



SPRING 1997

# REPORT

"PROMOTING REVIVAL AMONG YOUTH"

## Vision & Mission Statement

To bring about a revival among the youth in the city of Portland by educating, training, equipping and motivating Christian high school students who will uncompromisingly confront the culture in which they find themselves. This will take place when these students understand what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ: by the developing and being able to articulate a Biblical worldview.

### Student Gathering Calendar

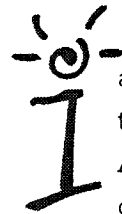
Call for  
location    May 1    5 pm

Call for  
location    June 5    7 pm

For additional information call 234-4793

## American History: Useless or Useful?

by Barry Durmaz



I attended Benson High School from 1979 to 1983. Back then, I was not very interested in learning. Honestly. And as a result of my attitude, my grades weren't very good. I'm not proud of my high school performance, in fact, I failed one of the most important subjects school's teach, and if I had to do it over again, I would definitely be more diligent.

The class subject I flunked was History. It's a humiliating memory. While I liked my teacher, Mr. Nelson, I didn't like History.

Mr. Nelson worked hard at teaching us. He even came up with an inventive way to prevent students from unnecessarily leaving during class for the bathroom. His hall pass was a 40-pound rock!

Despite all of Mr. Nelson's efforts, I had no desire to learn all those names and places and dates. At that time in my life, sliding by was no big deal, but it became a big deal when I flunked history. My lack of desire was going to cost me \$50 for night school.



# Students Continue to Pledge to Become World Changers for Christ

**T**hroughout the 1996-97 school year, Grace & Truth Ministries has continued holding its monthly Student Gatherings on Portland's public high school campuses. We're constantly searching for and working with students who will unashamedly stand up for truth and righteousness.

Please continue to pray for these students. They've come into agreement with this ministry to change their world for Jesus Christ.

**THESE STUDENTS  
HAVE MADE THE PLEDGE  
TO BE A WORLD CHANGER  
FOR CHRIST.**

*Joshua Minor Benson High School*  
*Ryan Demmon Grant High School*  
*Naomi Hanlon Grant High School*  
*Jeremy Gilstrap Lincoln High School*  
*Brent Hill Home School*

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
PRAYERS!**

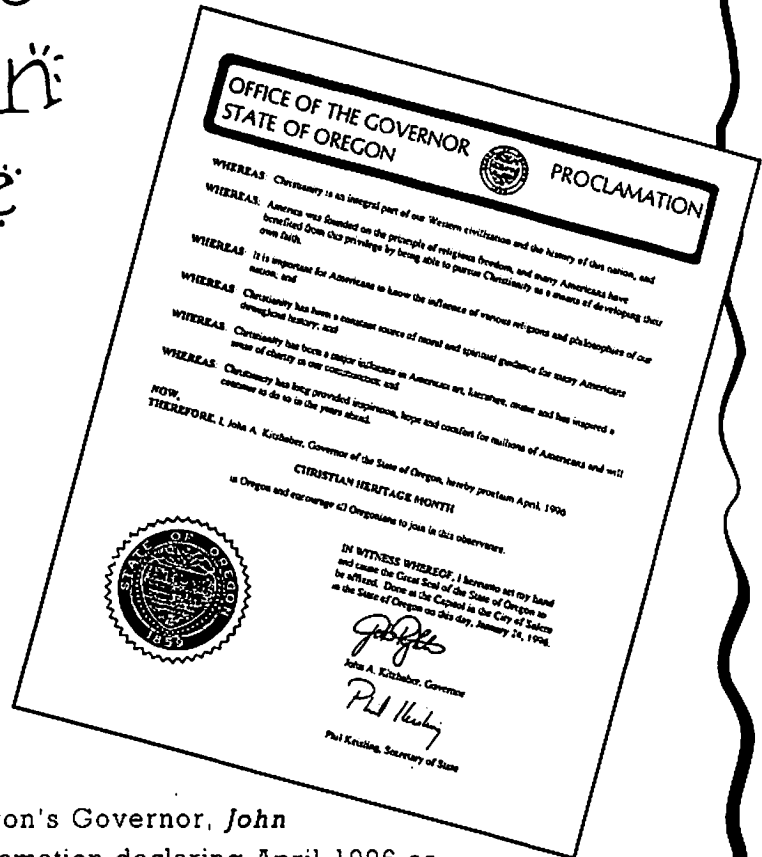


**Yes, I do covenant  
before God and those that  
are witnesses here today to  
make myself available to  
God, and purpose before  
Him to do whatever it takes  
to make an impact on my  
high school for Jesus Christ.  
I will also labor to bring  
forth a revival among the  
Christian students on my  
campus.**

