Ben Carson for America

- Ben Carson’s Amazing Life Story
- Ben Carson Will Win!
- Ben Carson Will Heal our Land
- Ben Carson is Prepared to Serve
- Ben Carson on the Issues

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(excerpted from *Ben Carson, Rx for America*)
Ben Carson: An American Story

Long before he ever came on the political scene, Dr. Carson was well known and respected around the world for his skill as a pediatric neurosurgeon. But, his becoming a ground-breaking and world renowned pediatric neurosurgeon had a most unlikely beginning.

Benjamin Solomon Carson grew up in a single family home with his mother and brother in one of the worst areas of Detroit, Michigan. They lived just a short distance from the famous Ford Rouge River Plant. It wasn’t exactly a recipe for success. It fact, the outlook was bleak.

When Ben Carson was in the 5th grade, his classmates called him “dummy” because he had terrible grades. He also had a violent temper. He threw rocks at cars, even police cars, and then, when they stopped, dared them to chase him. He was headed down the wrong path and his situation looked hopeless.

His mother married at 13, only to find out, after having two boys, that her husband was a bigamist. Being a woman of faith, she sent her unfaithful husband packing and set about raising her two children on her own. Because she was illiterate, the only work she could find was as a domestic, cleaning the homes of others.

Sonya, Ben’s mother, refused to go on welfare. She may have been illiterate, but she noticed that anyone who went on welfare never got off of welfare. She did not want that for herself or for her boys. But, things were not going well for Ben and Curtis. She knew Ben was smart, but he was always getting into trouble, and he was not doing well at school, so she prayed about it.

Sonya worked very, very hard, often working two or three jobs to provide for her boys. She was cleaning the house of a rather wealthy individual one day and noticed that the television was covered with books. She said to the gentleman, “How do you watch television with all these books on your TV set?” He said he would rather read books than watch TV. Sonya went home and said, “Boys, new rule in the house. No more than one hour of television in this house. You’re going to read.” ...Thanks to that one change, Ben Carson and his brother, Curtis, were pulled out of poverty and put on the road to success.

So, except for one or two favorite shows each week, Sonya turned off the television and the boys read two books per week (from the local library). In addition, even though she could not read, she required Ben and Curtis to write book reports on each book they read and give them to her. She would even mark up their reports as if she was grading them.

At first, Ben especially hated not being able to go outside with the rest of the children, and he hated reading books. But, soon he was devouring books as fast as he could read them. And, in just two years, he was the star pupil in his class. He was no longer the class dummy, he was the class brain.

In high school Ben’s leadership skills blossomed, especially in the ROTC where he earned medals for his rifle marksmanship. In just three years he was promoted to the rank of Colonel after receiving the highest score ever recorded on a field grade examination. To top it off, Carson was given the title of executive officer over all the high school ROTC programs in the Detroit public school system. In recognition of this achievement, he led the Memorial
Day Parade in Detroit and met General William Westmoreland. He also had dinner with a number of Medal of Honor recipients. Most important of all, he was offered an appointment to United States Military Academy at West Point. In his own words, this is what he said about his ROTC experience...

“I was thrilled by the whole ROTC experience. …it taught me a wide variety of skills. It also bolstered my confidence to believe I might find a military career quite satisfying if I accepted that scholarship to West Point.”

However, after weighing his options, Ben Carson passed up the opportunity to attend West Point to pursue his dream of becoming a physician. As he put it:

“No only did I remain convinced that God wanted me to become a doctor, but I had read many Bible verses telling me God would answer my fervent prayers and grant the desires of my heart. My desire was to go to Yale, and I prayed for that fervently.”

Indeed, after graduating from high school with honors, he only had enough money to apply to one school, so he applied to Yale. He was accepted and attended Yale University on a scholarship. After Yale, where he met his future bride, Lacena “Candy” Rustin, he attended medical school at the University of Michigan. Ben always set his sights high. After graduation from medical school, he was hired by Johns Hopkins Hospital, one of the most prestigious teaching hospitals in the United States. When he became a neurosurgeon, there were only eight black neurosurgeons in the entire world.

At the age of 33, he became the youngest major Division Director in Johns Hopkins history, responsible for running a multi-hundred million dollar enterprise. Everyone recognized him as a brilliant and compassionate physician. But that was just the beginning.

In 1987 Dr. Ben Carson did something that had never before been done in world history. Leading a medical team of 70, he successfully separated twins conjoined at the head, keeping both alive. In the past, one twin had always died, but Dr. Carson developed a new technique that enabled both twins to live. Subsequently, Dr. Carson successfully led medical teams that separated 11 pairs of twins connected at the head.

As a physician, Ben Carson was known for his compassion. In spite of his intense schedule, he would take as much time as needed to talk with the parents of a patient, or the patient himself, to fully explain the procedure he was planning to undertake, and the risks involved. He patiently answered questions and did his best to reassure his patients and their parents that everything possible was being done to save their life or solve their problem. It was not uncommon for him to pray with his patients. And he always urged them to pray about the procedure the night before surgery, telling them that he would be praying about it, too.

Dr. Carson’s achievements have not been limited to the operating room. When Carson and his wife, Candy, read a research study about education in the United States they were alarmed by the findings. The study showed that our nation’s students ranked 21st out of 22 countries, next to the bottom of the list in science and math. In order to do something about this decline in educational performance, he and his wife, Candy, established the Carson Scholars Fund in 1994. Its purpose is to provide encouragement and support to talented young people living in poverty as well as to address the education crisis in the United States. Open to children of all backgrounds and all races,
this scholarship program operates in all 50 states, and has received worldwide recognition for its successes.

The Carsons also noticed that while high school sports stars received high praise, great attention, and huge trophies, those students who excelled scholastically only received a pin or a certificate. So, in light of the study, and the lack of encouragement for students who do well in school, they established programs to celebrate and honor academic achievement.

The Carson Scholars Fund awards scholarships to students in grades four through eleven who not only excel in school, but also exhibit humanitarian qualities. Scholarship winners receive a $1,000 scholarship toward a college education, and recognition that includes attendance at an awards banquet. The objective is to make these top performing students role models at their schools.

The second program of the foundation started in 2000 and consists of creating attractive Ben Carson Reading Rooms all across the nation. The goal is to encourage young children to read. Carson understood that reading is the key to learning and knew it was the reason for his success in school and ultimately becoming a medical doctor. Today there are more than 110 of these reading rooms across the nation.

For nearly two decades Dr. Carson has served on the Board of Directors of two multinational corporations, the Kellogg Company and Costco. In 2001, Dr. Carson was named one of the nation’s foremost scientists and physicians by Time magazine and CNN. Also in 2001, the Library of Congress selected him as one of the nation’s 89 “Living Legends.” In 2006, the NAACP awarded Carson its highest honor, the Spingarn Medal. Carson was also the recipient of the Horatio Alger Award, whose other recipients include Bob Dole, Dwight Eisenhower, Gerald Ford, and Ronald Reagan. The Horatio Alger Award is given to “…extraordinary self-made Americans.” For his brilliance, his leadership, and his compassion, Dr. Carson was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2008, the nation’s highest civilian award. Ben Carson has also been awarded thirty-eight honorary doctorate degrees. A December 2014 Gallup poll found that Dr. Ben Carson is the sixth most admired man in America. No other prospective Republican candidate for president made it into the top ten of this prestigious listing. Another Gallup poll revealed that Ben Carson is the only Republican candidate for president who is more popular with the American people than Hillary Clinton. He is also a New York Times best-selling author of seven books, his book, One Nation, released about the same time as Hillary Clinton’s highly touted biography Hard Choices, far outsold the Clinton book and was on the New York Times nonfiction bestseller list for five weeks.

A major motion picture starring Cuba Gooding, Jr., was released in 2009 about the life of Ben Carson. The movie, “Gifted Hands,” describes his upbringing, his early anger, his triumph over anger, and his medical successes. The movie was particularly well-received by African Americans who have been aware of the doctor’s many accomplishments for years. Young African Americans have been told the amazing story of Ben Carson for generations. Dr. Carson has been used as a role model by parents to encourage their children to work hard, overcome challenges, get a good education, and achieve the American Dream. It is not an exaggeration to say that Dr. Ben Carson is revered in the African American community, especially by people of faith.
How respected and highly regarded is Dr. Ben Carson? Even those who disagree with him on public policy issues speak glowingly of his achievements and his character. For instance, the endorsements on the back of the book *Gifted Hands* include these warm words...

“Some say he would be a great man even if he never picked up a scalpel.”—Parade Magazine

“He works miracles on children others have written off as hopeless.”—Barbara Walters

As noted in the Introduction, Dr. Ben Carson erupted onto the political scene as a result of his speech at the 2013 National Prayer Breakfast. Prior to that event, Dr. Carson and his wife, Candy, had co-authored the book, *America the Beautiful*, which expressed his concerns for the future of our nation. But, it was not until he spoke at the National Prayer Breakfast, with President and Mrs. Obama, along with Vice President Biden sitting nearby, that the public truly took note of Dr. Carson’s political views and his ability to explain complicated issues in simple terms.

In that speech, Ben Carson respectfully, yet directly, addressed the dangers of a growing National Debt to future generations. He also talked about the non-Biblical idea of income and wealth re-distribution. And, finally, he gently suggested that there was a better approach to universal health care other than the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare) that would be less costly, less intrusive, less bureaucratic and would not put the government between a patient and his doctor. Dr. Carson called for Obamacare to be replaced by a health savings account program that would strengthen the patient-doctor relationship and eliminate the need for a massive new government bureaucracy. He realized that Obamacare would grant unprecedented power to the federal government and ultimately reduce the freedom of American citizens. He later wrote of the move to government run health care...

“I think this shift is beginning to wrench the nation from one centered on the rights of individual citizens to one that accepts the right of the government to control even the most essential parts of our lives. This strikes a serious blow to the concept of freedom that gave birth to this nation.”

While the White House was angry about Ben Carson’s speech at the 2013 National Prayer Breakfast, the response of the American people was an outpouring of support greater than for any speech since Ronald Reagan’s “Time for Choosing” speech. More than 4.3 million people have viewed Carson’s National Prayer Breakfast speech on YouTube™. That was the beginning of a coast-to-coast, border-to-border outcry for Dr. Carson to run for president of the United States.
**Ben Carson Will Win!**

Why is Ben Carson the one candidate who is sure to win the White House in 2016? It is not just that he is likely to win a large share of the African American vote, the Hispanic vote, and the Asian vote. Nor is it just that he is blessed with a Reaganesque ability to communicate with everyday Americans on complex and complicated issues in simple terms that everyone can understand. It is all of those things, but it is more than that.

The fact is, poll after poll shows that Americans from coast-to-coast and border-to-border are weary of slick politicians in both political parties. They seek someone they can trust, and they especially want someone of unimpeachable character. They are leery of politicians that cut ethical corners, and think that they are smarter than the citizens who elected them. They desperately want a president who is not only committed to the United States Constitution and to freedom, they want a man of faith and traditional values who understands that at its core, the greatest challenge facing our nation is spiritual in nature. All these problems—economic, domestic, foreign policy—are all caused by an accelerating moral crisis. Our judges, our appointed officials, our legislators, and yes, our president is failing because they have lost their moral compass. The greatest attribute of the man who held our nation together during the darkest times of the American Revolution, George Washington, was his character. George Washington’s moral compass never failed him. It was what enabled him to persevere and lead, even when it seemed that there was no hope. It enabled him to triumph without grasping power, even when that opportunity was presented to him.

Americans want a leader who has the character to tell the truth, even when it is not politically advantageous to do so. They want someone who will take responsibility for his failures, and they want a president who understands that he is a servant of the people, not their master. That man is Ben Carson. And, because he is a man of character, he has that one single attribute that you can’t buy, you can’t borrow, and you can’t get through education and success—trustworthiness. Americans trust Ben Carson because he has led an exemplary life of achievement without compromising his values. Trust is the single greatest attribute the American people seek in a candidate for president. They don’t want a schemer, a prevaricator, or another politician. They want a man who says what he means and means what he says. That’s the kind of man Ben Carson is and has always been.

Yes, it is true that the nomination of Ben Carson will make it possible for the Republican Party to reclaim the historic level of support accorded to previous Republican candidates for president by the African American community. It will also enable the GOP to win a large share, perhaps a majority, of the Hispanic and the Asian vote. Why is winning a large share, perhaps a majority, of the minority vote important, other than the fact that conservative solutions benefit all Americans?

Historically, the Republicans have been champions of the poor and oppressed. From the time of Abraham Lincoln until the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt, black Americans overwhelmingly supported Republican candidates for president. Understandably, as the party of slavery, segregation, racism and white supremacy, the Democrat Party had great difficulty in winning over black voters. Blacks shifting their support to
Roosevelt is not without its irony. It was President Franklin D. Roosevelt who appointed a member of the Ku Klux Klan, Hugo Black, to the United States Supreme Court. Yet, it was during Roosevelt’s extended term in office that African Americans began to shift toward supporting Democrat candidates. Although the shift began in the 1930s, it really was not complete until 1964, when Barry Goldwater ran for president and received less than 10% of the African American vote. In fact, in 1956, Dwight Eisenhower won 39% of the black vote and, in 1960, Richard Nixon won nearly 30% of the African American vote when they ran for president.

