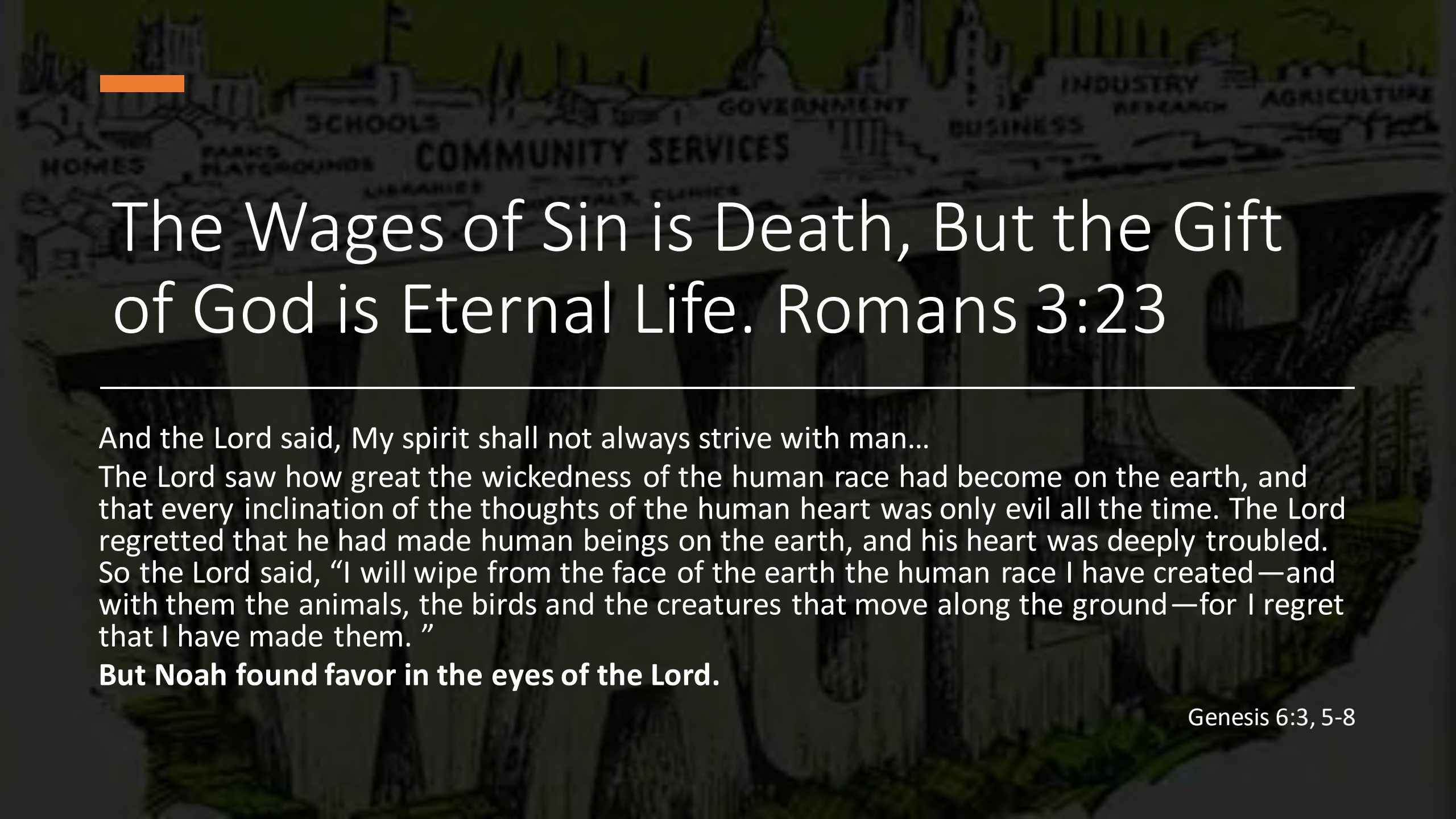
A dark, atmospheric photograph of the Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island, with the New York City skyline visible in the background under a cloudy sky. The image is dimly lit, emphasizing the silhouette of the statue and the city.