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
PRAYERS FOR THESE  
WORLD CHANGERS FOR CHRIST**

*Brenda Dolan Grant High School*  
*Ali Kinney Lincoln High School*  
*Emily Riesterer Lincoln High School*  
*Anna Rivera Marshall High School*  
*Tommy Seratt Lincoln High School*  
*Alison Townsend Madison High School*  
*Jessica Watkins Benson High School*

# April is Christian Heritage Month



A little known miracle occurred last year. Oregon's Governor, *John Kitzhaber*, signed a proclamation declaring April 1996 as **CHRISTIAN HERITAGE MONTH**. He encouraged "all Oregonians to join in the observance." This was the first time in U.S. history an entire month had been set aside for the acknowledgement of our Christian heritage.

This proclamation was miraculous for many reasons. First, Oregon is one of two states with the least number of Christians per capita, and second, it's one of the most politically liberal states in the nation.

Since the 1996 proclamation, the Governor's *Attorney General's Office* alledged **CHRISTIAN HERITAGE MONTH** as unconstitutional and offensive to some Oregonians. Yet, in comparison, the Governor signed proclamations in 1995 and again in 1996 declaring October as **GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY MONTH**! Bowing to liberal interests, he refuses to sign another proclamation for a 1997 **CHRISTIAN HERITAGE MONTH**.

In response, Oregon's legislature has drafted their own proclamation endorsing **CHRISTIAN HERITAGE MONTH**.

This is an opportunity for the Christian community to share our rich Christian history with youth as well as adults, who may not be aware of the impact Christianity has had on the formation of our nation.

**WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR SCHOOL TO OBSERVE CHRISTIAN HERITAGE MONTH DURING APRIL? ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HOSTING A PRESENTATION ON AMERICA'S CHRISTIAN HISTORY HELD ON YOUR CAMPUS? IF SO, PLEASE CALL GRACE & TRUTH MINISTRIES AT (503) 234-4793.**

# American History: Useless or Useful?

<continued from page 1>

I enrolled in the night class and at the end of the course I barely passed. Again, I showed little interest in the subject. I had a poor attitude. I was naive. I believed History was useless in real life. I thought, why waste time learning about dead people and boring events of the past? What did History have to do with me?

Since those high school years, my attitude about learning has changed. Two years ago, at the age of 29, I attended a seminar about America's Christian History. There I learned the importance formal education and learning have had in creating the freest nation on earth. While there was no 40-pound rock wall preventing me from leaving the lecture, there didn't need to be. This time I wasn't looking for a way to skip out of class. For the first time in my life, I saw how important learning the truth about our nation past was.

## What is History?

History is more than merely memorizing names of the dead, what they accomplished and when they did so. It is the truth about how our nation was founded. Knowledge of our history protects us from a world system that rewrites (changes) history and is anti-Christ. Today, there are truths of History being intentionally withheld from high school History classes.

## Christ-Centered Beginning

In their *Mayflower Compact*, the pilgrims in 1620 clearly stated they came to America "...for the advancement of the Christian faith..." Is this mentioned in class? The *Mayflower Compact* which was a document of government, was also a profession of Christian faith. For more than 150 years, the

clergy provided leadership by preaching and teaching Biblical principles of government from the pulpit as well as in their election speeches at the seats of colonial civil government. The Word of God became the American political textbook.

Pilgrims travelled from England to the New World for the advancement of the Christian faith. And in continuing that heritage, 106 of the first 108 schools in America were founded on Biblical principles. Harvard University, established in 1636 by John Harvard, a Pastor from England, stated in its *Rules and Precepts*:

*"Let every student be plainly instructed, and earnestly pressed to consider well, the main end of his life and studies is, to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life, John 17:3 and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and Learning."*

When was the last time you were taught at your high school that Jesus Christ was and is the foundation of all sound knowledge and learning?