The GOP disconnected from African Americans when Barry Goldwater, an early civil rights supporter, voted against the 1964 Civil Rights Act on the grounds that it was unconstitutional. Goldwater had previously voted for every Civil Rights Act, while his opponent in 1964, Lyndon Johnson, had, as a United States Senator, voted against every Civil Rights Act. Nevertheless, Goldwater’s vote was the tipping point that caused the final mass exodus of African Americans from the Republican Party.

Yet today polls still show that 37% of African Americans identify themselves as conservative, while only 36% identify themselves as liberal. And, when asked about issues such as abortion, taxes, school vouchers, national defense and traditional marriage, these black Americans come down firmly on the conservative side. But, contrary to reality, they continue to identify the Democrat Party as the party that stands with them on these issues. Finally, being convinced that all Republicans and conservatives are racists, they vote as an almost solid bloc for Democrat candidates. In fact, in 2012, Mitt Romney received just 7% of the black vote. It was a historic low point of support for Republican presidential candidates.

It is difficult to understand this disconnect between conservative African Americans and the Republican Party. Nevertheless, this disconnect is a reality, and it is the reason that black Americans shy away from voting for Republican candidates. Even though they are philosophical soulmates of most Republican candidates in regard to support for low taxes, school vouchers, life, a strong national defense and traditional values, they continue to vote for their Democrat opponents who oppose almost everything they believe in. What is it that causes this disconnect? The answer is trust. Black conservatives simply do not trust Republicans and conservatives. They are convinced that Republicans, especially conservatives, are racist. It’s not surprising that conservative black Americans believe such a lie. After all, that’s what they read each day in the newspaper and hear on television. Their lack of trust has been fostered by the Democrat Party and their allies in the national news media. And, practically speaking, a bond of trust once broken is very difficult to restore, especially when the media continues to portray Republicans as racists.

Restoring the historic bond of trust that black Americans have had with the GOP is a challenge that must be overcome if the Republican Party is to become successful on a continuing basis. However, just running a black candidate will not automatically restore this broken bond of trust, unless that candidate has previously established a bond of trust that has existed for many decades prior to his or her running for office. That is what makes nominating Ben Carson such a great opportunity for Republicans and conservatives. He has a unique and revered standing in the African American community that will be very difficult to tarnish.
As noted, Ben Carson was the 2006 recipient of the NAACP’s highest award, the Spingarn Medal (previously given to such luminaries as Oprah Winfrey, Colin Powell, Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, Hank Aaron and many more), and he was the subject of a full-length movie, “Gifted Hands,” that told the story of his incredible medical accomplishments. He has been feted on countless national television programs such as the “Today Show.” Indeed, Dr. Benjamin Carson is an icon in the African American community. He is a man whose word is trusted by black Americans all across our nation. In fact, he is revered by Americans of every race and background, but especially by African Americans. In other words, Ben Carson’s bond of trust among blacks and Hispanics is broad and deep. They know his name. They have heard his story. They know of his success. It is one thing to claim that you are a friend; it is altogether something else to have expressed your friendship through word and deed over a long period of time. That is the case with Dr. Ben Carson who is the one candidate who can connect with black and Hispanic voters, winning their confidence and their vote. Ben Carson is trusted by these voters who have been too long ignored by the Republican Party.

Trust is the bottom line. Whether it is a contract, a marriage, a friendship or a business relationship, trust is the essential ingredient. Every treaty negotiated by a president is based on mutual trust. For an entrepreneur to be successful, he must be trusted by his clients and customers. In order for you to place your money in a bank, you must trust that it is solvent and that it will protect your funds. And, once broken, trust is very difficult to restore. It takes patience, humility, energy, and in the case of politics, a long term example of reliability and trustworthiness. Trust is the only plausible explanation of why the internal polls of the Herman Cain campaign showed him winning such a large share of the African American vote, even while running against a black incumbent president.

Although it is untrue that the leaders of the Democrat Party are the friends of African Americans and Hispanics, and that the Republicans are their enemies, the Democrats, and their allies in the news media, have effectively destroyed any bond of trust that should exist today. Sadly, even though there are many opportunities to appeal to black and Hispanic voters on common issues, those appeals will fall on deaf ears as long as no bond of trust exists between those communities and the Republican Party or its candidates.

Think about it. If I do not trust Republicans to do what they say they will do, why would I even consider voting for them? It makes no sense to do so. If you don’t trust a carpenter to do a good job, you don’t hire him, no matter how low his price, or how much he assures you that he will do a good job. Trust is the reason that Angie’s List™ is successful. Why do you look for someone to work on your house that gets a high rating on Angie’s List? You do it because you believe you can trust that tradesman to perform as promised.

Trust is the foundational reason people enter into contracts. And, it is the reason that more Hispanics and African Americans vote for Democrat candidates. A lack of trust is the chief barrier to black and Hispanic Americans voting for Republicans.

The reality is that if the Republican presidential nominee does not have a solid base of trust in minority communities BEFORE he runs for president, he is not going to win their votes. In the case of Dr. Ben Carson, he earned that
bond of trust in the black community many years ago. He has been there for African Americans when they needed him. And, as president, he will create the environment and the opportunity for millions of black, Hispanic, Asian, and white Americans to escape poverty.

It is not surprising that both President George W. Bush and President Barack Obama offered the position of Surgeon General to Dr. Carson. They both understand the universal high regard in which Dr. Carson is held among Americans of all races and ethnic backgrounds.

Taking that fact into consideration, just imagine how successful Ben Carson would be running against Hillary Clinton or any other Democrat Party nominee. And, it is conceivable, perhaps likely, that he would win in a landslide.

Dr. Carson’s high standing in the black community, and particularly with Christians, has existed for many years. Those African Americans who attend churches are very familiar with the story of Dr. Benjamin Carson.

Respect for Ben Carson is very broad and deep in the African American community. A measurement of that breadth and depth was shown when the far left Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) placed Ben Carson on their “hate” list. African Americans, a large number who were supporters the SPLC, were outraged by this affront to one of their most cherished leaders. After what the Southern Poverty Law Center described as “intense criticism” from their black supporters, they not only removed Ben Carson’s name from their hate list, but publicly apologized to him. Ben Carson’s support in the African American community is not only broad, it also includes recognized and respected leaders like Dr. Alveda King, the niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Alveda King served in the Alabama legislature as a Democrat and campaigned for Jesse Jackson when he ran for president. This time she has not only endorsed the presidential candidacy of Ben Carson, but also pledged to do everything she can to elect him. You can be confident that if Ben Carson is the Republican candidate for President that many notable Africans from all walks of life—from academia, from the sports world and even from Hollywood—will publicly support him in his race for the White House.

In March 2015 a national survey was conducted by The Polling Company on behalf of The 2016 Committee. After reminding the African American poll participants of Dr. Carson’s background and his stand on the issues, it posed this question: “Dr. Ben Carson is an African-American who may run for President in 2016. Would you consider voting for him?” When you exclude the maybe category, as well as the do not know and refused to answer participants, Ben Carson polls 54% of the African Americans who said yes or no in the survey. That’s right, 54%!

I have witnessed the popularity of Ben Carson with African Americans first hand. In early December of 2014, I was checking out of a hotel in Philadelphia and I gave my valet ticket to a middle aged black parking attendant. In a few minutes he returned with my car (of course, covered in Carson bumper stickers) and said to me, “I didn’t know Dr. Carson was running for president.” I said, “He is not, but we are trying to convince him to run.”

Then I asked the gentleman, “Are you familiar with Dr. Carson?”

He smiled and said that he did and “As a matter of fact, not a week goes by that my wife and I don’t talk to our kids about Dr. Carson and his
background...we tell our kids that if Dr. Carson can be a success, you certainly can, too”.

I then asked the man if he would support Dr. Carson for president and his face lit up like a Christmas tree. It was obvious that he and his wife would be delighted to vote for Ben Carson.

This is the kind of respect and standing that someone must have in the African American community prior to any involvement in politics if they hope to receive strong support from black Americans. Such long-term respect creates a nearly unbreakable bond of trust that will allow Ben Carson to win over black and Hispanic Americans to the Republican ticket in 2016. And, when that trust is backed up by performance that proves that he stands with them on conservative issues, the bond of trust that currently exists with the Democrat Party will be shattered for good.

There is one more thing that gives Ben Carson credibility in the black community, and that is the fact that he has “blood in the soil.” He is the first presidential candidate in history to be able to make that claim. This expression is used within the African American community and it holds a very strong meaning for them. It means that a person is a descendent of slaves. In fact, it was because Barack Obama does not have “blood in the soil” that the African American community was slow to rally behind him in 2008. And, of great significance to black Americans, Ben Carson would be the first descendent of slaves to sit in the Oval Office. This would give the black community a unique sense of pride that would be above and beyond that which exists for Barack Obama.

As further testimony of the universal esteem in which Dr. Carson is held by African Americans, consider these words from, of all people, Jesse Jackson...

“He is a model for all the youth of today.”

That’s right, even Jesse Jackson, a man who definitely sides with the Democrats, respects and admires Ben Carson. Nominating Dr. Ben Carson will send a powerful message to the black community that one of their most respected heroes has now joined the ranks of Republicans. It says to African Americans, “You know who he is; you know of his compassion, you know of his achievements, and you know you can trust him.” Nominating Ben Carson would cause both black and Hispanic voters to listen to him. African Americans and Hispanics will give Ben Carson an opportunity to make his case for their votes. By voting for Ben Carson, many will be voting for their long time hero and role model. They know his word is good. They know he is a man who can be trusted to do what he says. And, they know he’s not just another politician.

It is true that Hispanics do not have the depth of knowledge or length of relationship that African Americans have had with Ben Carson. However that same national survey conducted in March of 2015 that showed 54% of African Americans would consider voting for Ben Carson also showed that 60% of Hispanics surveyed would consider voting for him. This is not surprising when you consider that Hispanics do not have a long-standing animosity for Republicans that black Americans have.

The very fact that Ben Carson escaped poverty to live the American dream and become a famous doctor places him in a positive light with aspiring Hispanics. They know that Ben Carson can identify with their own economic situation. They trust that the policies and administration of
President Ben Carson will help open the doors to their own personal success and that of their children. And, since according to polls, 80% of whites, blacks, Asians, and Hispanics trust medical doctors, Carson has already established a bond of trust with them.

The final thing that gives Ben Carson unique standing in the black and Hispanic communities is that he was never a Republican until it became necessary in order to run as a Republican candidate for president. In fact, during the Clinton years he became disenchanted with both political parties. This is what he wrote...

“Over the years, I found that no political party really represented my views of fairness, decency, and adherence to the principles set forth by the United States Constitution in 1787. So I became a registered Independent...”

African Americans and Hispanic Americans will readily identify with this position, especially those black and Hispanic Americans who believe in traditional values, common sense, modesty, and hard work. They, along with Dr. Carson, share his distrust of both Republican and Democrat elected officials who have not been faithful to the principles of the United States Constitution.

Ben Carson himself experienced the same misgivings about the Republican Party that most African Americans and Hispanics have today. In short, he didn’t trust Republicans to do what they say. This is the story he tells about why he voted for Jimmy Carter instead of Ronald Reagan...

“Although Reagan’s logical approach to many of our social and international problems appealed to me, he was a Republican. Because of my bias in favor of the Democratic Party, I figured Reagan must, by definition, be greedy, selfish, and callous toward the poor.”

In other words, Ben Carson was then just like many black and Hispanic Americans are today, distrustful of all Republicans. He liked what Reagan had to say, but believed what the Democrats said about him, that he was a bad person. However, Ben Carson eventually learned the truth...

“As I got to know more Republicans and conservatives, however, I came to realize that many of my political beliefs were based on nothing other than propaganda, and that there were just as many decent Republicans as there were decent Democrats.”

Who could possibly be more effective in communicating the truth about conservatives and the Republican Party to black and Hispanic Americans than a man who himself distrusted conservatives and Republicans? Who else could possibly convince these voters to defect from the Democrat Party and its false promises to vote for a Republican candidate for president?

Black and Hispanic voters understand that Ben Carson has overcome the same obstacles, the same biases, the same challenges that they have faced. They believe him. They trust him. And many, if not most, African Americans and Hispanics will vote for him on Election Day 2016. He will start with that base of 37% of African Americans who self-identify themselves as conservatives and work up the ladder from there. Ben Carson will call black Americans back to their historic home in the Republican Party, and many, if not most, will answer his call.

The Republican Party has two choices. It can either slowly rebuild its relationship with African Americans over a period of decades, or it can fast-
forward that relationship by selecting Ben Carson as its nominee for president in 2016. If it chooses to do neither, it risks going the way of the dinosaur.