To Save A Nation

Ron Peri

A day comes in the life of a nation when God removes his restraining hand. The nation is then free to choose its own destiny, destroy itself, and collapse. But one or two can save a city and a large group, if they turn from their own sin, can save a nation. The leader of a city and the leader of a nation are each like the rudder on a ship. Whichever way he or she goes will determine that people's fate. But the leader's heart is held in God's hand. The heart of the people determine the heart of its leaders.

Have we reached that day?



The Wages of Sin is Death, But the Gift of God is Eternal Life. Romans 3:23

And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man...

The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. So the Lord said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them."

But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

Genesis 6:3, 5-8

God's Restraining Hand Removed

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

Romans 1:21-32

Anarchy Today

Seattle has been making big news in the last couple of days. The first major story emerged Tuesday, when police ceded an entire neighborhood to Antifa and Black Lives Matter, representatives of which barricaded a large segment of the Capitol Hill neighborhood and declared the area an “autonomous” community, separate from Seattle itself. The second newsworthy story occurred when thousands of leftist protesters led by Black Lives Matter and Antifa entered City Hall shortly after midnight on Wednesday, demanding that Mayor Jenny Durkan (a Democrat) resign.

**End imprisonment, reintroduce segregation, ban police:
Seattle revolutionaries’ cartoonish ‘demands’ show they’re
not serious**

Would-be revolutionaries across the US are looking to Seattle’s Capitol Hill AutonomousZone for cues on what’s next.



The Rest of the Story

An evil and despicable act by one man, Derek Chauvin, has unleashed the demons of hell. Everyone must condemn this murder. But there is more to the story:

“Houston police chief Art Acevedo suggested on "Your World" Wednesday that former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin may have had a personal motivation when he knelt on George Floyd's neck shortly before his May 25 death, and urged investigators to examine the relationship between both men "very closely."

...Both worked as security guards at the same Latin nightclub as recently as last year...

El Nuevo rodeo, 38th Precinct, and Cup Foods (Where George Floyd was arrested) are within a few blocks of one another.”

America is Fracturing

- Calls to “Get the National Guard out of the cities”
- Antifa and Black Lives Matter are working to “improve America”
- Looting is viewed by some as a valid form of protest
- The NFL should side with the protestors they claim
- Major Corporations are donating millions to Black Lives Matter
 - Amazon alone donated \$10 million to BLM
- Cries to “Defund the Police” come from protestors, celebrities, and politicians

The Babylon Bee's Satirical Account

Congressional Democrats have announced a proposal to abolish the police and replace them all with traveling bands of hippies singing John Lennon's classic song "Imagine." The police forces will arrive at the scene of a crime, pull out their djembes and guitars, and start singing beautiful lines like, "Imagine there's no heaven / It's easy if you try."

Criminals are expected to begin weeping as soon as they see the peace, love, and tolerance displayed by the hippies. "Our early research has been very promising," said Rayne Windflower, head of hippy research in the city of Minneapolis. "The science seems to indicate that as soon as you approach someone who is breaking the law and start singing 'Imagine all the people living for today' they drop their deadly weapon, return all the goods they have stolen, and join us in a dancing circle to smoke some weed." babylonbee.com/news/democrats-propose-replacing-all-police-with-traveling-bands-of-hippies-singing-imagine

The Reality is Far Worse



It is not just the anarchists in Seattle, “Minneapolis City Council members intend to defund and dismantle the city's police department.” CNN, Mon June 8, 2020

This is a Marxist strategy:

The Bolsheviks, for example, attacked existing police forces just prior to the revolution in Russia. And once in power they established their own secret police. The Cheka was formed in 1917 and given powers to arrest suspects, conduct summary trials, lock up political prisoners, and execute ‘enemies of the State’. Cheka was the precursor to the KGB

“Make no mistake: the radical leftists calling for an end to police or their defunding are not seeking a police-less State. They just want *their* police in power, to push their hard-left PC agendas, and keep all recalcitrants in check. That is their goal.”