Yale College, founded in 1701, was declared to be an institution where:

*"Youth may be instructed in the Arts and Sciences who through the blessing of Almighty God may*

*Often misquoted and usually misunderstood, we thought it would be a good idea to print the "Real McCoy" for your edification. After all, hasn't it been said, the truth shall set you free?*

**The Real First Amendment:**  
FREEDOM OF RELIGION, SPEECH,  
AND THE PRESS; RIGHTS OF  
ASSEMBLY AND PETITION

*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.*

*be fitted for Publick employment both in Church and Civil State."*

## Founding Fathers

Americans today properly exalt George Washington as Father of his country, admire Thomas Jefferson as the author of the Declaration of Independence and honor James Madison as the Father of the Constitution, yet most Americans overlook another great Founder. One of the youngest and most brilliant of them all, Noah Webster was the Father of American Education. Oh you remember Noah Webster. He's the man who compiled the first truly American dictionary. In the preface of his original 1828 dictionary he wrote:

*"In my view, the Christian religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children, under a free government ought to be instructed...*

*No truth is more evident to my mind than that the*

*Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of free people."*

He also stated that

*"Education is useless without the Bible."*

Is that true? Is education truly useless without the Bible?

*"Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ."*

- Colossians 2:8

Noah Webster held a Biblical world view. When you learn things like this, history comes alive because God is right smack in the middle of it! The same is true for every subject (see Colossians 1:18 and 2:3).

## Be Mindful of Core Principles

I've to come to see (especially now as a Christian) why I did so poorly in high school. The core principles of subjects—especially history—had been removed from the curriculum. Their education methods didn't inspire me to love learning. I'd been instructed in a philosophy of education that was centered on man and not on God.

GRACE & TRUTH MINISTRIES is laboring to bring an awareness of this serious problem and restore the Biblical truths that belong in all the subjects. We are promoting revival among youth (and their families) through a biblical world view.

We desire your prayers for our ministry and the youth whose lives we touch. ●

**MEET**



# Alison Townsend

HIGH SCHOOL: Madison  
GRADE: Senior  
LEADERSHIP ROLE: Bible club leader  
CLUB NAME: "Warriors for Christ"

**WCFC:** Alison, you've been at Madison for over three years. I'd like you to share your perspective—

## student interview

as a Christian—on what it's been like attending a public high school knowing that the environment is not very conducive to a Christian walk.

**ALISON:** Well, our environment is definitely not conducive to being a Christian at all. It's just a very worldly place, and it's difficult to keep yourself

from reflecting the world because you're around it all the time. It's so easy to slip and fall into sin everyday. We also have problems with Satanists.

**WCFC:** Tell me about the satanism activity that's been going on at Madison.

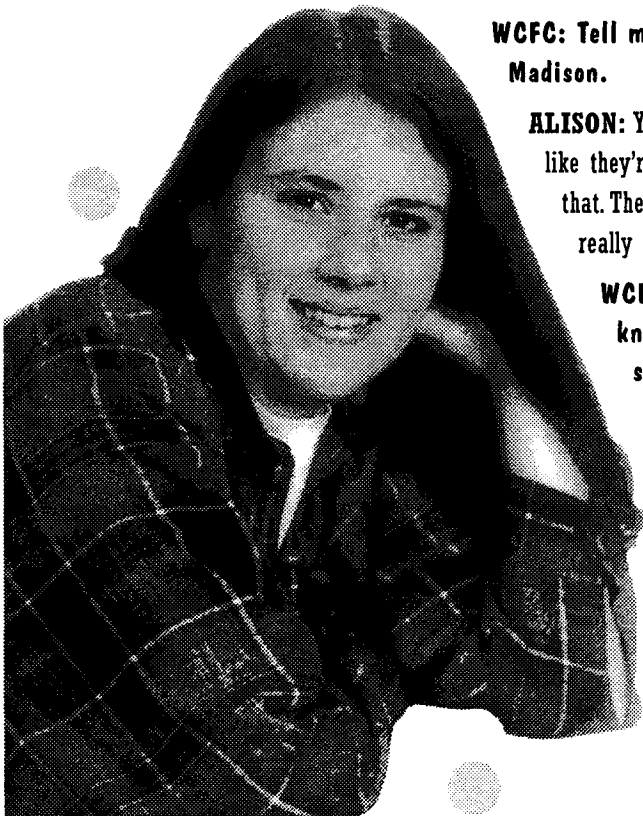
**ALISON:** Yes, there are quite a few satanists at our school. But it's not like they're running around screaming "Satan rules!" or anything like that. They're much more subtle. They're a presence there, but it's not really vocal.