By nominating Ben Carson, the GOP can re-connect with African Americans. The results of national survey conducted by The Polling Company alluded to earlier showing that 54% of African Americans will consider voting for Ben Carson convinces me that the Republican Party has a historic opportunity to win over black voters in numbers not seen since Dwight Eisenhower ran for president in 1952. That survey also shows that nominating Ben Carson will give the GOP an opportunity to win a very sizable share of the Hispanic vote. With Ben Carson at the top of the ticket, a man who is almost universally trusted in the African American community, the Republicans can win a large share of the African American and Hispanic vote in 2016!

Remember, in 2012, internal polling by the Herman Cain campaign indicated that Cain was backed by more than 40% of African Americans and by more than 60% of Hispanic Americans. The Cain campaign was astounded and frankly puzzled by these numbers. How could Herman Cain be supported so strongly by the African American and Hispanic American communities when he would be running against a black incumbent president, Barack Obama? It didn’t seem to make any sense. Their conclusion was that a large number of both African Americans and Latinos identified with Herman Cain’s life experience and hoped to escape poverty and achieve success like he did. Apparently Herman Cain was a role model whose success they sought to emulate.

There’s no doubt about it, Herman Cain is well-liked in the African American community. He escaped poverty to become very successful in the business world, and his parents brought him up as a Bible believing Christian. But, even Herman Cain would not argue that he does not have the status or trust in the black community that Ben Carson possesses.

In 2014, the National Draft Ben Carson for President Committee tested the political drawing power of the Ben Carson name with black and Hispanic voters. The Committee spent $312,000 on North Carolina radio ads run on black and Spanish speaking radio stations urging these voters to vote for Thom Tillis, the Republican candidate for U.S. Senate. The ads all closed with this line...

“Ben Carson trusts Thom Tillis. You should too.”

Why did the National Draft Ben Carson for President Committee (now The 2016 Committee) run these ads? The reason was that in October 2014, Dr. Carson said that his decision to run would hinge on the GOP capturing control of the U.S. Senate.

It now appears that the Committee’s money was well spent. By all indications, the radio ads the Committee ran in North Carolina provided the margin of victory to Thom Tillis. In 2008, when Senator Elizabeth Dole was running for re-election, she lost the race because she only received 1% of the black vote. Two months prior to the 2014 election, that was exactly the same percentage of black Americans supporting Thom Tillis for U.S. Senate. However, as the ads kept running, support from the African American community for Tillis continued to climb. By Election Day, they hit 11.9% statewide.

Interestingly, this happened even though the Committee was financially unable to run ads in the Northern crescent and the Southern tier of North
Carolina where there is a heavy concentration of black voters. Nevertheless, Thom Tillis still won 11.9% of the African American vote statewide.

On election eve, prior to any election returns coming in, Bob Beckel (reporting on the Fox News Channel) blurted out, “I’m reading an exit poll from North Carolina, and it says that Thom Tillis won 18% of the black vote. That can’t be right!” It now appears that it was right, at least in the polling area where that exit poll was taken.

The ads run by the National Draft Ben Carson for President Committee reached approximately two-thirds of all African American voters in North Carolina. If you do the math and assume that Thom Tillis won only 1% of the black vote in the areas not reached by the ads and won 18% of the vote in the areas where two-thirds of African Americans lived the statewide black vote for Tillis would have been approximately 12% which is exactly what the final vote tally was.

The bottom line is that the Committee’s ads moved black voters dramatically toward the Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, persuading them that incumbent Senator Kay Hagen did not support their interests.

And, since Thom Tillis won by a razor thin margin, less than 2%, it appears that the Committee’s ads made the difference.

Now, if Thom Tillis can win as much as 18% of the black vote and Herman Cain was winning more than 40% of the black vote in 2012, isn’t it logical to conclude that Ben Carson, who has been an icon in the black community for decades, would be even more successful than Herman Cain?

But, suppose Ben Carson receives just 17% of the black vote. Did you know that if he receives just 17% of the black vote and 40% of the Hispanic vote, it becomes mathematically impossible for Hillary Clinton or any other Democrat to win in 2016?

Of course, no candidate for president deserves our support just because he or she can win. As we shall see, however, Ben Carson may well be the most prepared, the most principled, and the most capable candidate the GOP can nominate and run for president in 2016. On top of that, he is the one candidate for president who is sure to win!

That confidence is founded upon extensive baseline testing and on the surprising support that Herman Cain received when he ran for president in 2012. As you can see, by winning a very large share of the black and Hispanic vote, it becomes very difficult for any Democrat to win the White House.

Of course, Democrat politicians know this. They know that they must win nearly all of the black vote and nearly 75% of the Hispanic vote to win the White House. That’s why they fear Ben Carson more than any other candidate. They know that their grasp on power is hanging by the thread of the despicable lie that all conservatives are racists. Today they use the words conservative and racist interchangeably.

In the 2014 election we saw shameful attempts to play the race card. In Georgia, for example, the Republican nominee for U.S. Senate, businessman David Perdue, was the subject of vicious and dishonest advertising in the black community. The Georgia Democrat Party endeavored to scare black voters by linking Perdue to the Ferguson, Missouri, police officer shooting of an unarmed young black man. Fortunately, this smear effort by Democrat operatives backfired. Nevertheless, the leaders of the Democrat Party have shown that they will go to extreme lengths to “spike” the black vote in crucial elections, by demonizing Republicans.
It’s no wonder most black voters, and many Hispanic voters, do not trust Republicans. For too many years Republicans have ignored these voters, and the result is that black and Hispanic voters have heard only one side of the story when it comes to conservative Republican candidates. The good news is that while minority voters may not trust any other Republican candidate, they have confidence in Dr. Ben Carson. For nearly three decades, before he ever talked about politics in public, they have respected and admired Ben Carson.

But, make no mistake about it, the attacks on Ben Carson as the Republican nominee for president will be vicious, unrelenting, and mean. Recently, an American Thinker blog warned...

“In the coming months expect a political assassination initiative against Dr. Carson that will cause ‘Palinization’ and the Herman Cain political assassination to pale.”

So fearful are progressives that their lie that Republicans and conservatives are racist will be exposed as a fraud, they reserve their most poisonous venom for conservative African Americans like Ben Carson. For the Democrat politicians, politics means power, and they will fight like a cornered tiger to stay in power. Letting Ben Carson win the White House would forever destroy their false narrative that conservatives and Republicans are racists. It would also derail their dream of turning the United States of America into a top down socialist state.

Yes, the Democrats and their allies in the mainstream news media will do their best to smear and slander Ben Carson as a traitor to his race. They will say that because he has become successful he is out-of-touch with African Americans and Hispanics. They may even call him an “Uncle Tom” or an “Oreo” but, as the failed attack on Ben Carson by the Southern Poverty Law Center proved, it won’t stick. Such attacks will be hard to swallow in regard to a man who has never forgotten his roots, and done so much personally to increase educational opportunities for black and Hispanic Americans through his foundation. Ben Carson’s actions match his words. That is the reason he has been held in such high regard by these communities for many decades.

The left’s fear and venom were on public display as they launched vicious personal attacks on Associate Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas during his confirmation hearings. And, as the number of black Republican office holders continues to grow, the intensity of attacks on them by the left will increase. In the 2014 election, the Republican Party made history by electing the first black Republican woman to Congress, Mia Love. It also elected the first popularly elected African American Congressman from Texas, Will Hurd. And, perhaps more significant, it elected the first black man to serve in both the House of Representatives and the United States Senate, as well as being the first popularly elected African American Senator from South Carolina, Tim Scott. Shamefully, not one word of these historic elections was made by the NAACP. If Dr. King was alive he would certainly be celebrating these election victories, and he would be aghast at the partisan attitude of the NAACP. Today’s NAACP seems to simply be an appendage of the Democrat Party.

Speaking of partisan attitudes and vicious attacks, who can forget the infamous article in USA Today by Julianne Malveaux who expressed hope that Associate Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas would succumb to an early death? Or even the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) firing of liberal journalist Juan Williams, who had the temerity to speak out on the Fox News Channel expressing his concern about young, turban wearing Middle Eastern
men boarding an airplane he was riding shortly after 9/11? And we can’t ignore the scathing verbal assaults on Walter Williams, Thomas Sowell, Shelby Steele and many, many others, including Dr. Ben Carson. This is just a small sampling of some of the outrageous insults that have come Dr. Carson’s way since he spoke at the 2013 National Prayer Breakfast...

“...he’s got intellectual tumors in his mind...”

“Carson is a monster...and should stay in the operating room.”

“Sadly, he’ll continue to be the worst thing that happened to us since he opened his mouth.”

Why are African American conservatives subject to such wild and histrionic attacks by the left? Why do liberals become unhinged when a conservative black American speaks out or gets elected to public office? The last comment about Ben Carson being “…the worst thing that happened to us since he opened his mouth” explains the fear of the left. Yes, indeed, Ben Carson will be the worst thing that happened to the Democrat Party and to the left. The left well understands the high regard with which Dr. Carson is held in the African American community. They know that he is trusted and loved by millions of black Americans. They rightly fear that their attacks on Ben Carson will fall on deaf ears. And, in their heart, they know that if Ben Carson is the Republican nominee for president in 2016, he will win, no matter who they run for president. That’s why they practically become unhinged at the very thought of Ben Carson becoming the Republican nominee for president.

For the Democrats, especially black Democrat politicians, it is a matter of political survival. There is no group of Americans that threatens the survival of the Democrat Party more than black conservatives such as Dr. Benjamin Carson. Black Democrats are particularly fearful of a Carson nomination. There is no other group of elected officials that is so out of touch with their constituency as African American office holders. While polls show that a large number of black Americans want low taxes, school choice, a strong national defense, a secure border, and less abortion, their political leaders take an opposing view on these issues.

And while at least 37% of African Americans agree with conservative Republicans on the issues, they have been persuaded to believe that all conservatives are racists. Understandably, they can’t make themselves vote for a Republican candidate. But, when that conservative message is carried by a black Republican, liberal black leaders are understandably threatened. Quite simply, black conservatives threaten the unjustified monolithic political grip that the Democrat Party has on the black community.

Why can we be confident that the attacks on Ben Carson will fall on deaf ears? Let’s go back to the attacks on the character of Clarence Thomas when he was nominated to serve on the United States Supreme Court. That’s when the true colors of the Democrat Party were revealed for everyone to see. Their racist attacks were shocking for their meanness and severity. Clarence Thomas accurately described the attacks as a “high tech lynching for uppity blacks.”

Amazingly, even after the most outrageous and foul attacks on Clarence Thomas, his support in the black community remained above 60% among both men and women. It was argued by Jane Mansbridge and Katherine Tate, in the pages of Political Science & Politics, that this strong support for Justice Thomas was based on a perception by African Americans that the senatorial confirmation hearings for Clarence Thomas amounted to an attack on the character of a black man who had been nominated for a position of
high honor. In other words, the higher the position or office, the more likely the African American community will rally behind a black conservative candidate. Presuming Mansbridge and Tate to be correct, personal attacks on Ben Carson will also result in the black community standing up for Carson because such attacks will be perceived as an attack on the character of all black men. The Democrat leadership has a right to be terrified. Here’s why...

As noted previously, if a Democrat candidate for president loses just 17% of the black vote, the race automatically becomes dead even. And, if, in addition, that candidate wins more than 40% of the Hispanic vote, he wins every swing state going away. Remember, Mitt Romney received just 27% of the Hispanic vote. If Ben Carson is the GOP nominee, it is likely he will receive more than 40% of the Hispanic vote. Therefore, Carson winning just 17% of the black vote will be more than enough to win handily. And, of course, the fact that Carson will be a stronger candidate and a better communicator than Romney only increases the odds that he will win in 2016.

Think about it. Clarence Thomas received 60% support from the black community, and Herman Cain’s internal polls showed him winning more than 40% of the black vote and more than 60% of the Hispanic vote. It would be illogical to believe that an even more revered figure in the African American community, Ben Carson, would receive less support from both black and Hispanic voters.

Realistically, candidate Carson should receive as strong or even stronger support from African Americans and Latino Americans than did Herman Cain, regardless of the personal attacks on him. In fact, such personal attacks may well backfire against the Democrats and cause a larger black vote for Ben Carson.

Why should the Republican Party pay attention to minority voters? Why shouldn’t they just concentrate on winning sixty or even seventy percent of the white vote in order to win? The answer is that to follow that course of action is a dead end street that ends in disaster for the GOP.

If Ben Carson is nominated by the GOP, it is possible that the Democrat Party will be set back 20 to 30 years politically. There is absolutely no reason why Ben Carson will not return the Republican Party to its historic support from the black community, perhaps even surpassing such support. Once the lie that conservatives and Republicans are racists is exposed, it will be impossible for the Democrats to put that genie back into bottle. It is important to remember that the black community moved rapidly from voting for the Republicans to voting for the Democrats in the 1930s. Why then should it be surprising to see that community change just as dramatically again in the 21st century?