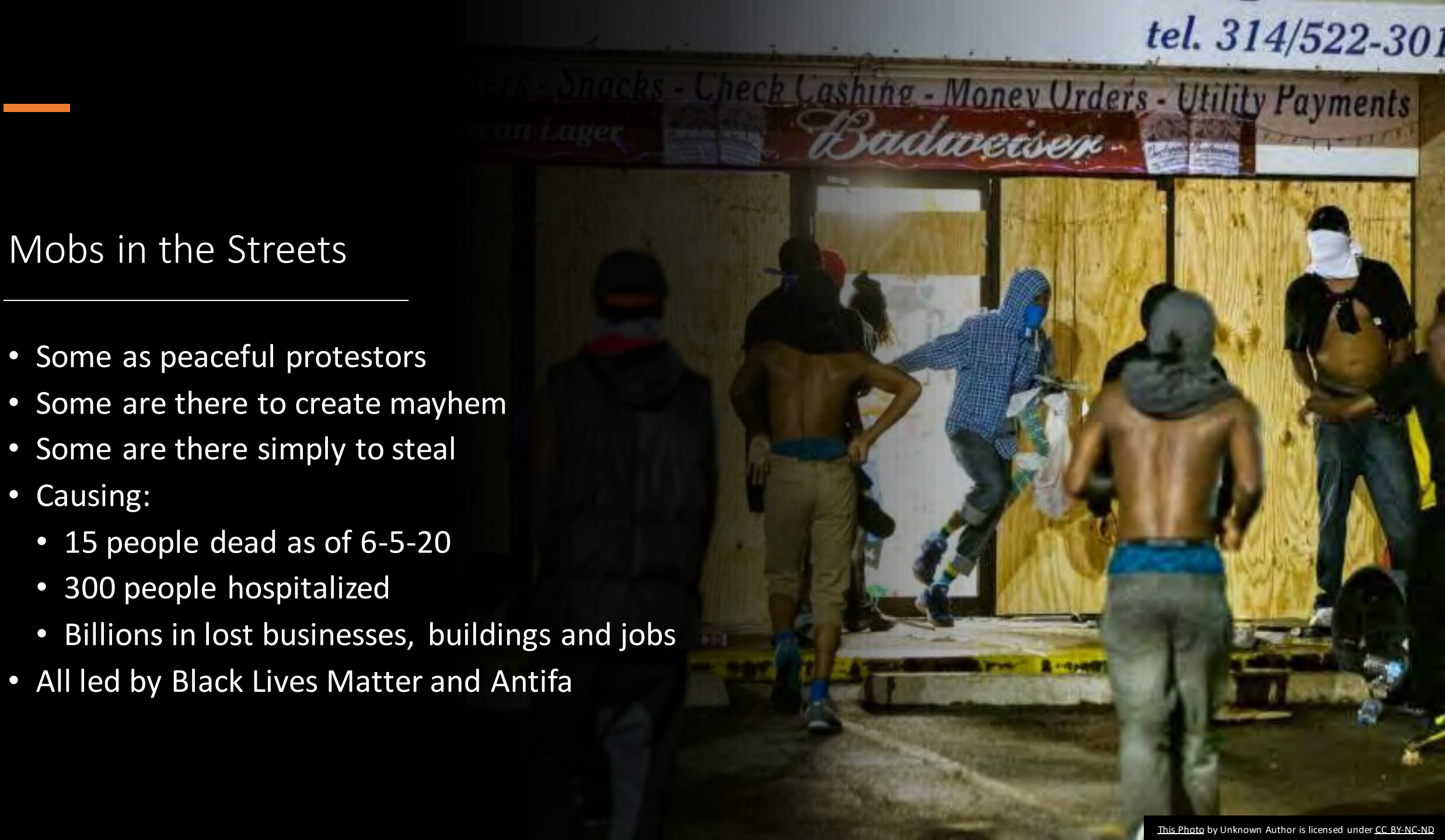
Prairie Fire

Former FBI deputy counterterror director Terry Turchie has stated that Antifa and the “Defund the Police” crowd are running the old radical playbook, the Weather Underground’s Prairie Fire.

Prairie Fire listed six main points to bring down the U.S. government. One point was to push “police racism.” Said Turchie, “It is the issue that communist societies use to literally tear apart Americans and to be divisive.” Counter-terrorism expert John Guandolo exposed the “coordinated effort” behind the riots and the “Marxist-communist” origins of Black Lives Matter, Inc. But don’t believe them. Project Veritas has just released another Antifa undercover video. Straight from a soldier’s mouth: “We believe in the complete abolition of the system itself, including police.” stream.org/defund-the-police-or-destablize-america/

Mobs in the Streets

- Some as peaceful protestors
- Some are there to create mayhem
- Some are there simply to steal
- Causing:
 - 15 people dead as of 6-5-20
 - 300 people hospitalized
 - Billions in lost businesses, buildings and jobs
- All led by Black Lives Matter and Antifa



So Who is Black Lives Matter?

