTIL I WENT TO THE CHURCHES OF AMERICA AND HEARD HER PULPITS AFLAME WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS DID I UNDERSTAND THE GREATNESS AND GENIUS OF AMERICA. AMERICA IS GREAT BECAUSE AMERICA IS GOOD. AND IF AMERICA EVER CEASES TO BE GOOD, AMERICA WILL CEASE TO BE GREAT."

I AM PLEASED TO BE HERE TODAY WITH YOU WHO ARE KEEPING AMERICA GREAT BY KEEPING HER GOOD. ONLY THROUGH YOUR WORK AND PRAYERS AND THOSE OF MILLIONS OF OTHERS CAN WE HOPE TO SURVIVE THIS PERILOUS CENTURY AND KEEP ALIVE THIS EXPERIMENT IN LIBERTY, THIS LAST BEST HOPE OF MAN.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THIS ADMINISTRATION IS MOTIVATED BY A POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY THAT SEES THE GREATNESS OF AMERICA IN YOU, HER PEOPLE, AND IN YOUR FAMILIES, CHURCHES, NEIGHBORHOODS, COMMUNITIES -- THE INSTITUTIONS THAT FOSTER AND NOURISH VALUES LIKE CONCERN FOR OTHERS AND RESPECT FOR THE RULE OF LAW UNDER GOD.

NOW I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT THIS PUTS US IN OPPOSITION TO, OR AT LEAST OUT OF STEP WITH, A PREVAILING ATTITUDE OF MANY WHO HAVE TURNED TO A MODERN DAY SECULARISM, DISCARDING THE TRIED AND TIME-TESTED VALUES UPON WHICH OUR VERY CIVILIZATION IS BASED. NO MATTER HOW WELL INTENTIONED, THEIR VALUE SYSTEM IS RADICALLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF MOST AMERICANS. AND, WHILE THEY PROCLAIM THEY ARE FREEING US FROM SUPERSTITIONS OF THE PAST, THEY HAVE TAKEN UPON THEMSELVES THE JOB OF SUPERINTENDING US BY GOVERNMENT RULE AND REGULATION. SOMETIMES THEIR VOICES ARE LOUDER THAN OURS, BUT THEY ARE NOT YET A MAJORITY.

AN EXAMPLE OF THAT VOCAL SUPERIORITY IS EVIDENT IN A CONTROVERSY NOW GOING ON IN WASHINGTON. SINCE I'M INVOLVED, I'VE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR FROM THE PARENTS OF YOUNG AMERICA. HOW FAR ARE THEY WILLING TO GO IN GIVING TO GOVERNMENT THEIR PREROGATIVES AS PARENTS?

LET ME STATE THE CASE AS BRIEFLY AND SIMPLY AS I CAN. AN ORGANIZATION OF CITIZENS SINCERELY MOTIVATED AND DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE INCREASE IN ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS AND ABORTIONS INVOLVING GIRLS WELL BELOW THE AGE OF CONSENT ESTABLISHED CLINICS NATIONWIDE TO OFFER HELP TO THESE GIRLS AND HOPEFULLY ALLEVIATE THIS SITUATION.

AGAIN LET ME SAY, I DO NOT FAULT THEIR INTENT. HOWEVER, IN THEIR WELL-INTENTIONED EFFORT, THESE CLINICS PROVIDE ADVICE AND BIRTH CONTROL DRUGS AND DEVICES TO UNDERAGE GIRLS WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR PARENTS.

FOR SOME YEARS NOW, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS HELPED WITH FUNDS TO SUBSIDIZE THESE CLINICS. IN PROVIDING FOR THIS, THE CONGRESS DECREED THAT EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO MAXIMIZE PARENTAL PARTICIPATION. NEVERTHELESS, THE DRUGS AND DEVICES ARE PRESCRIBED WITHOUT GETTING PARENTAL CONSENT OR GIVING NOTIFICATION. GIRLS TERMED "SEXUALLY ACTIVE" -- THAT HAS REPLACED THE WORD "PROMISCUOUS" -- ARE GIVEN THIS HELP IN ORDER TO PREVENT ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH OR ABORTION.

WE HAVE ORDERED CLINICS RECEIVING FEDERAL FUNDS TO NOTIFY THE PARENTS SUCH HELP HAS BEEN GIVEN. ONE OF THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPERS HAS CREATED THE TERM "SQUEAL RULE" IN EDITORIALIZING AGAINST US, AND WE ARE BEING CRITICIZED FOR VIOLATING THE PRIVACY OF YOUNG PEOPLE. A JUDGE HAS GRANTED AN INJUNCTION AGAINST ENFORCEMENT OF OUR RULE.

I HAVE WATCHED TV PANEL SHOWS DISCUSS THIS ISSUE, HAVE READ COLUMNS PONTIFICATING ON OUR ERROR BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO MENTION MORALITY AS PLAYING A PART IN THE SUBJECT OF SEX.

IS ALL OF JUDEO-CHRISTIAN TRADITION WRONG? ARE WE TO BELIEVE THAT SOMETHING SO SACRED CAN BE LOOKED UPON AS A PURELY PHYSICAL THING WITH NO POTENTIAL FOR EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HARM? AND ISN'T IT THE PARENTS RIGHT TO GIVE COUNSEL AND ADVICE TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN FROM MAKING MISTAKES THAT MAY AFFECT THEIR ENTIRE LIVES?