To illustrate this proposition, take a look at the table shown below. It shows just what would have happened in 2012 (a very bad Republican year) if Mitt Romney had won just 17% of the black vote in the swing states of Virginia, Florida and Ohio. Not only was there a very low Republican voter turnout, there was also no effort aimed specifically at black and Hispanic voters. In fact, as noted earlier, it would be accurate to say that the Latino support for Romney reached a historic low in 2012. The statistics in the following table are taken from U.S. Census Bureau data.
Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Obama Vote</th>
<th>Romney Vote</th>
<th>Obama Total Votes</th>
<th>Romney Total Votes</th>
<th>Romney's Victory Margin</th>
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<td>VA</td>
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<td>118,830</td>
<td>2,827,403</td>
<td>2,814,906</td>
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</tbody>
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This table does not take into account any improvement in the Hispanic vote over 2012 when Romney received just 27% of that vote. Nevertheless, as you can see from the numbers, Virginia and Florida switch from Democrat to Republican, and Ohio is so close that a few more Hispanic votes, or a bigger voter turnout will tip the state to the GOP.

It is also worth noting that while there are still more legal immigrants from Mexico than there are from any other nation, China is now number two in immigration. In fact, in 2013, the top three immigrant nations were Mexico (195,028), China (71,798), and India (68,458). What is the significance of this? Well, in the 2014 mid-term election, according to exit polls, the GOP won nearly 50% of the Asian vote. This is the first time that has happened since Bob Dole ran for president in 1996. And, it is a stunning turnaround for the party that only won 26% of the Asian vote in 2012. The importance of this turnaround is highlighted by the fact that immigration from Asia is growing rapidly and may soon pass that of immigration from Mexico, Central America and South America. Winning that vote will become equally important for Republican candidates for president in the years ahead.

It is essential to remember that in 2012 there were a record number of black voters. That year, 66.2% of all eligible African American voters voted. For the first time in history, the black voter participation rate outdistanced the white voter turnout rate which was 61.4%. In fact, in 2012, Romney received more than a million less votes than did Bush in 2004, and only slightly more than John McCain in 2008.

Quite simply, Table 1 assumes that the Republicans would continue to fail at turning out their own base. Clearly, Romney was not a strong candidate. He was unattractive to black and Hispanic voters for a number of reasons, including the source of his wealth, his failure to campaign in black areas, the past positions of his religion on minority eligibility for leadership in The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, and the wariness of evangelical voters to vote for a Mormon.

Even with these liabilities, as you can see, had Romney received just 17% of the black vote, he would have run strongly in each of these three swing states. The reality is that in order for the GOP to win the White House in 2016, it must have a strong ground game, a strong candidate, and the willingness to fight for the votes of black, Hispanic, and Asian Americans.

Let’s assume that Ben Carson is the Republican nominee and he wins 37% of the black vote, the same percentage as the number of African Americans who identify themselves as conservatives in the polls. This is a very reasonable assumption based on the support that Herman Cain had in 2012 and the black support for Thom Tillis (thanks to the advertising efforts of the National Draft Ben Carson for President Committee) in 2014.

Again, we'll ignore the Hispanic vote and assume that there is no improvement in that area, even though in 2014 the Republican candidate for Governor of Texas, Greg Abbott, won 44% of the Hispanic vote. And, in that
same year, a number of Republican candidates won as much as 50% of the Asian vote. Obviously, winning 40% or more of the Hispanic vote and upwards of 50% of the Asian vote is clearly within reach of Ben Carson. Nevertheless, the following table assumes that in 2016, GOP nominee Ben Carson receives just 27% of the Hispanic vote and 26% of the Asian vote (just as Romney did in 2012). The only change is that Carson wins 37% of the black vote (the number of African Americans who identify themselves as conservatives according to the 2014 Wall Street Journal survey). It also assumes that the turnout in 2016 is the same as it was in 2012 (quite low). Look at what happens in Virginia, Florida, and Ohio...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>63% of Black Vote for Clinton</th>
<th>37% of Black Vote for Carson</th>
<th>Clinton Total Votes</th>
<th>Carson Total Votes</th>
<th>Carson's Victory Margin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VA</td>
<td>450,450</td>
<td>264,550</td>
<td>1,799,140</td>
<td>2,093,741</td>
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<td>695,520</td>
<td>408,480</td>
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<td>4,625,404</td>
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<tr>
<td>OH</td>
<td>440,370</td>
<td>258,630</td>
<td>2,687,603</td>
<td>2,954,706</td>
<td>267,103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As you can see, Ben Carson wins these key swing states in a huge landslide. This is what I suggested earlier. When you have a larger turnout, and win 44% of the Hispanic vote, 50% of the Asian vote, as well as 37% of the black vote, the size of the victory is even greater. Swing states become solid Republican states and Democrat states become swing states. Winning just 37% of the black vote turns the election into a Republican landslide. Such a huge defeat would decimate the Democrat Party and force it back from the extreme left toward the center.

These numbers show why the nomination of Ben Carson provides such a great opportunity to the Republican Party. It is a historic chance not only to win an election, but also eradicate the lie that Republicans and conservatives are racists. The nomination and election of Ben Carson will also take a huge step toward bringing Americans back together as one people with common goals and aspirations. It will signal the end of class warfare and the beginning of a new era of unity and harmony. It can be one of our nation’s finest hours.

By winning a huge, landslide victory, the GOP will be able to restore the American Dream for new generations of Americans, no matter the color of their skin or their place of origin. A Carson victory will also mean a return to Constitutional principles, traditional values and a strong, secure America.

It is clear that Ben Carson is the one candidate who can win over black and Latino voters in large numbers, thereby taking advantage of the demographic shift that is taking place in the United States. He can make that shift work to the benefit of the Republican Party, not against it.

Liberal politicians know that they are living on borrowed time. In their heart, they know that the lie they have been perpetuating that Republicans are racists and xenophobes will ultimately be exposed. That’s why they are so terrified.

Needing to win more than 83% of the black vote and more than 73% of the Hispanic vote is not just about the Democrat candidate for president winning an election; it is a matter of survival for the Democrat Party. If their support from African Americans, Latinos and other minorities slips, their future goes from optimism to desperation.
How scared are the Democrat politicians? They are terrified. That’s why they targeted black Republican Congressman Allen West and spent several million dollars to defeat him. In spite of that targeting, West nearly won, even in a heavily Democrat district. The Democrats targeted West not because he was the most conservative Republican in the GOP, or the most powerful Republican in Congress, but only because he is a black conservative and was a rising star in the Republican Party. His very existence as a United States Congressman was a threat to their lie that all conservatives are racists. This is how Allen West summed it up...

“I’m a threat to what the Democrat Party stands for. Why would they want to attack a 51-year-old, African-American who has served in the United States military for 22 years? Been married for 23 years, has a wife who’s accomplished — an MBA and a PhD — and two very exceptional daughters. Now what the heck do they want to attack that for? I think it’s one simple thing. They fear that. They fear that voice and that’s all there is to it, and I think that’s a shame.”

Allen West is right, Democrat politicians fear successful African Americans who don’t kowtow to their liberal view of the world. It’s important to understand that maintenance of this hideous lie is essential to the Democrats. Any reconciliation between Republicans and African Americans is completely unacceptable to them, and disastrous to their future. The last thing they want is harmony and unity in America between black and white Americans. They must continue to encourage anger and antagonism against conservatives and Republicans in order to maintain power.

And, frankly, black economic success also threatens them politically. They are fearful of the fact that today 38.4% of African Americans are comfortable inhabitants of America’s middle class. The Democrats have absolutely nothing to gain by African Americans climbing the economic ladder of success.

The Democrats’ grasp on power that hangs by the slender thread not only hurts Republicans politically, but worse yet, holds back poor Americans from participating in the American Dream. Today, 23.5% of all African Americans live in poverty, compared with 13% of all American households who live in poverty. The willingness with which the Democrats accept and even facilitate such continuing economic failure (whether intentional or unintentional) by black Americans exemplifies the disregard they have for, and the disservice they do to their black, Hispanic, and Asian supporters.

It is quite possible, even probable, that when this lie is exposed for what it is, the Democrats will be the recipients of an angry backlash from those to whom they have lied. After all, that is a natural human reaction. No one likes to be played for a fool, especially when the manipulator is claiming to be a friend. When that lie is exposed, do not be surprised if there is a dramatic shift in African American support from the Democrat Party to the Republican Party. That is the cataclysmic event that a Ben Carson candidacy is likely to precipitate.

Dr. Ben Carson has one final attribute that is unmatched by any other prospective 2016 Republican candidate for president. One of the reasons that Ronald Reagan won two landslide elections as president of the United States was his ability to speak over the news media, directly to the American people. Like Ben Carson, Reagan spoke softly, but in simple, understandable language that every American could understand. Not since Ronald Reagan
has the Republican Party had an opportunity to nominate a candidate for president with the powerful communications skills of Ben Carson.

Having those skills doesn’t make Ben Carson Ronald Reagan, but it’s undoubtedly one of the reasons that some have referred to Ben Carson as the black Ronald Reagan. Of course, no candidate can fairly claim to be Ronald Reagan. These are different times with different challenges and each man and woman has been created as a unique individual by God, each having his own strengths and weaknesses.

But, make no mistake about it, as Dr. Carson showed in his historic 2013 speech at the National Prayer Breakfast, he is blessed with an amazing ability to take complex issues and break them down into simple understandable terms that any American can understand. Great leaders have always been able to communicate clearly with their fellow citizens. This was not only an attribute of Ronald Reagan; it was also an attribute of Abraham Lincoln before him.

Using simple, every day terms, and clear unequivocal language, these men spoke with clarity to their fellow Americans at a critical moment in time. Their challenges were all different, the goals varied, but the words they spoke changed their lives, and that of the nation they led and loved. They spoke boldly, forcefully and inspirationally, sounding a clarion call to action.

The speech that changed Ronald Reagan’s life and ultimately returned America to greatness was given on behalf of Barry Goldwater, Republican candidate for president in 1964. The Goldwater campaign was struggling. The scurrilous attacks on Goldwater by the news media had successfully portrayed him as some sort of mad monster. The campaign was headed downhill.

It was at this moment that a few friends of Ronald Reagan persuaded him to make a televised speech to the nation. The Soviet Union was on the march around the globe. The United States was bogged down in a war in Southeast Asia, and the government led by Lyndon Johnson, had taken a sharp turn to the left. Government was growing; freedom was in retreat abroad and at home. The long-term future of the nation was in doubt.

When Reagan spoke, he was not a world leader, he was not even an elected official. In fact, at the time of his now famous October 27, 1964 speech, Ronald Reagan was best known as an actor. His speech was titled “A Time for Choosing.” This speech not only changed the course of Ronald Reagan’s life, it also ultimately affected the course of the United States.

Reagan’s speech is almost as timely today as it was when he gave it more than 50 years ago. Here are some important excerpts from that speech...

“Last February 19th at the University of Minnesota, Norman Thomas, six-times a candidate for president on the Socialist Party ticket, said, ‘If Barry Goldwater became president, he would stop the advance of socialism in the United States.’ I think that’s exactly what he will do.”

“But as a former Democrat, I can tell you Norman Thomas isn’t the only man who has drawn this parallel to socialism with the present administration, because back in 1936, Mr. Democrat himself, Al Smith, the great American, came before the American people and charged that the leadership of his Party was taking the Party of Jefferson, Jackson, and Cleveland down the road under the banners of Marx, Lenin, and Stalin. And he walked away from his Party, and he never returned until the day he died—because to this day, the leadership of that Party has been taking that
Party, that honorable Party, down the road in the image of the labor Socialist Party of England.”

“Those who would trade our freedom for the soup kitchen of the welfare state have told us they have a utopian solution of peace without victory. They call their policy ‘accommodation.’ And they say if we’ll only avoid any direct confrontation with the enemy, he’ll forget his evil ways and learn to love us. All who oppose them are indicted as warmongers. They say we offer simple answers to complex problems. Well, perhaps there is a simple answer—not an easy answer—but simple: If you and I have the courage to tell our elected officials that we want our national policy based on what we know in our hearts is morally right.”

“We cannot buy our security, our freedom from the threat of the bomb by committing an immorality so great as saying to a billion human beings now enslaved behind the Iron Curtain, ‘Give up your dreams of freedom because to save our own skins, we’re willing to make a deal with your slave masters.’

“You and I have the courage to say to our enemies, ‘There is a price we will not pay. There is a point beyond which they must not advance. Winston Churchill said, The destiny of man is not measured by material computations. When great forces are on the move in the world, we learn we’re spirits—not animals.’

“You and I have a rendezvous with destiny. We’ll preserve for our children this, the last best hope of man on earth, or we’ll sentence them to take the last step into a thousand years of darkness.”