- Founded by 3 women, one of whom describes herself as “queer”:
Patrisse Khan-Cullors, Opal Tometi, Alica Garcia
- On their website in the section titled “Herstory”,
 - “Black liberation movements in this country have created room, space, and leadership mostly for Black heterosexual, cisgender men — leaving women, queer and transgender people, and others either out of the movement or in the background to move the work forward with little or no recognition. As a network, we have always recognized the need to center the leadership of women and queer and trans people.
 - We particularly highlighted the egregious ways in which Black women, specifically Black trans women, are violated.”

BlackLivesMatter.com “What we believe”

- We make space for transgender brothers and sisters to participate and lead.
- We are self-reflexive and do the work required to dismantle cisgender privilege and uplift Black trans folk, especially Black trans women who continue to be disproportionately impacted by trans-antagonistic violence...We build a space that affirms Black women and is free from sexism, misogyny, and environments in which men are centered.
- We engage comrades with the intent to learn about and connect with their contexts.
- We foster a queer-affirming network. When we gather, we do so with the intention of freeing ourselves from the tight grip of heteronormative thinking, or rather, the belief that all in the world are heterosexual unless s/he or they disclose otherwise.
- **We disrupt the Western-prescribed nuclear family structure** requirement by supporting each other as extended families and “villages” that collectively care for one another, especially our children, to the degree that mothers, parents, and children are comfortable. **(Note that Straight Black men and fathers are never mentioned as a priority. Black mothers and trans black men are. A “trans man” is a biological female.)**

Who is Antifa?

- *antifa* is short for *antifaschistisch* ("anti-fascist" in German)
- Roots in Germany and Italy in 30's and 40's
- Expanded in England in the mid-20th century by punk rockers as response to Neo-Nazi skinheads
- "in the late '80s, left-wing punk fans in the United States began following suit, though they initially called their groups Anti-Racist Action (ARA) on the theory that Americans would be more familiar with fighting racism than they would be with fighting fascism".^[42]





Antifa is Anarchist

- "Most antifa come from the anarchist movement or from the far left, though since the 2016 presidential election, some people with more mainstream political backgrounds have also joined their ranks".^[22] *Anti Defamation League*
- "Antifa's political leanings are often described as "far-left," experts say members' radical views vary and can intersect with communism, socialism and anarchism".
ABC News

Antifa is Well Organized

"There is a ton of these Mercedes transport vans with European license plates headed to Spokane right now. WTF is going on?" the Facebook post said.

"Call police," someone replied.

The post about the mysterious vans came after a night of looting in the city of Spokane, Washington.

A Nike store was ransacked, the windows at the local bank were shattered and several small businesses were vandalized.

This is not our African-American community. This is a group of Antifa socialists who have hijacked this movement — and it's sad," Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich told local media.

"I can tell you that they came in three vehicles. They were wearing communication headsets ... and it was coordinated."



A large crowd of people is gathered outdoors, likely at a protest or demonstration. In the foreground, a large black banner is held up, featuring white text that reads "IT TAKES BULLET TO BASH FASH". The banner has two small red circular symbols between the words "BULLET" and "TO". The background shows a dense crowd of people, some holding umbrellas, suggesting a rainy or sunny day. The overall scene is one of a large-scale public gathering.