MANY OF US IN GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT PARENTS THINK ABOUT THIS INTRUSION IN THEIR FAMILY BY GOVERNMENT. WE ARE GOING TO FIGHT IN THE COURTS. THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND THE RIGHTS OF FAMILY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THOSE OF WASHINGTON-BASED BUREAUCRATS AND SOCIAL ENGINEERS.

BUT THE FIGHT AGAINST PARENTAL NOTIFICATION IS REALLY ONLY ONE EXAMPLE OF MANY ATTEMPTS TO WATER DOWN TRADITIONAL VALUES AND EVEN ABROGATE THE ORIGINAL TERMS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY. FREEDOM PROSPERS WHEN RELIGION IS VIBRANT AND THE RULE OF LAW UNDER GOD ACKNOWLEDGED. WHEN OUR FOUNDING FATHERS PASSED THE FIRST AMENDMENT THEY SOUGHT TO PROTECT CHURCHES FROM GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE. THEY NEVER MEANT TO CONSTRUCT A WALL OF HOSTILITY BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND THE CONCEPT OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF ITSELF.

THE EVIDENCE OF THIS PERMEATES OUR HISTORY AND OUR GOVERNMENT: THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE MENTIONS THE SUPREME BEING NO LESS THAN FOUR TIMES; "IN GOD WE TRUST" IS ENGRAVED ON OUR COINAGE; THE SUPREME COURT OPENS ITS PROCEEDINGS WITH A RELIGIOUS INVOCATION; AND THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OPEN THEIR SESSIONS WITH A PRAYER. I JUST HAPPEN TO BELIEVE THE SCHOOL CHILDREN OF THE UNITED STATES ARE ENTITLED TO THE SAME PRIVILEGES AS SUPREME COURT JUSTICES AND CONGRESSMEN. LAST YEAR, I SENT THE CONGRESS A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO RESTORE PRAYER TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS. ALREADY THIS SESSION, THERE IS GROWING BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT AND I AM CALLING ON THE CONGRESS TO ACT SPEEDILY TO PASS IT. LET OUR CHILDREN PRAY.

PERHAPS SOME OF YOU READ RECENTLY ABOUT THE LUBBOCK SCHOOL CASE WHERE A JUDGE ACTUALLY RULED THAT IT WAS UNCONSTITUTIONAL FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO GIVE EQUAL TREATMENT TO RELIGIOUS AND NONRELIGIOUS STUDENT GROUPS, EVEN WHEN THE GROUP MEETINGS WERE HELD DURING THE STUDENTS' OWN TIME. THE FIRST AMENDMENT NEVER INTENDED TO REQUIRE GOVERNMENT TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST RELIGIOUS SPEECH.

SENATORS DENTON AND HATFIELD HAVE PROPOSED LEGISLATION IN THE CONGRESS ON THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST RELIGIOUS FORMS OF STUDENT SPEECH. SUCH LEGISLATION COULD GO FAR TO RESTORE FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS SPEECH FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS, AND I HOPE THE CONGRESS CONSIDERS THESE BILLS QUICKLY. AND WITH YOUR HELP, I THINK IT'S POSSIBLE WE COULD ALSO GET THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT THROUGH THE CONGRESS THIS YEAR.

MORE THAN A DECADE AGO, A SUPREME COURT DECISION LITERALLY WIPED OFF THE BOOKS OF 50 STATES STATUTES PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF UNBORN CHILDREN. "ABORTION ON DEMAND" NOW TAKES THE LIVES OF UP TO 1½ MILLION UNBORN CHILDREN A YEAR. HUMAN LIFE LEGISLATION ENDING THIS TRAGEDY WILL SOMEDAY PASS THE CONGRESS -- AND YOU AND I MUST NEVER REST UNTIL IT DOES. UNLESS AND UNTIL IT CAN BE PROVEN THAT THE UNBORN CHILD IS NOT A LIVING ENTITY, THEN IT'S RIGHT TO LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS MUST BE PROTECTED.

YOU MAY REMEMBER THAT WHEN ABORTION ON DEMAND BEGAN MANY, INDEED, I'M SURE MANY OF YOU, WARNED THAT THE PRACTICE WOULD LEAD TO A DECLINE IN RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE, THAT THE PHILOSOPHICAL PREMISES USED TO JUSTIFY ABORTION ON DEMAND WOULD ULTIMATELY BE USED TO JUSTIFY OTHER ATTACKS ON THE SACREDNESS OF HUMAN LIFE, INFANTICIDE OR MERCY KILLING. TRAGICALLY ENOUGH, THOSE WARNINGS PROVED ALL TOO TRUE: ONLY LAST YEAR A COURT PERMITTED THE DEATH BY STARVATION OF A HANDICAPPED INFANT.