**WCFC:** Okay, when you say they have a presence there, you know that because of the fact you're a Christian. Do those students who don't know God know that there is an evil presence?

**ALISON:** It depends on the person's sensitivity to these things. It seems that everyone knows the satanists are there, but they don't worry about it.

**WCFC:** Well Alison, with you being a Christian at Madison High School at the same time there are students who are satanist, how do you see yourself and any role you may have before God.

**ALISON:** The only thing that I can see doing for the most



<continued from page 6>

part is praying about it because it's spiritual warfare. That and just loving the people.

**WCFC:** Outstanding! Let's talk a bit now about your Bible club. Give us some history about the club.

**ALISON:** It was started about five years ago, and the club met in the cafeteria. The club started out with five students and now has somewhat of a steady attendance of about 15. Right now we're trying to find someone who'll be the student leader for next school year, but it's been a difficult task to find someone who is committed.

**WCFC:** What do you see the purpose of the club being?

**ALISON:** To be a refuge for Christians. To build each other up and pray for each other and pray for our school.

**WCFC:** Has the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution been quoted erroneously to you against your freedoms in this area?

**ALISON:** Yes. It always is by those who are not familiar with the First Amendment. People misquote it by stating it mentions a "separation between church and state." All they have to do is just read it instead of hearing what someone else said it says.

**WCFC:** Do you see some of the same kind of twisted truth coming through some of the other subjects being taught in your classes?

**ALISON:** Yes, and except in the case of the 'Great Awakening,' Christianity is basically shown in negative light, which was, in a lot of ways, the push for our revolution. It gets like two sentences in the history textbook.

**WCFC:** We hear a lot of talk about revival. You know that this ministry has taken up the call to promote revival among youth. It takes time because you're usually working with small numbers. Over the last couple of years at Madison, I've seen you as the Bible club student leader who wants to awaken things there. Do you think revival is possible in the public schools in the context of a revival of truth?

**ALISON:** The truth will always prevail. The very fact we have Bible clubs in the schools where five or ten years ago there weren't, says to me that we're moving in the direction of revival and that God is setting something up. Although (today) we don't have anywhere near the amount of people to do the ministry it would take to disciple all the newly-revived Christians.

**WCFC:** You've just made a very important observation. You basically said we have a problem here: we can't afford to have revival because if we did we'd be inundated with the workload. What do you think the solution is?

**ALISON:** For one thing, we need a lot more understanding of the Bible. There are not enough youth pastors in the world to take care of all the kids. We need to understand the power of God and how to use it. And we need to understand the authority we have in Christ Jesus so we can minister to people.

**WCFC:** What would you like to leave with those who read this interview?

**ALISON:** Two things actually. One, you need to pray. Prayer works. And secondly, get into the Word and get an understanding of it. If you're having problems understanding the Bible, then you need to talk to your parents or your youth pastor. There is someone out there who can help you. Oh, and also stop going to sleep at church. Pay attention. That's good stuff! ●



Alison Townsend





# World Changers for Christ Announces Ministry Training School



On April 3, 4 and 5, GRACE & TRUTH MINISTRIES hosts its first semi-annual *Ministry*

*Training School* for Portland area high school students. This training school is in accordance with the scripture found in Ephesians 4:11,12:

"...equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry...".

The sessions will be "nuts & bolts" and targeted to those students who desire to no longer talk about doing something awesome for God, but to start doing it! In other words, serious attendees only!

We highly encourage parents of



these students to attend the training school. We at GRACE & TRUTH MINISTRIES are convinced God wants to restore life and impart world changing biblical truths to the family in order to influence a community, a city, a state, a nation (Nehemiah 4:13).

High school teachers and administrators are also encouraged to attend. We desire our faithful Christian teachers to be an important part of the revival of God's truth that is coming to your public high school.

Preregistration is required. Please call (503) 257-1884 for more information.

There is no charge for attending the *Ministry Training School*, but there will be a freewill offering to cover expenses. ●

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



## REPORT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF GRACE & TRUTH MINISTRIES

WORLD CHANGERS FOR CHRIST  
519 SE 20TH AVENUE  
PORTLAND OREGON 97214  
(503) 234-4793

**"PROMOTING REVIVAL  
AMONG YOUTH"**