Inside Antifa

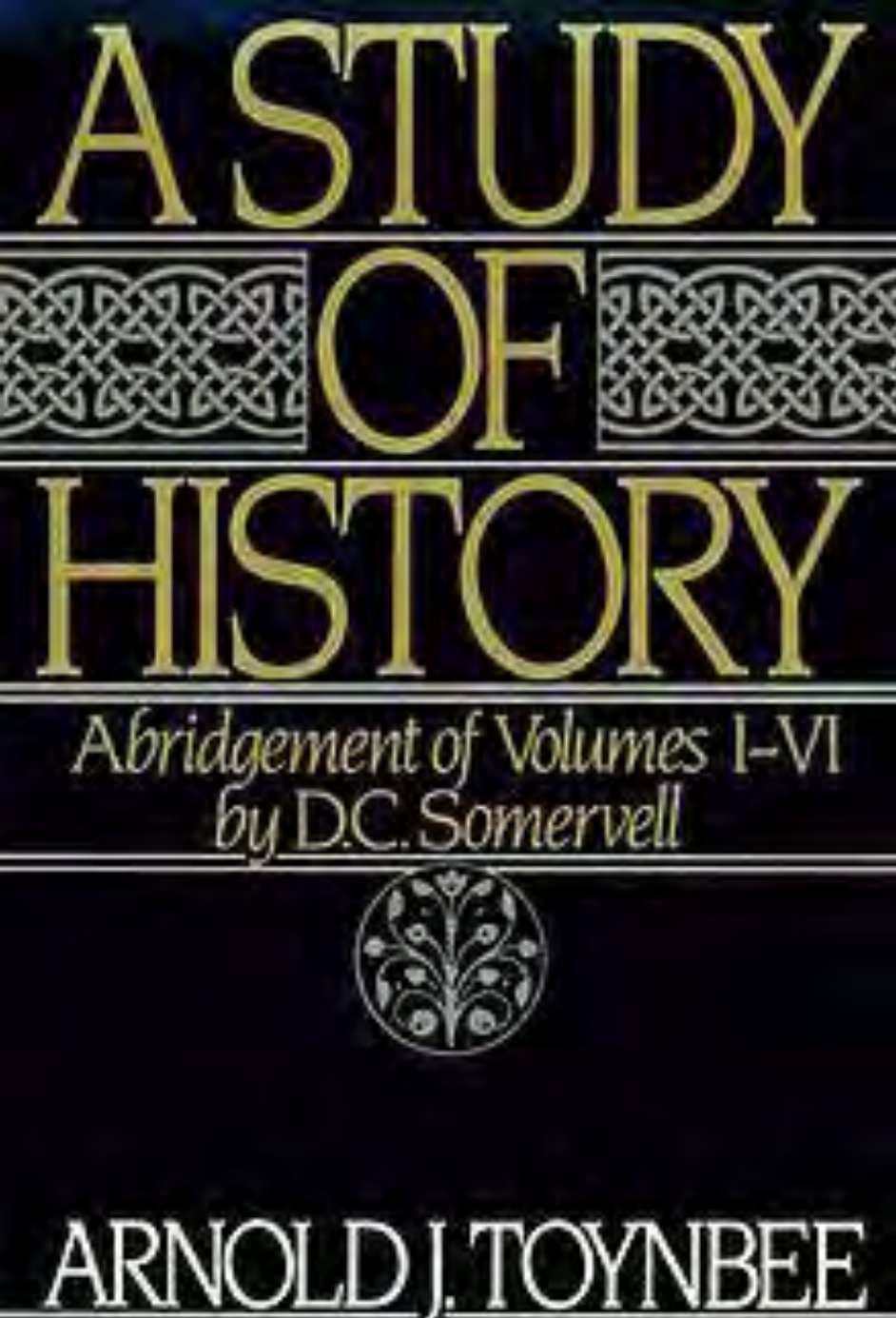
Antifa teaches vicious tactics - such as eye gouging - and is structured “almost like a company” in order to incite violence and “destroy” enemies while remaining anonymous, according to the latest undercover video from Project Veritas.

The undercover journalist said Antifa encourages members to dress in “Black Block,” which he says is a way of dressing that helps conceal the identity of members.

“The whole goal of this is to get out there and do dangerous things as safely as possible,” a member is heard telling the group.

“Practice things like an eye gouge, it takes very little pressure to injure someone’s eyes,” the man identified as Cifuni said.