I HAVE DIRECTED THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO MAKE CLEAR TO EVERY HEALTH CARE FACILITY IN THE UNITED STATES THAT THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 PROTECTS ALL HANDICAPPED PERSONS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON HANDICAPS, INCLUDING INFANTS. AND WE HAVE TAKEN THE FURTHER STEP OF REQUIRING THAT EACH AND EVERY RECIPIENT OF FEDERAL FUNDS WHO PROVIDES HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO INFANTS MUST POST AND KEEP POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE A NOTICE STATING THAT "DISCRIMINATORY FAILURE TO FEED AND CARE FOR HANDICAPPED INFANTS IN THIS FACILITY IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW." IT ALSO LISTS A 24-HOUR, TOLL-FREE NUMBER SO THAT NURSES AND OTHERS MAY REPORT VIOLATIONS IN TIME TO SAVE THE INFANT'S LIFE.

IN ADDITION, RECENT LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN THE CONGRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE HENRY HYDE NOT ONLY INCREASES RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLICLY-FINANCED ABORTIONS, IT ALSO ADDRESSES THIS WHOLE PROBLEM OF INFANTICIDE. I URGE THE CONGRESS TO BEGIN HEARINGS AND TO ADOPT LEGISLATION THAT WILL PROTECT THE RIGHT OF LIFE TO ALL CHILDREN, INCLUDING THE DISABLED OR HANDICAPPED.

I'M SURE YOU MUST GET DISCOURAGED AT TIMES, BUT THERE IS A GREAT SPIRITUAL AWAKENING IN AMERICA, A RENEWAL OF THE TRADITIONAL VALUES THAT HAVE BEEN THE BEDROCK OF AMERICA'S GOODNESS AND GREATNESS.

ONE RECENT SURVEY BY A WASHINGTON-BASED RESEARCH COUNCIL CONCLUDED THAT AMERICANS WERE FAR MORE RELIGIOUS THAN THE PEOPLE OF OTHER NATIONS; 95 PERCENT OF THOSE SURVEYED EXPRESSED A BELIEF IN GOD AND A HUGE MAJORITY BELIEVED THE TEN COMMANDMENTS HAD REAL MEANING FOR THEIR LIVES.

ANOTHER STUDY HAS FOUND THAT AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF AMERICANS DISAPPROVE OF ADULTERY, TEENAGE SEX, PORNOGRAPHY, ABORTION AND HARD DRUGS. AND THIS SAME STUDY SHOWED A DEEP REVERENCE FOR THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY TIES AND RELIGIOUS BELIEF.

I THINK THE ITEMS WE HAVE DISCUSSED HERE TODAY MUST BE A KEY PART OF THE NATION'S POLITICAL AGENDA. FOR THE FIRST TIME THE CONGRESS IS OPENLY AND SERIOUSLY DEBATING AND DEALING WITH THE PRAYER AND ABORTION ISSUES -- THAT'S ENORMOUS PROGRESS RIGHT THERE.

I REPEAT: AMERICA IS IN THE MIDST OF A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AND A MORAL RENEWAL. WITH YOUR BIBLICAL KEYNOTE, I SAY TODAY LET "JUSTICE ROLL ON LIKE A RIVER, RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE A NEVER-FAILING STREAM."

NOW, OBVIOUSLY, MUCH OF THIS NEW POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CONSENSUS I HAVE TALKED ABOUT IS BASED ON A POSITIVE VIEW OF AMERICAN HISTORY, ONE THAT TAKES PRIDE IN OUR COUNTRY'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RECORD. BUT WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT NO GOVERNMENT SCHEMES ARE GOING TO PERFECT MAN; WE KNOW THAT LIVING IN THIS WORLD MEANS DEALING WITH WHAT PHILOSOPHERS WOULD CALL THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF EVIL OR, AS THEOLOGIANS WOULD PUT IT, THE DOCTRINE OF SIN.

THERE IS SIN AND EVIL IN THE WORLD, AND WE ARE ENJOINED BY SCRIPTURE AND THE LORD JESUS TO OPPOSE IT WITH ALL OUR MIGHT. OUR NATION, TOO, HAS A LEGACY OF EVIL WITH WHICH IT MUST DEAL.

THE GLORY OF THIS LAND HAS BEEN ITS CAPACITY FOR TRANSCENDING THE MORAL EVILS OF OUR PAST. FOR EXAMPLE, THE LONG STRUGGLE OF MINORITY CITIZENS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS, ONCE A SOURCE OF DISUNITY AND CIVIL WAR, IS NOW A POINT OF PRIDE FOR ALL AMERICANS. WE MUST NEVER GO BACK. THERE IS NO ROOM FOR RACISM, ANTI-SEMITISM OR OTHER FORMS OF ETHNIC AND RACIAL HATRED IN THIS COUNTRY. I KNOW YOU HAVE BEEN HORRIFIED, AS HAVE I, BY THE RESURGENCE OF SOME HATE GROUPS PREACHING BIGOTRY AND PREJUDICE.

USE THE MIGHTY VOICE OF YOUR PULPITS AND THE POWERFUL STANDING OF YOUR CHURCHES TO DENOUNCE AND ISOLATE THESE HATE GROUPS IN OUR MIDST. THE COMMANDMENT GIVEN US IS CLEAR AND SIMPLE -- "THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR AS THYSELF."