Barry Goldwater lost the election in a landslide, but the clarity and commonsense of Ronald Reagan’s speech catapulted him onto the national stage. This actor and union leader became almost instantly the most recognized conservative leader in America. Two years later Ronald Reagan was elected Governor of California, the largest state in the nation. And, in 1980, he was elected president of the United States that was then in the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. In addition, the Soviet Union was at its height of power, expanding into Africa and threatening Western Europe.

You, of course, know the rest of the story. Ronald Reagan not only returned the United States to economic prosperity, he brought down the Soviet Union through the enactment of the Reagan Doctrine, thus winning the Cold War “without firing a shot,” as his friend, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said.

But, without that one timely speech in 1964, Ronald Reagan would have never entered the political scene, and the United States of America would not have experienced the economic renaissance he ushered in. Moreover, it is likely that the Soviet Union would still exist, and millions of Eastern Europeans would still be enslaved. That was the power of that one speech by Ronald Reagan.

In similar fashion, in the spring of 2013, a doctor by the name of Ben Carson was asked to give the keynote address at the National Prayer Breakfast. It was a very unusual invitation because only one other man, Billy Graham, had ever been asked to speak to the National Prayer Breakfast a second time.

Although President and Mrs. Obama, along with Vice President Biden, were also on the dais, for a few important minutes, the spotlight was on Dr. Ben Carson. He came to the breakfast concerned about the future of his
nation. He had no notes, but he spoke boldly, courageously and yet respectfully from the heart. In his speech Ben Carson said in part...

“I think particularly about ancient Rome. Very powerful. Nobody could even challenge them militarily, but what happened to them? They destroyed themselves from within. Moral decay, fiscal irresponsibility. They destroyed themselves. If you don't think that can happen to America, you get out your books and you start reading, but you know, we can fix it.”

“I think about these problems all the time, and my role model was Jesus. He used parables to help people understand things. And one of our big problems right now, and like I said, I'm not politically correct, so I'm sorry, but you know our deficit is a big problem. Think about it. ...our National Debt [is] 16.5 trillion dollars – you think that's not a lot of money? I'll tell you what! Count one number per second...You know how long it would take you to count to 16 trillion? 507,000 years – more than a half a million years to get there. We have to deal with this.

“What about our taxation system? [It's] so complex there is no one who can possibly comply with every jot and tittle of our tax system. If I wanted to get you, I could get you on a tax issue. That doesn't make any sense. What we need to do is come up with something that is simple.”

“When I pick up my Bible, you know what I see? I see the fairest individual in the universe, God, and He's given us a system. It's called tithe. Now we don't necessarily have to [make] it 10% but it's [the] principle. He didn't say, if your crops fail, don't give me any tithes. He didn't say, if you have a bumper crop, give me triple tithes. So there must be something inherently fair about proportionality. You make 10 billion dollars you put in a billion. You make $10 you put in $1... now some people say, that's not fair because it doesn't hurt the guy who made 10 billion dollars as much as the guy who made $10. Where does it say you have to hurt the guy? He's just put in a billion in the pot. We don't need to hurt him.”

“And I want to close with this story: two hundred years ago this Nation was involved in a war, the War of 1812. [The British] were winning that war and marching up the Eastern seaboard, destroying city after city, destroying Washington D.C., [they] burned down the White House. [Their] next stop was Baltimore. As they came into the Chesapeake Bay, there were armadas of [British] war ships as far as the eye could see. It was looking grim. Fort McHenry [was] standing right there [blocking their way to Baltimore]. General Armstrong, who was in charge of Fort McHenry, had a large American flag commissioned to fly in front of the Fort. The Admiral in charge of the British Fleet was offended. [He] said take that flag down. You have until dusk to take that flag down. If you don't take it down, we will reduce you to ashes.”

“There was a young, amateur poet on board by the name of Francis Scott Key, sent by President Madison to try to obtain the release of an American physician who was being held captive. He overheard the British plans. They were not going to let him off the ship. As dusk approached he mourned for his fledgling young Nation, and as the sun fell, the bombardment started. Bombs [were] bursting in air. He strained, trying to see, was the flag still there? [He] couldn't see a thing. All night long it continued. At the crack of dawn he ran out to the banister. He looked, straining his eyes, all he could only see [was] dust and debris.”
Then there was a clearing and he beheld the most beautiful sight he had ever seen – the torn and tattered Stars and Stripes still waving. And many historians say that was the turning point in the War of 1812. We went on to win that war and to retain our freedom. And, if you had gone onto the grounds of Fort McHenry that day, you would have seen at the base of that flag, the bodies of soldiers who took turns propping up that flag. They would not let that flag go down because they believed in what that flag symbolized. And what did it symbolize? One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The next day, The Wall Street Journal ran an editorial headlined Ben Carson for President. Like Ronald Reagan before him, Ben Carson was catapulted into the national political spotlight. In reality, that speech ignited the effort to nominate and elect Ben Carson as the next president of the United States.

Of course, the White House was incensed. And, not surprisingly, in less than three weeks the IRS came knocking on Ben Carson’s door. Apparently, the Administration was once again using the power of government to punish its political opponents. But that one speech put Ben Carson on the political map, and perhaps on the road to the White House.

Fortunately, the Obama Administration’s clumsy effort to shut up Ben Carson failed. Not surprisingly, the IRS found nothing wrong with Ben Carson’s tax filings. Moreover, from every nook and cranny in the nation, men and women, many of whom had never before been engaged in the political process, began calling for Ben Carson to run for president.

Just as Ronald Reagan’s communication skills enabled him to speak directly to the American people without the negative filtering of the national news media, Ben Carson has that same power of persuasion and credibility to talk directly to the American people and change the course of history. Some credit Ronald Reagan’s power of persuasion for his ability to win the White House in an uphill battle against an incumbent president, Jimmy Carter. Not only did Reagan win in an electoral landslide, but his political coattails were so strong that the Republican Party won control of the United States Senate for the first time since Harry Truman was president.

Being a great communicator is a strong political asset that will not only make Ben Carson a great presidential candidate, but also a great leader. Being able to cast a great vision for our nation and leading it in that direction requires the kind of communications skills that few possess.

As a concrete example of Ben Carson’s persuasive abilities and of the high regard in which he is held in the African American community, consider what happened on April 9, 2015 when he spoke at the annual convention of the National Action Network (NAN) that is headed up by Al Sharpton. The presentation of Ben Carson was not announced by Al Sharpton until the morning prior to the afternoon speech. When it was announced there were boos and protests by those attending. But, Al Sharpton told them that they should listen to Ben Carson with respect, and they did.

It is not an exaggeration to say that this was a decidedly hostile audience. In fact, when Al Sharpton spoke from the podium prior to his speech he said that he and Dr. Carson probably did not agree on any issue, and “I think Dr. Carson and I don’t even agree today is Wednesday.”

With that said and an introduction from A.R. Bernard, a political kingmaker in New York City and senior pastor and founder of the Christian
Cultural Center megachurch in Brooklyn, who called him “a leader,” Ben Carson spoke for nearly 30 minutes. At first the crowd was uneasy, but as Ben Carson laid out his conservative plan for America and related his life story, they warmed to his address. There were no boos, but lots of clapping and cheers for Dr. Carson. And, at the end, according to all reports, people were clamoring to meet him, and several announced on the spot that they were throwing their support behind Ben Carson in his race for the White House.

It is clear that Ben Carson is the only candidate in the race for the Republican nomination for president who could win over an audience like this one. The transformation that occurred at this event provides a crystal clear example of the courage, drawing power, and persuasiveness of Dr. Ben Carson. You should ask yourself what other candidate for president would have attended this event and been able to make a solid conservative case that would be accepted by this audience. This is one of the many reasons that Dr. Ben Carson should be the Republican nominee in 2016.

But, it takes more than the ability to give an inspirational speech to qualify someone to serve as president of the United States. This brings us to the second reason Ben Carson is the best choice for 2016—he will heal and unite our land.

It’s no wonder that some Democrat strategists have trouble sleeping at night. If Ben Carson is the 2016 GOP standard bearer, they will not only lose a large share of their black and Hispanic voter base, but also face a man who is a great communicator, and a great leader.

Nominating Ben Carson as the Republican standard bearer in 2016 will give them a case of heartburn from which they may never recover.
Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address was not what his listeners or the American people, North and South, expected. They expected a victory speech. The end was near for the South. The war was finally going well for the North. Thus, Lincoln’s listeners expected Lincoln to trumpet his success in conquering the South. They expected him to boast of his victory and to explain how he was going to punish the South. They wanted a war dance and revenge. Instead, Lincoln spoke words of reconciliation.

Lincoln saw his first responsibility was to win the war and preserve the American republic. He didn’t seek punishment or revenge. Instead he sought peace, reconciliation and harmony. Lincoln said in part...

“Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman’s two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said ‘the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.’

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.”

Lincoln sought reconciliation and harmony, while many in the North sought revenge and retribution. While Lincoln was unwilling to compromise the freedom won for African Americans, he wanted to heal the nation, and reconcile Southerner to Northerner and black to white. He was firm in his commitment to not only freeing the slaves, but also to their welfare and to their full rights as American citizens.

In Lincoln’s last public speech before he was assassinated, he expressed support for the voting enfranchisement of recently freed black Americans. Upon hearing Lincoln’s words, John Wilkes Booth, who was in the audience, was overheard to say, “This is the last speech he will ever make.” Indeed, just three days later, Booth, a white supremacist Democrat, killed President Abraham Lincoln. Not only was Lincoln’s dream of reconciliation set back a hundred years, so was his determination to grant the full rights of citizenship to African Americans.

Today, nearly 150 years after Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address, America is nearly as divided as it was when Lincoln spoke in 1865. In fact, a recent poll indicates that the issue of race relations has once again risen to become the top concern of many Americans. Sadly, this disunity and disharmony have been encouraged by President Obama and United States Attorney General Eric Holder. Moreover, it is highly unlikely that this effort will abate prior to the end of President Obama’s term in office. In fact, should Hillary Clinton, Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden or any other Democrat be elected president in 2016, such efforts are sure to continue. In fact, as previously noted, the encouragement of racial division is a political strategy deeply embedded in the Democrat Party. But such a strategy threatens the
very survival of our nation. As Abraham Lincoln said in a speech after being nominated to run for the United States Senate in 1858...

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

When President Obama, Hillary Clinton, Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden et al. encourage anger, jealousy, distrust and even hatred between Americans, they fail in their first task of leadership: American unity. Without unity, America is weak and vulnerable to the advances of our enemies around the globe. Without unity, America and Americans suffer. There is no advance without unity, there is no progress without unity, and there is no strength without unity.

One of the first challenges of our next president will be to restore American unity and harmony. This does not mean sweeping problems under the rug, but it does mean emphasizing the fact that the things that unite us as Americans are far greater and more important than the things about which we disagree. It means providing a vision of the future that is better for all Americans without any regard whatsoever to their nation of origin, their race, their sex, their age or their economic status. It means unifying Americans to face challenges that threaten the entire nation and persuading them to coalesce behind commonsense solutions to our nation’s most pressing problems. And it means reminding Americans of the foundational principles of our nation, our rich heritage of freedom, our many accomplishments, and our record of triumph in the face of danger or against seemingly insurmountable odds.

Let’s be honest. No other potential candidate for President of the United States on the Republican ticket is in a position to bring unity and harmony to our land as is Dr. Benjamin Solomon Carson. Yes, perhaps another candidate could squeak out a victory, but it would not be a victory of unity and harmony. America would remain a divided nation, a situation sure to be exacerbated by those in our society who wish to tear down our nation, not build it up.

Ben Carson is the one principled conservative running for President in 2016 who has the ability to reach out to all Americans, whether they are white, black, or have their roots in Mexico, Venezuela, Bolivia, Guatemala, Ecuador, China, India, Philippines or any other nation. As a Christian, Ben Carson understands that in the absence of justice, contrition, repentance and forgiveness, no healing of society can occur. No progress will be made in bringing harmony and unity to our land. Revenge, envy, jealousy destroy healing and unity. Leadership and policies driven by such attitudes only exacerbate disharmony and divide our nation.

Ben Carson earned the trust and the respect of men and women of all races and backgrounds before he ever entered the political arena. It is the existence of this trust that existed for many decades that uniquely places him in a position to heal and unite our nation. It is Dr. Carson’s character that has made him one of the most respected men in America by men and women of all races and backgrounds.

As an example of Dr. Carson’s character and colorblind approach to others, consider his outlook for those he served as a neurosurgeon...

“I was doing an interview on NPR and I was asked, ‘Why don’t you talk about race very often?’ And I said it’s because I’m a neurosurgeon -- and I got a very quizzical look. And I said, You see, when I take someone to the operating room, and I shave their head, and I open the scalp and take off bone flap, and open the dura, I am
then operating on the thing that makes that person who they are.
The skin has very little [to do] with who that person is. And it's
something that we have just allowed to define us and it really has
very little to do with who a person is.”