“Consider, like, destroying your enemy, not, like, delivering a really awesome right hand, right eye, left eye blow, you know? It’s not boxing, it’s not kickboxing, it’s, like, destroying your enemy”



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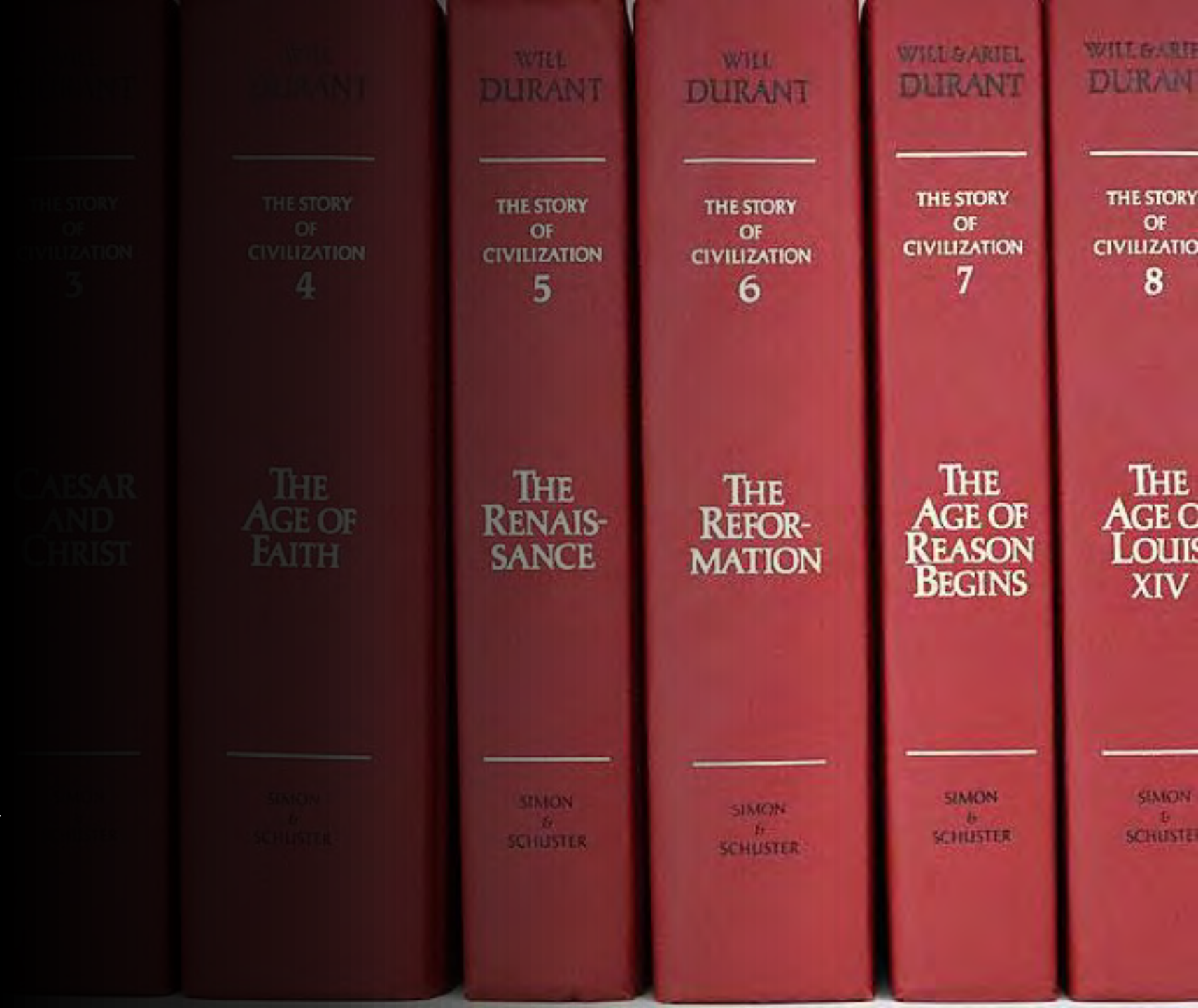
“Civilizations die from suicide, not murder.”
Arnold Toynbee, British historian (1889-1975)

- Toynbee is best known for *A Study of History*, 1934-1961, a 12-volume work examining the rise and fall of nations.
- He concluded: “Of the twenty-two civilizations that have appeared in history, nineteen of them collapsed when they reached the moral state the United States is in now.” (this was spoken 60 years ago!)