BUT WHATEVER SAD EPISODES EXIST IN OUR PAST, ANY OBJECTIVE OBSERVER MUST HOLD A POSITIVE VIEW OF AMERICAN HISTORY, A HISTORY THAT HAS BEEN THE STORY OF HOPES FULFILLED AND DREAMS MADE INTO REALITY. ESPECIALLY IN THIS CENTURY, AMERICA HAS KEPT ALIGHT THE TORCH OF FREEDOM -- NOT JUST FOR OURSELVES BUT FOR MILLIONS OF OTHERS AROUND THE WORLD. AND THIS BRINGS ME TO MY FINAL POINT TODAY.

DURING MY FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE AS PRESIDENT, IN ANSWER TO A DIRECT QUESTION, I POINTED OUT THAT AS GOOD MARXISTS-LENINISTS THE SOVIET LEADERS HAVE OPENLY AND PUBLICLY DECLARED THAT THE ONLY MORALITY THEY RECOGNIZE IS THAT WHICH WILL FURTHER THEIR CAUSE, WHICH IS WORLD REVOLUTION. I THINK I SHOULD POINT OUT I WAS ONLY QUOTING LENIN, THEIR GUIDING SPIRIT, WHO SAID IN 1920 THAT THEY REPUDIATE ALL MORALITY THAT PROCEEDS FROM SUPERNATURAL IDEAS OR IDEAS THAT ARE OUTSIDE CLASS CONCEPTIONS; MORALITY IS ENTIRELY SUBORDINATE TO THE INTERESTS OF CLASS WAR; AND EVERYTHING IS MORAL THAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE ANNIHILATION OF THE OLD EXPLOITING SOCIAL ORDER AND FOR UNITING THE PROLETARIAT.

I THINK THE REFUSAL OF MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE TO ACCEPT THIS ELEMENTARY FACT OF SOVIET DOCTRINE ILLUSTRATES AN HISTORICAL RELUCTANCE TO SEE TOTALITARIAN POWERS FOR WHAT THEY ARE. WE SAW THIS PHENOMENON IN THE 1930'S; WE SEE IT TOO OFTEN TODAY. THIS DOES NOT MEAN WE SHOULD ISOLATE OURSELVES AND REFUSE TO SEEK AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THEM. I INTEND TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO PERSUADE THEM OF OUR PEACEFUL INTENT; TO REMIND THEM THAT IT WAS THE WEST THAT REFUSED TO USE ITS NUCLEAR MONOPOLY IN THE FORTIES AND FIFTIES FOR TERRITORIAL GAIN AND WHICH NOW PROPOSES 50-PERCENT CUTS IN STRATEGIC BALLISTIC MISSILES AND THE ELIMINATION OF AN ENTIRE CLASS OF LAND-BASED, INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR MISSILES.

AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, THEY MUST BE MADE TO UNDERSTAND WE WILL NEVER COMPROMISE OUR PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS. WE WILL NEVER GIVE AWAY OUR FREEDOM. WE WILL NEVER ABANDON OUR BELIEF IN GOD. _____

insert

A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO, I HEARD A YOUNG FATHER ADDRESSING A TREMENDOUS GATHERING IN CALIFORNIA. IT WAS DURING THE TIME OF THE COLD WAR WHEN COMMUNISM AND OUR OWN WAY OF LIFE WERE VERY MUCH ON PEOPLE'S MINDS. HE WAS SPEAKING TO THAT SUBJECT. SUDDENLY, I HEARD HIM SAYING, "I LOVE MY LITTLE GIRLS MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD, BUT I WOULD RATHER SEE THEM," AND I THOUGHT -- OH, NO, NOT THAT.

INSERT FOR EVANGELICALS SPEECH

AND WE WILL NEVER STOP SEARCHING FOR A GENUINE PEACE. BUT WE CAN ASSURE NONE OF THESE THINGS AMERICA STANDS FOR THROUGH THE SO-CALLED NUCLEAR FREEZE SOLUTIONS PROPOSED BY SOME. THE TRUTH IS THAT A FREEZE NOW WOULD BE A VERY DANGEROUS FRAUD. WE DO NOT WANT A CRAVEN PEACE; FOR THAT IS MERELY THE ILLUSION OF PEACE. THE REALITY IS THAT WE MUST FIND PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH.

I WOULD AGREE TO A FREEZE IF ONLY WE COULD FREEZE THE SOVIETS' GLOBAL DESIRES. A FREEZE AT CURRENT LEVELS OF WEAPONS WOULD REMOVE ANY INCENTIVE FOR THE SOVIETS TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY IN GENEVA & VIRTUALLY END OUR CHANCES TO ACHIEVE THE MAJOR ARMS REDUCTIONS WHICH WE HAVE PROPOSED.

PAGE 2

INSTEAD, THEY WOULD ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVES THROUGH THE FREEZE.

A FREEZE WOULD REWARD THE SOVIET UNION FOR ITS ENORMOUS & UNPARALLELED MILITARY BUILD-UP. IT WOULD PREVENT THE ESSENTIAL & LONG-OVERDUE MODERNIZATION OF U.S. & ALLIED DEFENSES & WOULD LEAVE OUR AGING FORCES INCREASINGLY VULNERABLE.

AND AN HONEST FREEZE WOULD REQUIRE EXTENSIVE PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE SYSTEMS & NUMBERS TO BE LIMITED & ON THE MEASURES TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE VERIFICATION & COMPLIANCE. AND THE KIND OF A FREEZE THAT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED WOULD BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO VERIFY. SUCH A MAJOR EFFORT WOULD DIVERT US COMPLETELY FROM OUR CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON ACHIEVING SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS.