Dr. Benjamin Solomon Carson is uniquely gifted, positioned and
qualified to unite and lead our nation during these perilous times. Bringing
America together again is one of the reasons that Ben Carson is running for
president. Our Pledge of Allegiance is more than just words to Ben Carson, it
is what he believes our nation must be, “...one nation, under God, with liberty
and justice for all.”

For his entire life, Ben Carson has been a healer, someone who comforts
patients in distress, someone who brings people together, someone who is
trusted to work for the good of all. After all, healing is what the medical
profession is all about.

But more than that, American unity is the historic hallmark of our
nation. In fact, the words E Pluribus Unum are found on the Great Seal of the
United States and on all of our coins. Those Latin words translate as "out of
many one.” This was made the motto of the United States by the Continental
Congress in 1782 and it remained the motto of the United States until 1956
when it was replaced by the words “In God We Trust.” Nevertheless, the
words E Pluribus Unum still signify a powerful and uniquely American
concept. Initially, they referred to the creation of the United States out of the
thirteen colonies. More generally, they have been understood to also convey
the creation of the United States out of immigrants from many lands. In
other words, even though people emigrated here from every nation on the
globe, and even though they have different customs and different traditions,
we are all Americans, we are one people.

This concept is unique to the United States. If a Frenchman immigrates
to India and becomes a citizen of India, he will never be regarded as an
Indian. Similarly, if an Englishman immigrates to China and becomes a
Chinese citizen, he will never become Chinese. It is only when one
immigrates to America that he becomes “an American.” Dinesh D'Souza puts
it this way...

“America is not defined by blood or birth but by the adoption of the
country's Constitution, its laws, and its shared way of life. That's how
the Irish, the Italians, and the Jews, and today the Koreans, the
South Asians, and the West Indians, can all come to this country and
in time 'become American.'”

It is not only a wonderful concept, but one that is critical to America
moving forward in the 21st century. Regardless of our lineage, we have all
assimilated into being Americans, not Irish Americans or German Americans
or Mexican Americans—just Americans. This assimilation and unity is the
strength of our nation. While we are a diverse nation of many talents and
unique characteristics, it is not our diversity that makes us strong, it is our
unity that makes us impregnable as a nation. And, that is the reason the title
of Ben Carson's book is just that, "One Nation.”

Unity was the theme of the founding of our republic. Without unity we
could not have won our independence in the American Revolution. It was the
ideal of the Founders. It is the theme of Ben Carson's presidential campaign.

For Ben Carson, American unity and comity is not just a nice idea or an
ideal goal; it is absolutely vital to the survival and resurgence of our nation.
Without American unity that is built upon the founding principles of this nation, we will never again be the great and good nation that has defended freedom around the globe, and has generously come to the aid of others for nearly 240 years. The torch on the top of the Statue of Liberty figuratively and literally represents the United States as the beacon of freedom and justice to the world. Lady Liberty’s torch has welcomed millions from around the globe to not only be citizens of the United States, but, more importantly, Americans.

In 2004, a handsome young state senator from Illinois gave the keynote address at the Democrat National Convention. The speech Barack Obama gave that night was hopeful and optimistic. He referred to America as a “magical place” and as a “beacon of freedom and opportunity” to the world. He said that his parents gave him the name Barack, which means “blessed” because they believed that in America your name is no obstacle to success. And, he pointed out that in America, “…you don’t have to be rich to achieve your potential.”

Barack Obama said, “I stand here knowing that my story is part of the larger American story, that I owe a debt to all of those who came before me, and that in no other country on Earth is my story even possible.”

He continued, “Tonight, we gather to affirm the greatness of our nation not because of the height of our skyscrapers, or the power of our military, or the size of our economy; our pride is based on a very simple premise, summed up in a Declaration made over two hundred years ago: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal… that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

And, in his 2008 victory speech, President-Elect Barack Obama stated, “In this country, we rise or fall as one nation, as one people.”

This statement lent hope to the idea that America was finally entering a post-racial society, one where race and color did not matter, where the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would finally be realized that American...

“…children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

The speeches of Barack Obama were not only stirring and moving, they implied a desire for unity and harmony and they praised the greatness of America. But, sadly, they were apparently just words. With the election of Barack Obama, we were promised the advent of a post-racial society and a new era of harmony and racial reconciliation. Instead, what we received was a president and an attorney general who have, whether intentionally or unintentionally, divided Americans on the basis of race and any other difference that would create disunity. Instead of racial harmony, we have experienced the worst and most offensive efforts to divide the races. No effort has been made by the Obama White House and no effort will be made by a Hillary Clinton White House or an Elizabeth Warren White House to bring America together. If we elect Clinton, or Warren, or Biden or any other Democrat, we can expect four or eight more years of efforts to inflame racial division between white and black Americans.

The fact is that President Obama, Hillary Clinton, Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden and the Democrat Party in general, reject the vision of the United
States of America as a good, great and generous nation. They see the United States as neither good, nor great, nor generous. In fact, they see America as the source of almost all the problems in the world. So instead of wisely following the principles of America’s Founders, they seek a top down government where they, the self-identified “enlightened,” rule over the citizens of this land. Why? Because they believe they know better how we should live, how we should think and how we should act, than we do. In fact, they believe that they are ethically superior to those they wish to rule over. They don’t believe in American unity and assimilation under the ideals of the Founders, they believe in diversity, and, as Obama said in “fundamentally transforming America.” By transformation, they mean to undue the principles of the Founders and replace them with their dream of a socialist utopia. Consistent with their embrace of Saul Alinsky, who dedicated his book to Lucifer, Obama and Clinton have been seduced by the original sin in the Garden of Eden, wanting to be like God, to wield power over others.

These new Democrats are utopians. Instead of understanding that every nation makes mistakes because men are imperfect, they seek an ideal that has its roots in the French Revolution. They reject the idea of Godly wisdom, and instead seek to replace it with human reason.

And, because they are convinced that their cause is right and just, they believe the ends justify the means. Apparently, that’s why they have intentionally set Americans against each other. They have encouraged anger and jealousy by workers against employers. They have promoted division between men and women and between younger Americans and older Americans. Instead of encouraging success, they seek to create rage against the successful, by those trapped in poverty (ironically by their own policies). They wish to punish achievement, and make our nation repent and suffer for the wrongs they believe it has done. And, perhaps most destructive of all, they have set one race or ethnic group against another solely for political gain.

Their plan of action is to divide and conquer, so that they can live as princes and potentates, while those they rule over suffer. Theirs is the path to tyranny. But, President Ben Carson will call upon the American people to reject the twin evils of jealousy and envy. As president he will set a tone of civility, respect for the law and equal justice under the law. He will accord his opponents the respect they deny him. However, Ben Carson will never abandon the principles of the Founders or initiate policies detrimental to the United States for political gain.

President Benjamin Carson will emphasize and promote the things that unify us as Americans: love of country, faith in God, belief in fairness, a desire for justice, common decency, civil discourse, generosity, courage and opportunity for all. By his own example, President Carson will lead America up from the valley of envy and jealousy, to the mountain top of harmony and goodwill. There is nothing that better personifies the vision of Ben Carson than a desire that Americans work together, live together and succeed together in peaceful accord. Ben Carson is a man of his word.

Ben Carson’s moral leadership and emphasis on the importance of good character and hard work will provide inspiration and healing to all Americans. His campaign and his Administration will signal the coming together of America, united by common goals and common aspirations. Like Ronald Reagan’s theme, morning in America, Ben Carson’s message is one of goodwill and hope for all Americans.
Ben Carson is Prepared to Serve

When former U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese was asked how Ronald Reagan, an actor who had never before held public office, could become an effective governor and a great president, he said that the key to Ronald Reagan’s success was four strengths...

1. Principles. Ronald Reagan had firm principles of governance that guided him in all decisions.

2. Vision. Ronald Reagan had a clear vision of where he wanted to take the nation.

3. People. Ronald Reagan understood people. He knew how to work with them to accomplish his objectives.

4. Persuasion. Ronald Reagan had the ability to bring together men with different points of view, as well as millions of Americans, and persuade them to follow him.

General Meese said that Ronald Reagan had been a leader early in his life. He was elected student body president at his high school, senior class president at his college, and he became an officer in the Army shortly after leaving college.

Similarly, Ben Carson has a lifelong history of leadership and executive experience. As mentioned previously, he was named corps commander of all ROTC units in the City of Detroit in just three years. And, because he set a record on the ROTC examination for officer, Carson was offered a commission to West Point. Similarly, in 1984, at just 33 years of age, he was named the youngest major division head of Johns Hopkins University Hospital in its more than one hundred year history.

Ben Carson not only ran a multi-hundred million dollar division at Johns Hopkins University Hospital, he also started and served as CEO of a nonprofit that operates in all fifty states. In addition, he has served for nearly two decades on the board of two multi-billion dollar corporations—Costco and the Kellogg Company.

As noted in the previous chapter, Ben Carson has been forced to make life and death decisions quickly, and under tremendous pressure. This is the kind of experience few have before becoming president, yet the ability to make the right decision under extreme stress is critical to success and to the security of the United States.

General Meese said that one of the most important attributes of Ronald Reagan was his character. He observed that President Reagan was a humble man, even as president. He was honest and straightforward. Clearly, in the mind of General Meese, character is one of the most important, if not the most important, attributes of a great president.

While former U.S. Attorney General Meese has not endorsed the presidential candidacy of Ben Carson, he made it clear that he greatly admires him as a man of character.

The life and career of Ben Carson have many parallels with that of Ronald Reagan. Both were born poor. Both benefitted greatly from having a Godly mother. Reagan was and Carson has been a leader since a young age.

Like Reagan, Ben Carson is a humble man of good character. A good illustration of his humility and his character is the story of what happened to
him when he was a young doctor at Johns Hopkins. Here is that story in Carson’s own words...

“...when I was an intern at Johns Hopkins back in 1977, the sight of a black physician was decidedly rare. Often when I would go onto a hospital ward while wearing my surgical scrubs, a nurse would say, ‘I’m sorry, but Mr. Patient is not quite ready to be taken to the operating room yet,’ assuming that I was an orderly. After many years of hard work to achieve the title of doctor, many might say that I would have been justified in reacting angrily to the suggestion that I was an orderly, especially given the racial overtones of the misunderstanding. However, I tried to look at things from the nurse’s perspective. The only black males she had seen come onto that ward wearing surgical scrubs were orderlies who were coming to pick up or deliver a patient. Why would she think differently in my case? A highly sensitive individual would have created a scene and everyone would have felt uncomfortable. I would simply say in those situations, ‘I’m sorry that Mr. Patient isn’t ready yet, but I’m Dr. Carson and I’m here for another reason.’”

“The offending nurse would often be so embarrassed that I actually felt sorry for her or him and would say, ‘It’s quite all right and you don’t need to feel bad.’ I would be very nice to that person, and I would have another friend for life.”

As you can see, Dr. Ben Carson shares the four strengths that Ed Meese identified as the key to Ronald Reagan’s success as governor and as president...

1. Principles. Ben Carson firmly believes in the Founders’ principles of a limited government, a strong national defense, a sound financial foundation and traditional values.
2. Vision. Ben Carson’s vision is clear. He will return America to fiscal sanity, replace Obamacare with health savings accounts, lower taxes, end class warfare, eschew political correctness, rebuild our military and re-establish respect for America around the globe.
4. Persuasion. Ben Carson is blessed with the ability to persuade differing parties to reach solutions that are in the best interest of the United States of America. His power of persuasion will not only enable him to lead our nation in the right direction, but also help to heal and unify our nation.

But, just as the Republican establishment did not immediately embrace Ronald Reagan, it is slow to embrace Ben Carson. Ben’s not a member of the “club” even though he played a valuable role in electing a Republican majority to the U.S. Senate in 2014.

Truthfully, it will take an outsider, a non-politician such as Ben Carson to get our nation back on track, just like it took Ronald Reagan, another Washington, D.C. outsider, to restore freedom and prosperity to our land.

Of course, Ben Carson’s detractors say that Ben Carson is a nice fellow, an outstanding doctor, articulate and right on the issues, but they’re not sure he’s ready to be president. They are concerned that he is not a politician and has never been elected to public office. Of course, virtually all of these comments come from politicians.
As far as having previously been elected to public office is concerned, his detractors are right, he has not been elected to public office, and thank goodness. All of our current problems have been created by career politicians from both political parties. The United States doesn’t need more “inside the beltway” political experience in its next president; it needs a man blessed with great insight, common sense, calm strength and Godly wisdom. America needs a strong leader, a man of character, a president with a clear vision and someone with experience in making hard decisions under pressure.

Perhaps it is not an accident that Ben Carson’s middle name is Solomon. Solomon, at less than 20 years of age, with no experience whatsoever, became the King of Israel. Yet, Solomon was the greatest leader of the world as it existed at that time. Why was Solomon so successful? The explanation is provided in the Bible...

