

## A COURT OUT OF BOUNDS

Jim E. Waldron

The U. S. Supreme Court in 1973 (Roe vs Wade) ruled in such a way as to create law allowing abortions, which ruling has been extended to allow the killing of infants up until the moment before birth (e.g. partial birth abortion).

In another matter, it is not right for the government to make laws requiring or establishing religion but it is not authorized to prohibit “the free exercise thereof” (see the 1st Amendment, U.S. constitution). Yet, in 1985 the court ruled against Alabama’s statute for simply allowing voluntary prayer.

Now the court has shown its animosity to private property. While the Constitution allows the government to take private property “for public use” (eminent domain) with “just compensation” it is not allowed to take it for private use. In a strongly worded dissent, Justice Sandra Day O’Connor declared: “Under the banner of economic development, all private property is now vulnerable to being taken and transferred to another private owner, so long as it might be upgraded,” *Chattanooga Free Press* (ibid).

Justice John Paul Stevens speaking for the majority wrote, “the project was expected to create jobs and increase tax revenue” (USA Today, June 24-26, 2005, p.1).

**FOR  
TAX  
REVENUE?**

“**For Tax Revenue!!**” There it is in a nutshell! The court has voted to abort individual private property rights for the sake of more government revenue—that is more and more government. How long before it rules that church houses must be taxed so that religious tolerance can be quietly suppressed. Beloved, the loss of our freedoms is closer than we realize. No supreme court justice has ever been impeached but judges like the gang of five who voted June 23, 2005 against private property need to know that they deserve such. Why not let them know? Via email to your Senator at [www.senate.gov/write.senator](http://www.senate.gov/write.senator)). Or better write a regular letter to him or her, at the U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC, 20515.

**We appreciate** those who contribute to our free literature distribution work. Jon Gary Williams of LaVergne, TN, has just made available to us his book, *The Other Side of Evolution*. Write to Randall Standefer for a sample copy of it and all our books. P.O. Box 123, Dunlap, TN 37327.

## BULLETIN BRIEFS

Vol. 8

August 2005

No. 8

### YOUR HOME, FREEDOM ATTACKED

Lee Anderson, Editor

“It is a basic principle of American freedom that ‘a man’s home is his castle.’ But now five justices of the Supreme Court of the United States outrageously have trampled upon your freedom and your private property rights — and there is too little alarm among our people and our public officials who are supposed to defend our liberty.

“The Fifth Amendment of our constitution’s Bill of Rights reasonably establishes the governmental right of ‘eminent domain.’ It provides that government may take ‘private property for public use,’ but not without just compensation. The intent, of course, is to make possible the establishment of roads, schools and other necessary public facilities, with private owners being justly compensated for their property.

### FIVE JUSTICES WRONG

“But Supreme Court Justices John Paul Stevens, Anthony Kennedy, David H. Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer have grotesquely perverted that constitutional intent — as too many justices too often do in too many cases. They have ruled that government may take property away from one group of private property owners, not for public use, but for delivery to another set of private interests for their own purposes. That’s wrong.

“The crass excuse in this case is that the local government will be able to collect more in taxes from the new owner-developers than it can from the rightful owners from whom the property is, in effect, being confiscated against their will.”

*Chattanooga Times Free Press*, Sunday, June 25, 2005, p. B7

## ONE PRESSURE AFTER ANOTHER

Asghar Ali

“It was the afternoon of March 12, (2005) that three policemen from the local Police station came to our gate and called me outside. One of them was A.S.I. (Assistant Sub Inspector). The A.S.I. told me that they had received an “application” against me directed to them from D.I.G. (Deputy Inspector General) of police. In that application, the A.S.I. told me that the applicant had stated that Asghar Ali had become a Christian from Islam and had been blaspheming the prophet Mohammad. I told that inspector that I had not even spoken harshly to any of my neighbors. Blaspheming the prophet is far from me. After making this statement again he had me to sign a statement saying I had received the notice, the A.S.I. further asked me to see him in the local police office the next day and bring three or four church members along.

“The next day was Sunday. After the church service, I talked to a couple of members and requested them to go with me to Police in the afternoon. They gladly agreed. Obed, Qamar Rafiq Masih and Auyub Masih went with me to the Police station and met the A.S.I.

“I requested the A.S.I. to let me read the statement against me to which he gladly agreed. In the letter the applicant (?) stated that Asghar Ali had become a Christian from a Muslim family and therefore is an heretic and he should be put to death as he has blasphemed the prophet by changing his religion. Since he has changed his religion he might be blaspheming the prophet. He should be forced to stop using the name (Asghar Ali).