BUT I HAD UNDERESTIMATED HIM. HE WENT ON: "I WOULD RATHER SEE THEM DIE NOW, STILL BELIEVING IN GOD, THAN HAVE THEM GROW UP UNDER COMMUNISM AND ONE DAY DIE NO LONGER BELIEVING IN GOD."

THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THAT AUDIENCE. THEY CAME TO THEIR FEET WITH SHOUTS OF JOY. THEY RECOGNIZED THE PROFOUND TRUTH IN WHAT HE HAD SAID.

LET US PRAY FOR THE SALVATION OF ALL THOSE WHO LIVE IN THAT TOTALITARIAN DARKNESS -- PRAY THEY WILL DISCOVER THE JOY OF KNOWING GOD.

BUT UNTIL THEY' DO, LET US BE AWARE THAT WHILE THEY PREACH THE SUPREMACY OF THE STATE, DECLARE ITS OMNIPOTENCE OVER INDIVIDUAL MAN, AND PREDICT ITS EVENTUAL DOMINATION OF ALL PEOPLES OF THE EARTH -- THEY ARE THE FOCUS OF EVIL IN THE MODERN WORLD. IT WAS C. S. LEWIS WHO, IN HIS UNFORGETTABLE SCREWTAPE LETTERS, WROTE:

"THE GREATEST EVIL IS NOT NOW DONE IN THOSE SORDID 'DENS OF CRIME' THAT DICKENS LOVED TO PAINT. IT IS NOT DONE EVEN IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND LABOR CAMPS. IN THOSE WE SEE ITS FINAL RESULT. BUT IT IS CONCEIVED AND ORDERED (MOVED, SECONDED, CARRIED, AND MINUTED) IN CLEAR, CARPETED, WARMED, AND WELL-LIGHTED OFFICES, BY QUIET MEN WITH WHITE COLLARS AND CUT FINGERNAILS AND SMOOTH-SHAVEN CHEEKS WHO DO NOT NEED TO RAISE THEIR VOICE."

BECAUSE THESE "QUIET MEN" DO NOT "RAISE THEIR VOICES," BECAUSE THEY SOMETIMES SPEAK IN SOOTHING TONES OF BROTHERHOOD AND PEACE, BECAUSE, LIKE OTHER DICTATORS BEFORE THEM, THEY ARE ALWAYS MAKING "THEIR FINAL TERRITORIAL DEMAND," SOME WOULD HAVE US ACCEPT THEM AT THEIR WORD AND ACCOMMODATE OURSELVES TO THEIR AGGRESSIVE IMPULSES. BUT, IF HISTORY TEACHES ANYTHING, IT TEACHES: SIMPLE-MINDED APPEASEMENT OR WISHFUL THINKING ABOUT OUR ADVERSARIES IS FOLLY -- IT MEANS THE BETRAYAL OF OUR PAST, THE SQUANDERING OF OUR FREEDOM.

SO I URGE YOU TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST THOSE WHO WOULD PLACE THE UNITED STATES IN A POSITION OF MILITARY AND MORAL INFERIORITY. YOU KNOW, I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT OLD SCREWTAPE RESERVES HIS BEST EFFORTS FOR THOSE OF YOU IN THE CHURCH. SO IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS OF THE NUCLEAR FREEZE PROPOSALS, I URGE YOU TO BEWARE THE TEMPTATION OF PRIDE -- THE TEMPTATION BLITHELY TO DECLARE YOURSELVES ABOVE IT ALL AND LABEL BOTH SIDES EQUALLY AT FAULT, TO IGNORE THE FACTS OF HISTORY AND THE AGGRESSIVE IMPULSES OF AN EVIL EMPIRE, TO SIMPLY CALL THE ARMS RACE A GIANT MISUNDERSTANDING AND THEREBY REMOVE YOURSELF FROM THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG, GOOD AND EVIL.

I ASK YOU TO RESIST THE ATTEMPTS OF THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE YOU WITHHOLD YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO KEEP AMERICA STRONG AND FREE, WHILE WE NEGOTIATE REAL AND VERIFIABLE REDUCTIONS IN THE WORLD'S NUCLEAR ARSENALS AND ONE DAY, WITH GOD'S HELP, THEIR TOTAL ELIMINATION.

WHILE AMERICA'S MILITARY STRENGTH IS IMPORTANT, LET ME ADD HERE THAT I HAVE ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT THE STRUGGLE NOW GOING ON FOR THE WORLD WILL NEVER BE DECIDED BY BOMBS OR ROCKETS, BY ARMIES OR MILITARY MIGHT. THE REAL CRISIS WE FACE TODAY IS A SPIRITUAL ONE; AT ROOT, IT IS A TEST OF MORAL WILL AND FAITH.