“In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. He said, ‘What can I give you?’ Solomon responded, ‘You’ve shown great love to my father David, who was your servant. He lived in your presence with truth, righteousness, and commitment. And you continued to show him your great love by giving him a son to sit on his throne today. Lord my God, although I’m young and inexperienced, you’ve made me king in place of my father David. I’m among your people whom you have chosen. They are too numerous to count or record. Give me a heart that listens so that I can judge your people and tell the difference between good and evil. After all, who can judge this great people of yours? The Lord was pleased that Solomon asked for this. God replied, ‘You’ve asked for this and not for long life, or riches for your self, or the death of your enemies. Instead, you’ve asked for understanding so that you can do what is right. So I’m going to do what you have asked. I’m giving you a wise and understanding heart so that there will never be anyone like you. I’m also giving you what you haven’t asked for—riches and honor—so that no other king will be like you as long as you live. And if you follow me and obey my laws and commands as your father David did, then I will also give you a long life.’

And, that is exactly what happened. Solomon’s wisdom was so great that he became known and revered throughout the ancient world. Kings and queens traveled to see him to gain wisdom. And the people of Israel prospered as never before, and never since. Solomon was the greatest ruler in the history of Israel, and perhaps in the entire world. What America needs today is not intelligence, or education, or experience, it is wisdom. And, wisdom is a gift that only God can give.

Consider also the rule of Queen Victoria of Great Britain. Ascending the English throne at age eighteen, Victoria went on to become the greatest monarch in the history of England. And, what was the source of Queen Victoria’s wisdom? That wisdom is perhaps best personified in a portrait that hangs in the National Portrait Gallery in London titled “The Secret of England’s Greatness.” Set in Windsor Castle, the focus of the painting is Queen Victoria who is presenting a Bible to an unidentified African leader dressed in tribal garb. Some have speculated that the unidentified man in the painting is a former Muslim from Zanzibar. Whether the painting reflects an actual event or is just symbolic of the Queen’s deep faith in God is really unimportant. The clear message is that Queen Victoria believed the Bible was the strength and source of the greatness of Great Britain.
Like King Solomon and Queen Victoria, Ben Carson seeks Godly wisdom each day of his life from the Bible. He has read all of it, but he has found particular strength from his daily reading of the book of Proverbs.

In many ways, Dr. Ben Carson is one of the most qualified men to aspire to be president. As noted, very few politicians have faced life and death crises prior to assuming the responsibilities of being president. Even fewer have been personally responsible for making a split second decision that will determine if someone lives or dies. As a pediatric neurosurgeon he has led surgical teams that encountered numerous medical emergencies that called for an instant decision that would either lead to life or to death. Time after time, Dr. Carson made the right decision under extreme pressure. He has a long track record of calmly making the right decision in extremely stressful situations that saved the life of a patient. No profession demands more intelligence and wisdom or causes greater stress than being a neurosurgeon who must often work fast and precisely. Under great pressure, working against the clock, and without any mistakes, the surgeon works to save the life of a patient. In thousands of operations, Dr. Ben Carson has calmly, carefully and wisely reached the right decision that saved a life and restored health. This is the kind of man America needs as our president. Not someone who first worries about the political impact of his decision, but rather a president who is concerned with making a decision that is in the best interest of the American people.

Career politicians in Washington, D.C. and all statewide office holders carry political baggage, even those who have served for just a short period of time in office. They have obligations to special interests that helped them get elected and re-elected. Nearly every senator or congressman from both parties has made use of earmarks to bring home pork to his constituents. They have made deals to help one another get re-elected, but not necessarily to benefit their constituents or the United States of America. They have raised their own salaries, and excluded themselves from laws they voted for and expect us to obey. Politicians have become the ruling class of America. As residents of Washington, D.C. (not their local community) they have isolated themselves from the problems that the average American faces. The United States Congress has even exempted its members and its staff from Obamacare. Politicians no longer see themselves as public servants, but instead, as the masters of the American people.

These “experienced” politicians, Democrat and Republican, have brought this nation to the brink of financial collapse through reckless spending that has created a National Debt that will soon reach 20 trillion dollars! They have created bureaucracies that choke the economy with regulations, tell you and me what we should eat, how we should heat our homes, what kind of car we are allowed to drive, even what kind of light bulb we can use. They see themselves as smarter and wiser than we are, and they will continue to add more regulations and pass more laws unless and until a president is elected who says, “enough, just stop.”

Governors, like senators and congressmen, are deal makers. In fact, even more than members of congress, governors wield great power through patronage. They, too, owe favors to those who helped them get elected.

This is what Ben Carson has to say about high political office being limited to career politicians:
“We’ve been so brainwashed that we’ve come to believe that in order to assume a leadership position in this country, you have to have a certain pedigree.”

“What’s much more important is that you have wisdom...that you have a record of achievement.”

Instead of a career politician, America needs a president as envisioned by the Founders, someone who makes a personal sacrifice to serve his fellow citizens. It was the Founders’ hope that high public offices would be filled by “citizen statesmen” who would use their talents, experience, values and intelligence to bring good government to the American people. They wanted men who didn’t see the United States Constitution as an impediment to their gaining power, but rather as a rock solid protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens.

Dr. Ben Carson often speaks of and writes about Dr. Benjamin Rush, one of the five doctors who signed the Declaration of Independence. Dr. Rush was a leading light of the American Revolution. In fact, when Dr. Rush died, he was considered by his contemporaries as being second only to George Washington and Benjamin Franklin among the Founders of our nation. This is what Dr. Rush advised his fellow citizens about public service...

“He must love private life, but he must decline no station [office], however public or responsible it may be, when called to it by the suffrages [votes] of his fellow citizens.”

In other words, public office should not be something to be grasped for personal gain and the accrual of power or wealth, but rather something to be called to by your fellow citizens who see in you the character and wisdom to govern wisely. Public office holders were to be public servants, not rulers who intruded into the lives of average Americans.

This is not only the view of Dr. Rush, but virtually of all the Founders. The Founders weren’t just lawyers. They were men like George Washington, a successful farmer and military man who was steeped in integrity and virtue. Among their number were ship builders, doctors, merchants, farmers, ministers, inventors, a music composer and men from virtually all walks of life. They were elected president and to Congress by their fellow citizens because they were intelligent men of character who could be trusted to abide by the letter and the spirit of the United States Constitution.

Today, Congress and the White House are filled with professional politicians—mostly lawyers. Many of these men and women, including President Obama, have never had a private sector job in their life. In other words, they have never worked in a job that provided services or goods in the free market. They have never started a business, met a payroll, managed a project, trained a new hire, lived within a budget or reached a goal to keep their job. Most politicians’ understanding of how free enterprise works and how society functions is sorely lacking. Their career is politics, their life is politics, their goal is reelection, and that’s why they have created the mess that our nation is now in.

But, some say that the election of citizen statesmen worked out fine in the 1700s when the United States was a small, isolated nation, but it won’t work today because the United States is now a world power. They say that we now live in a different world, and the United States is a different nation, with more than 317 million citizens. But, the problems of the world are the problems of men and their relationship to other men. They are the same problems of
greed, envy, a lust for power and personal acclamation that have been with the world since the beginning of time. To claim that our challenges today are greater or more complex than those faced by the Founders of our nation or by Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War is simply hubris and ignorance. To say that diminishes the incredible obstacles that the Founders overcame to create this nation and to make it a success. It mocks the resolute courage of Abraham Lincoln, who refused to let slavery continue and let our nation be torn apart. The Founders and Lincoln faced greater challenges, overcame greater hurdles, and took greater risk than we will probably ever face. The Founders created the United States of America against all odds. Thirteen fledgling colonies defeated the most powerful nation on the face of the earth and then quickly became a world power. Lincoln refused overtures to make peace with the South at the price of continued slavery and a divided nation even when the pressure was intense within his own cabinet for him to do so.

Europeans were astounded that just fifty years after its founding, the United States was competing with the older European nations on every front. Never before in the history of the world had a new nation matured so fast and surpassed nations that had existed for hundreds of years before them. It was virtue and freedom that powered and energized the United States of America and set it apart as an exceptional nation within a very short time span. The United States left the European nations in its dust, as a free and good people reached for the stars.

Human nature has not changed since 1776. Men are still fallible human beings, susceptible to all forms of deceit and debasement. Government is still a dangerous power that must be controlled and limited, lest the freedom of its citizens vanish into a bureaucratic and political nightmare.

The United States of America doesn’t need another “experienced” career politician as its president. America needs a leader, a person of character who is dedicated to the United States Constitution, and who relies on Godly wisdom. Our president needs to have an understanding of the United States Constitution, an appreciation for the genius and exceptional talents of the American people, a steadfast love of America, and a philosophy of limited government that guides his decisions and the direction of his presidency. Great presidents have been visionaries and men of good character who led our nation through turbulence and disaster toward that “shining city on a hill,” as envisioned by John Winthrop, and often quoted by Ronald Reagan.

Ben Carson has all the makings of a great president. He is humble, he relies on God, and he has been blessed with incredible stamina, intelligence, wisdom and leadership skills. As the head of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University Hospital, he headed up a very large staff that included some of the finest physicians in the world. Some, like Dr. Carson, were humble, but others had huge egos and challenging temperaments that were managed and directed by the calm and wise Dr. Carson. And, under Ben Carson’s leadership, cutting edge innovations took place that saved lives and altered the course of medicine throughout the world. And, all the while he was doing this, Dr. Carson continued to operate, continued to write and continued to teach.

No other candidate for the Republican nomination for president has the breadth and depth of executive experience of Ben Carson. Dr. Carson’s qualifications to be president are certainly much more extensive and greater than a United States senator, most of whom have very limited executive
experience. Make no mistake, a number of United States senators have made very good presidents, just as have a number of men who never served in an elected position prior to being elected president.

And, as far as governors are concerned, only eighteen United States presidents served as a state governor before being elected president. If you limit qualification for president to someone who has served as a governor, you would eliminate John Adams, James Madison, Andrew Jackson, Harry Truman, John Kennedy, and Abraham Lincoln from the list of U.S. presidents. Clearly, the argument that Dr. Benjamin Carson, a visionary surgeon, author and business leader, does not have the necessary qualifications to be president, is spurious.

If Abraham Lincoln, a country lawyer who served one term in the United States House of Representatives before becoming president, could hold the nation together during one of the darkest times of our republic, then certainly a dedicated patriot, commonsense Christian, skilled businessman and brilliant brain surgeon has what it takes to serve as United States president during these perilous times. It is the height of arrogance to contend that only an experienced politician has what it takes to serve as president of the United States.

It’s like the old joke about the young man who inherited a huge sum of money. This young man wasn’t smart, but he was wise enough to know it. So, he decided to use his inheritance to pay for a brain transplant. He went to the brain transplant center and asked what brains were available. The person he spoke with said that they had some incredible brains including an astronaut’s brain. The young man asked how much the astronaut’s brain cost and he was told nine hundred thousand dollars. Then the brain center spokesman told him about a surgeon’s brains that cost a million dollars. Finally, the spokesman told him about politician’s brains and said they cost two million dollars. The young man exclaimed that he didn’t know politicians were that smart. The spokesman assured him that wasn’t the case; it was just that it took so many to have a complete brain.

It’s the kind of joke that Ronald Reagan might have told. And, everyone would have understood exactly what he meant. Few would challenge the fact that Ronald Reagan was among the greatest of American presidents.

Great presidents are, most important of all, leaders. They understand that it is not government that is great, but it is the American people, their faith and the freedom they exercise that makes America great. Great presidents, like Ronald Reagan, are guided by simple principles of right and wrong. Their judgment is sound. Like a great doctor, they analyze, they evaluate risk, and then they act, knowing that the fate of the nation lies in their hands.

What better person to do such analysis, evaluate risk, and then act than a brilliant, groundbreaking neurosurgeon who carries no political baggage, understands the role of government and appreciates the wisdom of the American people?

