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Viewpoints

Observing events in our modern world from the viewpoint of our ascended Savior.

Of Ducks and Bibles ~ September 3, 2013

The media portrays a nation that's Bible-less. Not so!

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If you let the media, entertainment industry and academia form your worldview, it will seem as if our country has totally abandoned the Bible. Certainly our nation's level of morality appears to be worsening, because immorality is what headlines the news, sells movies and drives the entertainment complex. But the visible display of gross immorality does not automatically mean that the Bible is nearing extinction in our land.

A relatively new television series about the Robertson family is spinning heads. People are trying to explain why the Duck Dynasty reality TV show has gained a phenomenal viewership.

The wild popularity of Duck Dynasty doesn't seem to have changed the Robertsons much. They're still most comfortable outdoors hunting or fishing... and open about their Christian faith... Nearly every episode ends with the extended family in prayer around the dinner table. Speaking around the country and to media, family members are evangelistic and candid about how their faith shapes their lives. For one thing, they're serious about marriage [and] they're pro-life. In his book, Phil rues the fact that there seem to be more federal rules protecting ducks than unborn children.

The godly influence of the Scriptures, percolating within the Robertson family, is not turning off viewers. That the opposite is happening demonstrates that the Bible has not vanished from America.

- An amazing 88 percent of the nation's homes own a Bible.
- 80 percent call the Bible sacred (that is, coming from our Holy God), compared to just 8 percent who hold this view of the Koran; or 4 percent for the Torah; or 3 percent for the book of Mormon.
- 77 percent believe that morality in America is on the decline, with a third blaming the lack of bible reading.

But are Americans actually reading their Bibles? Not as much as we wish, but yes. "*The American Bible Society* finds that 41 percent of Americans used the internet to read the good book on a computer. Some 29 percent said they searched Bible verses on a cell phone and 17 percent said they read an electronic version of the Bible on a Kindle or iPad." There is a continuing trend to read the Bible more frequently due to the ease of our electronic devices, as I wrote about [here \(Concealed Carry Scriptures\)](#). But this trend is not easily visible to us especially in comparison to the parade of perceptions the world marches our way.

And this is why we need to keep our heads in the Scriptures. Without the truth of the Bible structuring and supporting the worldview that God wants us to have, we fall victim to the psychological warfare of Satan. He uses worldly influence to lead us to false perceptions of this world (“our nation is more wicked than ever before” thinking) by which he leads us into despair and misbelief. Duck Dynasty can’t defend us from this evil, but the Bible can and does.

So if you are regularly reading God’s Word, you will know that America is not worse off than the godless cultures in which God’s people of the past once lived. Remember Lot being pulled by the angels to flee his home in Sodom ([Genesis 19:16-23](#))? Remember Daniel contending for the faith while his government’s top leaders proudly paraded their sacrilegious festival ([Daniel 5:22-40](#))? Remember how John the Baptist was beheaded because King Herod was seduced by the girl performing a striptease act—yet the Faith and faithful continued to spread and grow ([Matthew 6:21-31](#))?

Because God wants all people to be saved through faith in Jesus Christ, God puts his almighty power and eternal love into keeping the Bible relevant and available. This is why God assures that his Word will endure into eternity: “**Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away**” (Matthew 24:35). And this is why God put the power that brings people to faith within its own message: “**the gospel is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes**” (Romans 1:16).

God is a gracious Lord, wanting all to repent and believe in his Son Jesus. So I would not be surprised if he uses a TV show like Duck Dynasty to advertise that his Bible is still relevant and available. But this I know absolutely: that he’s equipping us, through our use of Scripture, to personally demonstrate to others just how relevant and available it is.

Source Material (Links may become inactive over time.)

[Why Is Duck Dynasty So Popular](#) @philly.com

[Internet Bible Reading Surges](#) @Washington Examiner

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Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz