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, THE MAN WHOSE OWN RELIGIOUS CONVERSION MADE HIM A "WITNESS" TO ONE OF THE TERRIBLE TRAUMAS OF OUR AGE, THE HISS-CHAMBERS CASE, WROTE THAT THE CRISIS OF THE WESTERN WORLD EXISTS TO THE DEGREE IN WHICH THE WEST IS INDIFFERENT TO GOD, THE DEGREE TO WHICH IT COLLABORATES IN COMMUNISM'S ATTEMPT TO MAKE MAN STAND ALONE WITHOUT GOD. FOR MARXISM-LENINISM IS ACTUALLY THE SECOND OLDEST FAITH, HE SAID, FIRST PROCLAIMED IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN WITH THE WORDS OF TEMPTATION: "YE SHALL BE AS GODS."

THE WESTERN WORLD CAN ANSWER THIS CHALLENGE, HE WROTE, "BUT ONLY PROVIDED THAT ITS FAITH IN GOD AND THE FREEDOM HE ENJOINS IS AS GREAT AS COMMUNISM'S FAITH IN MAN."

I BELIEVE WE SHALL RISE TO THIS CHALLENGE; I BELIEVE THAT COMMUNISM IS ANOTHER SAD, BIZARRE CHAPTER IN HUMAN HISTORY WHOSE LAST PAGES EVEN NOW ARE BEING WRITTEN. I BELIEVE THIS BECAUSE THE SOURCE OF OUR STRENGTH IN THE QUEST FOR HUMAN FREEDOM IS NOT MATERIAL BUT SPIRITUAL, AND, BECAUSE IT KNOWS NO LIMITATION, IT MUST TERRIFY AND ULTIMATELY TRIUMPH OVER THOSE WHO WOULD ENSLAVE THEIR FELLOW MAN. FOR, IN THE WORDS OF ISAIAH:

"HE GIVETH POWER TO THE FAINT; AND TO THEM THAT HAVE NO MIGHT HE INCREASED STRENGTH. . . . BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY . . ."

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU.

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There are a great many God-fearing, dedicated, noble men and women in public life. Yes, we need your help to keep us ever mindful of the ideas and principles that brought us into the public arena in the first place. The basis of those ideals and principles is a commitment to freedom and personal liberty, a commitment that itself is grounded in the much deeper realization: that freedom prospers only where the blessings of God are avidly sought and humbly acknowledged.

The American experiment in democracy rests on this insight; its discovery was the great triumph of our Founding Fathers voiced by William Penn: "If we will not be governed by God, we must be governed by tyrants." Explaining the inalienable rights of men, Jefferson said, "The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time." And it was George Washington who said that "of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

And finally, that shrewdest of all observers of American democracy, Alexis de Tocqueville, put it eloquently after he had gone on a search for the secret of America's greatness and genius.

Not until I went to the churches of America and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand the greatness and genius of America. America is great because America is good. And if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.

I am pleased to be here today with you who are keeping America great by keeping her good. Only through your work and prayers and those of millions of others can we hope to survive this perilous century and keep alive this experiment in liberty, this last best hope of man.

I want you to know this Administration is motivated by a political philosophy that sees the greatness of America in you, her people, and in your families, churches, neighborhoods, communities -- the institutions that foster and nourish values like concern for others and respect for the rule of law under God.

Now I don't have to tell you that this puts us in opposition to, or at least out of step with, a prevailing attitude of many who have turned to a modern day secularism, discarding the tried and time-tested values upon which our very civilization is based. No matter how well intentioned, their value system is radically

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different from that of most Americans. And, while they proclaim they are freeing us from superstitions of the past, they have taken upon themselves the job of superintending us by government rule and regulation. Sometimes their voices are louder than ours, but they are not yet a majority.

An example of that vocal superiority is evident in a controversy now going on in Washington. Since I'm involved, I've been waiting to hear from the parents of young America. How far are they willing to go in giving to Government their prerogatives as parents?

Let me state the case as briefly and simply as I can. An organization of citizens sincerely motivated and deeply concerned about the increase in illegitimate births and abortions involving girls well below the age of consent established clinics nationwide to offer help to these girls and hopefully alleviate this situation.

Again let me say, I do not fault their intent. However, in their well-intentioned effort, these clinics provide advice and birth control drugs and devices to underage girls without the knowledge of their parents.

For some years now, the Federal Government has helped with funds to subsidize these clinics. In providing for this, the Congress decreed that every effort would be made to maximize parental participation. Nevertheless, the drugs and devices are prescribed without getting parental consent or giving notification. Girls termed "sexually active" -- that has replaced the word "promiscuous" -- are given this help in order to prevent illegitimate birth or abortion.

We have ordered clinics receiving Federal funds to notify the parents such help has been given. One of the Nation's leading newspapers has created the term "squeal rule" in editorializing against us, and we are being criticized for violating the privacy of young people. A judge has granted an injunction against enforcement of our rule.

I have watched TV panel shows discuss this issue, have read columns pontificating on our error but no one seems to mention morality as playing a part in the subject of sex.

Is all of Judeo-Christian tradition wrong? Are we to believe that something so sacred can be looked upon as a purely physical thing with no potential for emotional and psychological harm? And isn't it the parents right to give counsel and advice to keep their children from making mistakes that may affect their entire lives?

Many of us in Government would like to know what parents think about this intrusion in their family by Government. We are going to fight in the courts. The rights of parents and the rights of family take precedence over those of Washington-based bureaucrats and social engineers.

But the fight against parental notification is really only one example of many attempts to water down traditional values and even abrogate the original terms of American democracy. Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God acknowledged. When our Founding Fathers passed the first amendment they sought to protect churches from Government interference. They never meant to construct a wall of hostility between Government and the concept of religious belief itself.