Will Durant (1885-1981),

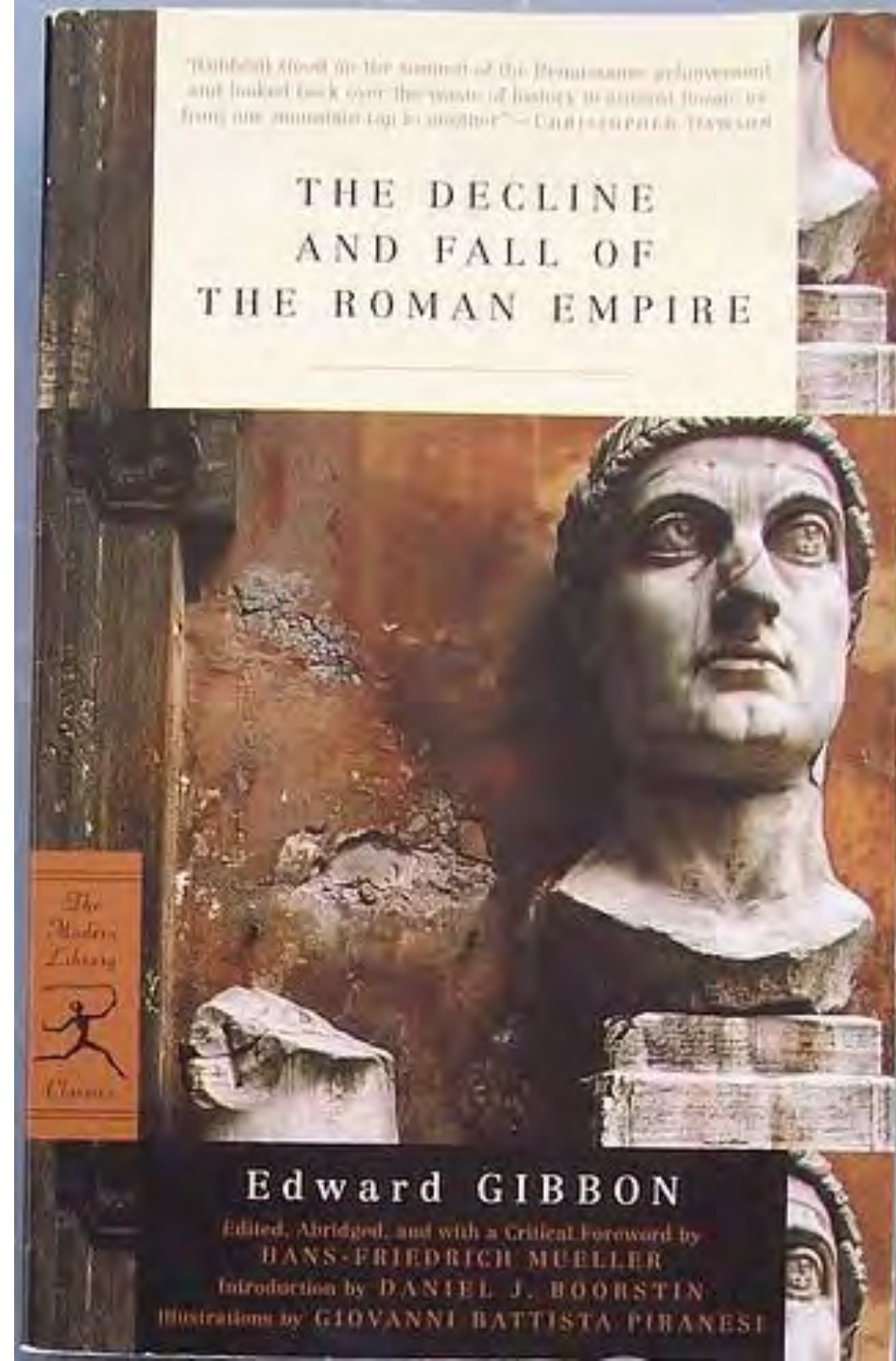
“A great civilization is not conquered from without until it has destroyed itself within. The essential causes of Rome’s decline lay in her people, her morals, her class struggle, her failing trade, her bureaucratic despotism, her stifling taxes, her consuming wars.”

Will Durant, The Story of Civilization



Edward Gibbon

- The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire
- Some of the major causes:
 - Decline of Morals
 - Corruption at all levels of society
 - Breakdown of marriage
 - Depopulation
 - Hiring of mercenaries to fight their wars





The Life Cycle of a Nation

According to Lord Macauley, English writer and historian, the average age of the world's greatest democratic nations has been 200 years. Each has been through the following sequence:

- From bondage to spiritual faith.
- From faith to great courage.
- From courage to liberty.
- From liberty to abundance.
- From abundance to complacency.
- From complacency to selfishness.
- From selfishness to apathy.
- From apathy to dependency.
- And from dependency back again into bondage.

(A letter from Lord Macaulay to an American friend, May 23, 1857)

WHERE IS THE USA ON THIS TIMELINE?



Cause and Effect

“I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers – and it was not there . . . in her fertile fields and boundless forests and it was not there . . . in her rich mines and her vast world commerce – and it was not there . . . in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution – and it was not there.

Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits aflame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great.” *Alexis de Tocqueville*

Alexander Solzhenitsyn believed that the underlying problem is simple but profound:

“It is because we have forgotten God. That is why all this is happening to us.”



"In God We Trust" Our National Motto

- “There is no significant example in history, before our time, of a society successfully maintaining moral life without the aid of religion.”
Will Durant
- “There is not a single instance in history in which civil liberty was lost, and religious liberty preserved entire. If therefore we yield up our temporal property, we at the same time deliver the conscience into bondage.”

John Witherspoon, *The Dominion of Providence Over the Passions of Men*, 1776

George Washington

“And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion... reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle...”

“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

- Farewell Address, Sept 17, 1796



James Madison

“We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not on the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government; upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.”



Patrick Henry


“It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here.”

“Righteousness alone can exalt a nation. Whoever thou art, remember this.”

Patrick Henry

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.

Proverbs 14:34

A portrait of Patrick Henry, a man with curly brown hair, wearing a red coat and a white cravat. Overlaid on the image is the text "GIVE ME LIBERTY, OR GIVE ME DEATH!" in a stylized, serif font.

GIVE ME
LIBERTY,
OR GIVE ME
DEATH!

What Happens if the Church Dies?



“If Christianity goes, the whole of our culture goes. Then you must start painfully again, and you cannot put on a new culture ready made. You must wait for the grass to grow to feed the sheep to give the wool out of which your new coat will be made.

You must pass through many centuries of barbarism. We should not live to see the new culture, nor would our great-great-great-grandchildren: and if we did, not one of us would be happy in it.”

TS Eliot, Notes Towards the Definition of Culture, 1948



The Purpose of “Fake News”

“The people never give up their liberties but under some delusion.”

Edmund Burke, Speech at Country Meeting of Buckinghamshire, 1784

"Our government rests in public opinion. Whoever can change public opinion can change the government practically so much.

Abraham Lincoln



Collapse Can Happen Overnight

“From barbarism to civilization requires a century; from civilization to barbarism needs but a day.”

Will Durant





We Must Rebuild the Foundations

“If the foundations be destroyed,
what can the righteous do?”

Psalms 11:3

We must redouble our efforts to rebuild. “The job will not be easy, but it must be done. We need to preserve what is good, and resist those anarchic voices who would take it away from us.”



Dry Bones Can Live Again: Some Nations That Came Back From the Brink

- Assyria
 - God was set to destroy Ninevah if the people didn't repent
 - God sent Jonah, they repented and were spared
- Israel
 - Sennacharib surrounded Jerusalem for months preparing to destroy Israel as he had other nations.
 - Hezekiah prayed to God
 - God relented and Sennacharib failed because of divine intervention.
- 18th century England
 - The Gin Craze
 - The Great Awakening



The Choice

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.

Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20



A Time to Choose

- Dante in his *Inferno* posited that **“The hottest level in hell is reserved for those who remain neutral in a moral crisis”**.

But I am just one person, you might protest, What difference can I make? The problems are just too big.

- “I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.” Edward Everett Hale
- “Nobody makes a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little.” Edmund Burke
- “Sooner or later, man has always had to decide whether he worships his own power or the power of God.” Arnold Toynbee
- Choose you this day whom you will serve. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15



Are We on the Eve of Something Big?

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.”

Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*

“Whether these are the best of times or worst of times really doesn't matter. These are the only times we have.”

Art Buchwald

Choose Life for America

“When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people,

if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.

(2 Chronicles 7:14)



Things To Do

✓ Pray

“Prayer is the power that moves the hand of God.” Andrew Murray

✓ Vote

The people we elect are the people who will decide the future.

✓ Speak Up

Silence is taken as our assent when others speak and we do not.