POSTSCRIPT

Fourteen years have passed since the Office of the American Presidency was caught up in the <u>Lewinsky sex scandal</u>. Some readers, who are either too young or unaware of Bill and Hillary Clinton's public use and abuse of Christian Scripture for political damage control, will likely fail to grasp the satirical humor of the image/caption shown on the introduction page to <u>Forgive & Remember</u>.

Background: In an effort to save face with the American public, rescue his Presidency, and salvage political power, Bill Clinton used the Office of the President to further distort three culturally important words: sex, forgiveness, and marriage. Based on his manufactured excuse that fellatio technically isn't "sex" (captured in his postmodern statement, "It all depends on what your definition of "is" is), he stood before millions and uttered, "I want you to listen to me. I'm going to say this again: I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky." However, a sizable portion of the public didn't buy it. Later when exposed, the embattled President shifted the focus and lectured the Nation on the meaning of Christian forgiveness. On other occasions, Clinton intimated that sex outside of marriage was the status-quo for men of power.

For the theologically-liberal Clintons, love and forgiveness had meant: looking the other way, acting as if no wrong was committed, excusing the inexcusable, tolerating the intolerable, and sweeping things under the proverbial carpet. While liberals were more than willing to excuse Bill Clinton's abuse of the 22 year-old White House intern (Lewinsky) for fellatio favors, Ms. Clinton was understandably torn emotionally. It is this emotional confusion and struggle to "forgive," pursuant to their liberal theology, which the introductory page seeks to capture. Other women began to come forward with testimonies of past sexual encounters with Bill Clinton, some consensual, others apparently less so.

Initial, Hillary Clinton's sense of marital betrayal, inner rage, and bitterness did not mesh well with the 'love' and 'forgiveness' of her liberal theology. Later, she did speak of having 'forgiven' him, but their lives and marriage would never be the same. Nearly ten years later, in her autobiographical memoirs, *Living History*, Hillary Clinton described the event as "the most devastating, shocking and hurtful experience of my life." Despite a repetitively broken marriage covenant, the Clintons did not divorce but rather chose relatively independent lives of political convenience. Politically down but not out, Hillary Clinton was a Democrat candidate for President in 2008, lost, but was appointed U.S. Secretary of State under the Obama Administration.

Criticism: To those who feel that I've unnecessarily "politicized" a personal struggle or religious subject, I answer "perverted definitions of sex, forgiveness, and marriage were politicized by the individual occupying the Presidency of the United States." He wrongfully

¹ Satire is often strictly defined as a literary genre or form; although, in practice, it is also found in the graphic and performing arts. In satire, human or individual vices, follies, abuses, or shortcomings are held up to censure by means of ridicule, derision, burlesque, irony, or other methods, ideally with the intent to bring about improvement. Although satire is usually meant to be funny, the purpose of satire is not primarily humor in itself so much as an attack on something of which the author strongly disapproves, using the weapon of wit. Wikipedia

acted as the Nation's "Theologian in Chief." Of course, this type of intrusion is of little concern to liberals and political Left. A so-called violation of the 1st Amendment only occurs when it goes the other way. To those Christians who believe the President's sexual escapades in the Oval Office where none of the electorate's or church's business, I challenge you to read Matthew 14:1-12 and Romans 13. Despite the extreme separation between government and religion in ancient Israel (a time of foreign domination by Roman power), John the Baptist testified, even with his death, that sexual behaviors in private by governmental officials are not free from moral criticism. All governments remain morally accountable to the Almighty God of biblical Scripture.

For decades, the political Left has hypocritically accused conservatives of wrongfully mixing religion with politics. However, they do this while hiding their own religious roots and how those beliefs affect their political view and shape their public policy.

In her review of *Living History*, Elizabeth Stuart, King Alfred's College wrote:

The figure that shadows [Hillary] Clinton's life is not her husband, but John Wesley. She is profoundly influenced by the [liberal] Methodism into which she was born and by the radical theology of Bonhoeffer, Niehbuhr and Tillich which influenced the Methodist ministers she encountered in her youth. It would not be inaccurate to describe her passionate commitment to healthcare and education reform, women's rights and the protection and care of children as being the working out of her [liberal religious] faith in the political arena. In a country where religion seems to be by and large generally very bad for people, particularly [conservative] politicians, Clinton's faith emerges as a subtle but steely force in her life expanding rather than contracting her mind and compassion. Bracketed inserts and hot link mine.

Ms. Stuart's use of the term "radical" conveys a favorable rejection of any and all orthodoxy. For her and those on the Left, liberal theology is a 'mind expander', in contrast to those other conservative theologies that cause the mind to supposedly "contract." For her, theology is simply a humanistic creation, not a propositional revelation from a God Who is there. See *The Roots of Religious Liberalism...*