The evidence of this permeates our history and our Government: The Declaration of Independence mentions the Supreme Being no less than four times; "In God We Trust" is engraved on our coinage; the Supreme Court opens its proceedings with a religious

invocation; and the Members of Congress open their sessions with a prayer. I just happen to believe the school children of the United States are entitled to the same privileges as Supreme Court Justices and Congressmen. Last year, I sent the Congress a constitutional amendment to restore prayer to public schools. This week I am resubmitting that amendment and calling on the Congress to act speedily to pass it. Let our children pray.

Perhaps some of you read recently about the Lubbock school case where a judge actually ruled that it was unconstitutional for a school district to give equal treatment to religious and nonreligious student groups, even when the group meetings were held during the students' own time. The first amendment never intended to require Government to discriminate against religious speech.

Senators Denton and Hatfield have proposed legislation in the Congress on the whole question of prohibiting discrimination against religious forms of student speech. Such legislation could go far to restore freedom of religious speech for public school students and I hope the Congress considers these bills quickly. And with your help, I think it's possible we could also get the constitutional amendment through the Congress this year.

More than a decade ago, a Supreme Court decision literally wiped off the books of 50 States statutes protecting the rights of unborn children. "Abortion on demand" now takes the lives of up to 1½ million unborn children a year. Human life legislation ending this tragedy will someday pass the Congress -- and you and I must never rest until it does. Unless and until it can be proven that the unborn child is not a living entity, then it's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness must be protected.

You may remember that when abortion on demand began many, indeed, I'm sure many of you warned, that the practice would lead to a decline in respect for human life, that the philosophical premises used to justify abortion on demand would ultimately be used to justify other attacks on the sacredness of human life, infanticide or mercy killing. Tragically enough, those warnings proved all too true: only last year a court permitted the death by starvation of a handicapped infant.

I have directed the Health and Human Services Department to make clear to every health care facility in the United States that the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects all handicapped persons against discrimination based on handicaps, including infants. And we have taken the further step of requiring that each and every recipient of Federal funds who provides health care services to infants must post and keep posted in a conspicuous place a notice stating that "discriminatory failure to feed and care for handicapped infants in this facility is prohibited by Federal law." It also lists a 24-hour, toll-free number so that nurses and others may report violations in time to save the infant's life.

In addition, recent legislation introduced in the Congress by Representative Henry Hyde not only increases restrictions on publicly-financed abortions, it also addresses this whole problem of infanticide. I urge the Congress to begin hearings and to adopt legislation that will protect the right of life to all children, including the disabled or handicapped.

I'm sure you must get discouraged at times, but there is a great spiritual awakening in America, a renewal of the traditional values that have been the bedrock of America's goodness and greatness.

One recent survey by a Washington-based research council concluded that Americans were far more religious than the people of other nations; 95 percent of those surveyed expressed a belief in God and a huge majority believed the Ten Commandments had real meaning for their lives.

Another study has found that an overwhelming majority of Americans disapprove of adultery, teenage sex, pornography, abortion and hard drugs. And this same study showed a deep reverence for the importance of family ties and religious belief.

I think the items we have discussed here today must be a key part of the Nation's political agenda. For the first time the Congress is openly and seriously debating and dealing with the prayer and abortion issues -- that's enormous progress right there. I repeat: America is in the midst of a spiritual awakening and a moral renewal. With your biblical keynote, I say today let "justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream."

Now, obviously, much of this new political and social consensus I have talked about is based on a positive view of American history, one that takes pride in our country's accomplishments and record. But we must never forget that no Government schemes are going to perfect man; we know that living in this world means dealing with what philosophers would call the phenomenology of evil or, as theologians would put it, the doctrine of sin.

There is sin and evil in the world, and we are enjoined by scripture and the Lord Jesus to oppose it with all our might. Our Nation, too, has a legacy of evil with which it must deal.

The glory of this land has been its capacity for transcending the moral evils of our past. For example, the long struggle of minority citizens for equal rights, once a source of disunity and civil war, is now a point of pride for all Americans. We must never go back. There is no room for racism, anti-semitism or other forms of ethnic and racial hatred in this country. I know you have been horrified, as have I, by the resurgence of some hate groups preaching bigotry and prejudice. Use the mighty voice of your pulpits and the powerful standing of your churches to denounce and isolate these hate groups in our midst. The commandment given us is clear and simple -- "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

But whatever sad episodes exist in our past, any objective observer must hold a positive view of American history, a history that has been the story of hopes fulfilled and dreams made into reality. Especially in this century, America has kept alight the torch of freedom -- not just for ourselves but for millions of others around the world. And this brings me to my final point today.

During my first press conference as President, in answer to a direct question, I pointed out that as good Marxists-Leninists the Soviet leaders have openly and publicly declared that the only morality they recognize is that which will further their cause, which is world revolution. I think I should point out I was only quoting Lenin, their guiding spirit, who said in 1920 that they repudiate all morality that proceeds from supernatural ideas or ideas that are outside class conceptions; morality is entirely subordinate to the interests of class war; and everything is moral that is necessary for the annihilation of the old exploiting social order and for uniting the proletariat.