“The A.S.I. asked me to write a statement on the church letterhead stating my date of birth and place of birth, the year of my conversion and the period for which I had been preaching which I gladly submitted to him in writing. The church members who accompanied me also signed a statement saying that they had been members of the church for a long time and had been attending church services regularly. All these years we have heard brother Asghar Ali teaching us only the Bible and we have never heard brother Asghar Ali say anything against Muslims.

“Something important to be noted: The applicant, the man behind the application, wanted the Police Department to pressurize me to stop using the name given to me by my parents, which he or anybody has no right to do.

“The application was not signed by any individual, rather it was submitted by: The lovers of the country—The lovers of the Prophet.”

## YOUR HELP URGENTLY NEEDED

Although Asghar Ali does not mention it in the above report this harassment is a part of an effort to steal the church property in that city. The New Garden Town church of Christ has been at its present location (59 Abu Bakar block, Lahore) since 1962. The property was bought that year, a deed received and registered. However, through the slight of hand by some bureaucrats in 1965 the registration was cancelled. Sometime back this was discovered by some property developers and the church has been harassed ever since. In fact, in 1994 (Feb. 2) while I was there working with the school of preaching, four men came on the property with guns threatening Anwar Masih, the school director and me. We were able to defuse the situation and subsequently brother Asghar moved on to the property to hold it by “squatters rights.” Yet, harassment has continued. For example on April 6, a local lawyer wrote our brother demanding on behalf of a supposed owner eight months’ back rent (\$1067.00). Rent has never been paid for this property as the lawyer claimed.

This latest effort to get Asghar arrested and perhaps beaten to death in jail by violent locals is a ploy to remove him from the scene. Every effort to get this evil rectified by government channels has been thwarted for years. Now the threat to Asghar and his family makes it imperative that we do what we can to stop this persecution of our brothers and sisters in an Islamic country to which billions of American tax dollars are going. Please write to your federal representative in Washington. His or her name can be found at ([www.house.gov/write.rep](http://www.house.gov/write.rep)).

### SAMPLE LETTER

The representative’s name here  
Washington, D.C. 20525

Dear Sir:

A church is being harassed in Lahore, Pakistan. The property that the church has owned at 59 Abu Baker Block, New Garden Town, Lahore for forty years is about to be stolen or confiscated because the local authorities cancelled their registered deed. The church leaders have been threatened in various ways over the last ten years and now (March 12, 2005) the local preacher has been threatened with arrest under an antiquated law that could cause his death.

Please ask the U.S. State Department to inquire of the Pakistan authorities why this minority group is being harassed and why the local government will not restore their cancelled rights to the property which was bought and paid for forty years ago.

Yours truly,  
Your name here

## RESURRECTING A FALSE VIEW

The *Gospel Advocate* traces its roots back to the burning issues that surrounded opposing viewpoints of eternal punishment during the mid-1800s. Tolbert Fanning, president of Franklin College, knew the value of Christian journalism. In 1844, he released his first religious journal, the *Christian Review*. In its pages he promoted his belief in the absolute authority of the Bible as the guide for all human conduct.

During the second year of publication, Jesse B. Ferguson, a promising young preacher, assisted Fanning in editing the magazine. A few years later, Ferguson gained control of the publication and changed the name from *Christian Review* to *Christian Magazine*. By 1851, his religious views had changed. Using his charisma to chart a new direction, the new magazine shifted its focus to reflect his beliefs in spiritualism.

Ferguson eventually preached both Universalism and Unitarian doctrines. The public apostasy of Ferguson was a major factor in Fanning’s decision to start the *Gospel Advocate* in July 1855. Fanning had mentored Ferguson but now felt betrayed and embarrassed at the religious direction taken by Ferguson. He dedicated the *Gospel Advocate* to “checking and correcting innovations” that were growing in the church under Ferguson’s watch.

History is repeating itself with new leaders resurrecting the same teachings from the past regarding eternal punishment....

Reprint from the GA, Neil Anderson, 2005, Permission granted.

### RANK MODERNISM

Jim E. Waldron

The denial of eternal punishment for the wicked is a cardinal plank of modernism. Yet, it is not just classical modernists who teach such, but it is also a pillar of the *Watchtower Bible and Tract Society* (Jehovah’s Witnesses). Doctrine.

It is also espoused by a **current professor** at David Lipscomb University, F. LaGard Smith, in his introduction to a book by Homer Hailey: *God’s Judgements and Punishments (2003)* and his own book *After Life (2003)*. For a full expose of this wicked error see the two articles in *Reason and Revelation* (Apologetics Press, 230 Landmark Drive, Montgomery, AL 36117-2752): “The Eternality of Hell” for January and February this year (2005). Or go online at [www.ApologeticsPress.org](http://www.ApologeticsPress.org) and download the material. Then write the DLU board and ask them why they tolerate the teaching of this “Jehovah’s Witness” doctrine on campus. (DLU, 3901 Granny White Pike, Nashville, TN 37204-3951).