I think the refusal of many influential people to accept this elementary fact of Soviet doctrine illustrates an historical reluctance to see totalitarian powers for what they are. We saw this phenomenon in the 1930's; we see it too often today. This does not mean we should isolate ourselves and refuse to seek an

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I think the refusal of many influential people to accept this elementary fact of Soviet doctrine illustrates an historical reluctance to see totalitarian powers for what they are. We saw this phenomenon in the 1930's; we see it too often today. This does not mean we should isolate ourselves and refuse to seek an

understanding with them. I intend to do everything I can to persuade them of our peaceful intent; to remind them that it was the West that refused to use its nuclear monopoly in the forties and fifties for territorial gain and which now proposes 50-percent cuts in strategic ballistic missiles and the elimination of an entire class of land-based, intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

At the same time, however, they must be made to understand we will never compromise our principles and standards. We will never give away our freedom. We will never abandon our belief in God.

A number of years ago, I heard a young father addressing a tremendous gathering in California. It was during the time of the cold war when Communism and our own way of life were very much on people's minds. He was speaking to that subject. Suddenly, I heard him saying, "I love my little girls more than anything in the world, but I would rather see them," and I thought -- oh, no, not that. But I had underestimated him. He went on: "I would rather see them die now, still believing in God, than have them grow up under Communism and one day die no longer believing in God."

There were thousands of young people in that audience. They came to their feet with shouts of joy. They recognized the profound truth in what he had said.

Let us pray for the salvation of all those who live in that totalitarian darkness -- pray they will discover the joy of knowing God.

But until they do, let us be aware that while they preach the supremacy of the state, declare its omnipotence over individual man, and predict its eventual domination of all peoples of the Earth -- they are the focus of evil in the modern world. It was C. S. Lewis who, in his unforgettable Screwtape Letters, wrote:

"The greatest evil is not now done in those sordid 'dens of crime' that Dickens loved to paint. It is not done even in concentration camps and labor camps. In those we see its final result. But it is conceived and ordered (moved, seconded, carried, and minuted) in clear, carpeted, warmed, and well-lighted offices, by quiet men with white collars and cut fingernails and smooth-shaven cheeks who do not need to raise their voice."

Because these "quiet men" do not "raise their voices," because they sometimes speak in soothing tones of brotherhood and peace, because, like other dictators before them, they are always making "their final territorial demand," some would have us accept them at their word and accommodate ourselves to their aggressive impulses. But, if history teaches anything, it teaches: simple-minded appeasement or wishful thinking about our adversaries is folly -- it means the betrayal of our past, the squandering of our freedom.

So I urge you to speak out against those who would place the United States in a position of military and moral inferiority. You know, I have always believed that old Screwtape reserves his best efforts for those of you in the Church. So in your discussions of the nuclear freeze proposals, I urge you to beware the temptation of pride -- the temptation blithely to declare yourselves above it all and label both sides equally at fault, to ignore the facts of history and the aggressive impulses of an evil empire, to simply call the arms race a giant misunderstanding and thereby remove yourself from the struggle between right and wrong, good and evil.

I ask you to resist the attempts of those who would have you withhold your support for this Administration's efforts to keep America strong and free, while we negotiate real and verifiable reductions in the world's nuclear arsenals and one day, with God's help, their total elimination.

While America's military strength is important, let me add here that I have always maintained that the struggle now going on for the world will never be decided by bombs or rockets, by armies or military might. The real crisis we face today is a spiritual one; at root, it is a test of moral will and faith.

Whittaker Chambers, the man whose own religious conversion made him a "witness" to one of the terrible traumas of our age, the Hiss-Chambers case, wrote that the crisis of the Western world exists to the degree in which the West is indifferent to God, the degree to which it collaborates in Communism's attempt to make man stand alone without God. For Marxism-Leninism is actually the second oldest faith, he said, first proclaimed in the Garden of Eden with the words of temptation: "Ye shall be as gods."

The Western world can answer this challenge, he wrote, "but only provided that its faith in God and the freedom He enjoins is as great as Communism's faith in Man."

I believe we shall rise to this challenge; I believe that Communism is another sad, bizarre chapter in human history whose last pages even now are being written. I believe this because the source of our strength in the quest for human freedom is not material but spiritual, and, because it knows no limitation, it must terrify and ultimately triumph over those who would enslave their fellow man. For, in the words of Isaiah:

"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increased strength. . . . But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary . . ."

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 5, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ARAM BAKSHIAN, JR. *ab*

SUBJECT: Remarks for Trip to Florida

Attached are suggested remarks for Tuesday's trip to Orlando: your visit to Epcot Center, your address to the National Association of Evangelicals, and your dropby at a reception for the Florida GOP. All of these remarks have been reviewed by senior staff.

It would be helpful to have your comments back on Monday since you'll be departing for Florida early on Tuesday. Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ANTHONY R. DOLAN *ARD*

SUBJECT:

National Association of Evangelicals Remarks

Here are the remarks for the evangelicals speech. This event is the major speech of the day but you do have two other stops with brief remarks. So, in case you want to reduce this speech, I included about four pages of cuts (in brackets). There were a lot of good suggestions and I felt you should make the call on length. It was wonderful of you to make the tape for Dana's father; it meant a great deal to his family.