Based on his accomplishments, his life experience, his leadership, his political philosophy and his wisdom, it is logical to conclude that Dr. Benjamin Carson will make a great president. The question then becomes: what will a Ben Carson presidency look like?
Ben Carson on the Issues

Where does Dr. Benjamin Carson stand on the critical issues of the day? In his own words, this is where he stands on the following issues:

ABORTION

“How can a society that kills millions of innocent unborn babies and then labels anyone opposing the practice as ‘anti-woman’ claim even a modicum of goodness? How can a nation that uses its news media to subtly trash traditional families, promote a drug-filled lifestyle, and ridicule faith in God claim the mantle of righteousness?”—The Washington Times, April 16, 2014

AMERICAN COMPASSION

“When disasters occur in other countries, who is first on the scene with massive aid? The United States, of course. It does not matter whether the mishap befalls a friend or an enemy, we are always there. It doesn’t matter whether it’s a very poor country like Haiti or a very rich country such as Japan, we are still always there. Our compassion for and aid to other countries is unprecedented in the history of the world.”—America the Beautiful, pages 183-184

AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM

“...there has never been another nation like the United States of America. Yes, we have made mistakes, but we continue to learn from them, and as long as we remain capable of embracing life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as our goal, and we are willing to guarantee those things to our citizens, I believe we will continue to grow in greatness.”—America the Beautiful, page 194

AMERICAN GREATNESS

“Although it was an arduous road filled with obstacles and grueling hours, I was able to realize my dream because of the generous freedoms we enjoy here in our nation. It is this ability of anyone to achieve their dreams that is perhaps the greatest thing about America.”—America the Beautiful, page 184

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

“It is time to set aside political correctness and replace it with the bold values and principles that founded our nation and caused it to race to the pinnacle of the world faster than any other nation in history. It is time to stop apologizing and to start leading, because the world is desperately in need of fair and ethical leadership. If that leader is not America, who will it be, and where will they lead?”—America the Beautiful, page 195

BALANCING THE BUDGET

“I believe the logical approach would be to have each governmental agency and department trim its budget by 10 percent—with no exceptions. In each subsequent year, another 10 percent decrease would be required and would continue as long as necessary to bring the budget back into balance.”—America the Beautiful, page 109

CAPITALISM

“The concept of rewards for production lies at the foundation of capitalism and needs to be understood. The anticipation of rewards for being productive and the fear of consequences for being unproductive are great human motivators for both young and old. Historically, when these
motivators are removed, productivity declines. Nonproductive people frequently make excuses for their lack of production, and as long as they can utilize those excuses, they have no reason to change their ways. But motivate them and watch what happens."—America the Beautiful, pages 74 and 75

CIVIL RIGHTS AND RACISM

“I found that it was Republicans who were responsible for the abolition of slavery and for the passage of the Civil Rights Act. I also began to realize that it was not political biases that were largely responsible for the plight of African-Americans in our nation, but rather racist attitudes. After the many gains realized through the civil rights movement, racist people from both parties adopted a paternalistic attitude toward African-Americans and enacted federal and state programs designed to take care of people who couldn’t take care of themselves—people who were ignorant, stupid, or just plain lazy. In the process of being ‘do-gooders,’ both Republicans and Democrats removed much of the drive and determination from innumerable African-Americans, who found it easier to accept government charity than continue on a path of hard work and self-reliance.”—America the Beautiful, page 157

CLASS WARFARE

“Class warfare is an artificial division created for political advantage, and it should be rejected outright by the American people—for we have far too many real problems to devote energy to artificial ones.”—America the Beautiful, page 161

NATIONAL DEBT

“To saddle the next generation with unimaginable debt is not only callous, it is morally reprehensible. How can we even live with ourselves knowing that we are eroding the standard of living of the next generations with each dollar that we add to the national debt?”—America the Beautiful, page 108

EBOLA

“I [am]…not comfortable with the idea of bringing infected individuals into our midst when we can readily treat them elsewhere. We can happily receive them back once the infectious danger has passed. When one does a logical benefit-to-risk analysis, it is clear that the worst things that could happen by intentionally bringing this dangerous disease to America are far worse than the best things that could happen.”—The Washington Times, October 9, 2014

EDUCATION

“When we instill morals and values into the educational process for young people… we help them realize they have an obligation to become well educated and informed citizens, and to contribute to the system as opposed to draining it of its resources. Public prayer and discussion of common principles that strengthen society’s moral fabric are essential to establishing an atmosphere of courtesy and decency.”—America the Beautiful, page 59

ENERGY & THE ENVIRONMENT

“I thoroughly believe that we have a duty to protect our environment not only for ourselves but for the next generations. However, we also have a duty to develop our economic potential and free ourselves of unnecessary stress and dependency on volatile foreign sources of energy. As a bonus,
energy independence for us means decreased revenues for radical terrorist elements who aim to destroy our way of life.”—One Nation, page 150

ENTITLEMENTS
“The only reason I can imagine that it would be a good idea for government to foster dependency in large groups of citizens is to cultivate a dependable voting bloc that will guarantee continued power as long as the entitlements are provided. The problem of course is that such a government will eventually ‘run out of other people’s money,’ as Margaret Thatcher once famously said.”—One Nation, page 158

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE
“Through my budget-management experiences as a division director at Johns Hopkins for many years, and through many tough financial experiences as the president and co-founder of the Carson Scholars Fund, which is active in all 50 states, I gained enormous knowledge of business practices, but that pales in significance to what I have learned as a board member of both Costco and the Kellogg Company during the past 17 years. Managing and growing large multinational corporations requires wisdom and experience, and I have enjoyed the opportunity to work with and learn from both politically liberal and conservative business executives.”—The Washington Times, July 23, 2014

FAITH
“Jesus clearly instructed his followers that a crucial part of their Christian life was living out his teachings in everyday life and sharing the good news of faith with others. Not being willing to talk about my faith would mean disregarding His specific teaching.”—Take the Risk, page 132

FISCAL POLICY
“The stark reality is that if we don’t immediately assume fiscal responsibility and adopt policies that are conducive to economic growth, an economic disaster will ensure that will affect all generations.”—One Nation, page 59

FORTITUDE AND FREEDOM
“Every time I see our magnificent Stars and Stripes, I think of the fortitude of those Americans at Fort McHenry who, although outnumbered and outgunned, never allowed that flag to lower in surrender. That should remind us of who we are: a people who never surrender, who never give up, who are historically rooted in a faith in God rather than in the vicissitudes of man, who believe in freedom, and who would rather die than abandon our beliefs in equality and justice for everyone.”—America the Beautiful, page 187

FUTURE
“I am thoroughly convinced that Americans with common sense will soon regain power in this nation.”—The Washington Times, May 28, 2014

“I am convinced that the dreams of our Founders of a free nation filled with knowledgeable and caring people who trust in God and accept personal responsibility is still possible.”—The Washington Times, July 16, 2014

GOLD
“Since Franklin D. Roosevelt decoupled the U.S. dollar from gold, our currency has been backed only by our good name. Not only has this resulted in fiscal policy problems, but it has also steadily increased the gap between the wealth of the rich and the poor in this country and provided the opportunity to do a lot of fancy currency manipulation. Nothing good will
happen if we continue along this reckless course of fiscal irresponsibility.”—One Nation, page 75

IMMIGRATION

“As long as we reward people who break laws, they will continue to break laws. We do need a continual flow of immigrants, but choosers need not be beggars. We [must] make decisions based on our needs.”—The Washington Times, June 18, 2014

“A national guest worker program makes sense and seems to work well in Canada. Non-citizens would have to apply for a guest-worker permit and have a guaranteed job awaiting them. Taxes would be paid at a rate commensurate with other U.S. workers and special visas would allow for easy entry and egress across borders. Guest-worker status would be granted to individuals and not to groups. People already here illegally could apply for guest-worker status from outside of the country. This means they would have to leave first. They should in no way be rewarded for having broken our laws... When they return they still would not be U.S. citizens, but they would be legal, and they would be paying taxes. Only jobs that are vacant as a result of a lack of interest by American citizens should be eligible for the guest-worker program.”—The Washington Times, June 18, 2014

JOBS

“If, instead of regulating and taxing to death the engine of growth, our government suddenly decided to leave it alone and allow it to be nourished by free market forces, like the seed, it would explode with vibrant growth, jobs would return quickly, and to the pleasant surprise of the government, its own coffers would fill, because the tax base would be broadened. As an added bonus, the obligations of the government would lessen because there would be fewer citizens on the dole. This would make it possible to reduce, and eventually eliminate the National Debt. If our government could learn to create a nourishing environment for entrepreneurial endeavors rather than gorging itself on the fruits of their labor, a win-win situation would ensue.”—The Washington Times, January 15, 2014

JUDEO-CHRISTIAN VALUES

“Our Judeo-Christian values led this nation to the pinnacle of the world in record time. If we embrace them, they will keep us there.”—The Washington Times, February 12, 2014

JUNK SCIENCE

“DDT was banned for use as an insecticide in 1972 because some experts thought it might pose a carcinogenic risk. There was no clear evidence that it actually caused cancer in humans, though there was some basis for thinking it might. For caution’s sake, farmers and others needing to control insect populations were forced to switch to organophosphate insecticides (sure as parathions), some of which were eventually proven to be hundreds, even thousands of times more toxic that the DDT they replaced.”—Take the Risk, page 60

MARRIAGE

“As a Bible-believing Christian, you might imagine that I would not be a proponent of gay marriage. I believe God loves homosexuals as much as he loves everyone, but if we can redefine marriage as between two men or two women or any other way based on social pressures as opposed to between a man and a woman, we will continue to redefine it in any way that we wish,
which is a slippery slope with a disastrous ending, as witnessed in the dramatic fall of the Roman Empire.”—America the Beautiful, page 182

**OBAMACARE**

“The implications of such a shift of power (where we have no choice but to purchase the only prescribed product—Obamacare), are profound in a society that is supposed to be free and centered around freedom of choice. Once we give the government this kind of power, it is naïve to believe that they will stop here in their quest for total control of our lives.”—One Nation, pages 12 & 13

“...I believe everyone should have a health savings account (HSA) and an electronic medical record (EMR) at the time of birth as a first step toward reform. The EMR should only be in the patient's possession in the form of an electronic chip embedded into a card or device that can be shared with a health care provider at the patient's discretion. It would not be available to the IRS or any other governmental agency, and the database would of course need to be as secure as possible to protect personal information from hackers. The HSA could be populated with funds supplied by an employer, the owner, relatives, friends, and governmental sources.”—One Nation, pages 143-144

“With each person owning his own HSA in the United States, most people would become interested in saving by shopping for the most cost-effective high-quality health care plans available. This would bring the entire health care industry into the free-market economic model resulting in price transparency and creating a system where services and pricing are more closely related to value.”—One Nation

“Since most of the relationships would be doctor-patient relationships, the doctors certainly would not order things without regard to price, and patients would not permit excessive depletion of their HSA's by careless expenditure. With everybody becoming cost conscious, price transparency would be of paramount importance and fair competition would cause prices to be consistent and reasonable.”—One Nation, page 145

“In essence, this would make each family unit its own private health insurance company with no unnecessary middleman increasing costs. It would also make it possible for people to pass the money in their HSAs to family members at the time of their death.”—One Nation, page 145

**POLITICAL CORRECTNESS**

“Many people equate political correctness with kind and compassionate speech. The two things are vastly different with very different purposes. Political correctness is meant to control thought patterns and speech content, creating unanimity and societal conformity, while kind and compassionate speech is meant to take into consideration the feelings and circumstances of others without compromising the truth. It is a much better alternative. We need to be wary of those who attempt to convince groups of people that they should be offended by a word, phrase or symbol instead of concentrating on the real message being conveyed.”—The Washington Times, June 25, 2014

**POVERTY AND COMPASSION**

“Compassion... should mean providing a mechanism to escape poverty rather than simply maintaining people in an impoverished state by supplying handouts.”
“The only reason I can imagine that it would be a good idea for government to foster dependency in large groups of citizens is to cultivate a dependable voting bloc that will guarantee continued power as long as the entitlements are provided. The problem of course is that such a government will eventually ‘run out of other people’s money,’ as Margaret Thatcher once famously said.”—One Nation, pages 157 & 158

REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS

“Each of these parties [Republicans and Democrats] has been engaged in the gradual but consistent growth of the central government and its claim on power. Ever-expanding programs offering benefits to the masses are difficult to resist, and with the proliferation of the new media it also became possible for elected officials to gain great notoriety and power. This power became addicting to many elected officials... who wanted to hold their positions for extended periods of time—even for life.”—America the Beautiful, page 24

“Black leaders like Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., among others, were great proponents of self-reliance and self-help.” Many of the elites from both parties embrace these men as heroes but propose social policies that do not encourage self-reliance; policies these men would never have approved. Based on their policies, I believe that they subconsciously think that some people are not capable of helping themselves.”—One Nation, page 30

“The fact that the Republican Party in particular often seems to stand for principle, only to cave in to pressure at the last minute, has turned off a huge number of voters. A true reformation of the Republican Party would be a breath of fresh air for those voters.”—One Nation, page 177

SECOND AMENDMENT

“The Second Amendment was crafted by wise citizens who recognized how quickly an enemy invasion could occur or how our own government could be deceived into thinking it had the right to dominate the people. Such domination is considerably more difficult when people have arms and can put up significant resistance. This is the reason that brutal dictators like Fidel Castro, Joseph Stalin, Mao Zedong, Adolf Hitler and Idi Amin tried to disarm the populace before imposing governmental control. Such domination could occur in America in the not-too-distant future if we are not vigilant. ...In light of past worldwide atrocities committed by tyrants, ...to threaten the Second Amendment rights of ordinary American citizens is itself insanity. Those wishing to ban all assault weapons fail to understand the original intent of the Second Amendment.”—The Washington Times, April 23, 2014

“Any politician willing to ignore the Second Amendment to win votes should be regarded with suspicion. (The same goes for any other part of the U.S. Constitution.)”—One Vote, page 41

SERVANTS BEHAVING AS RULERS

“...the most offensive thing of all to anyone with a sense of justice is a provision [regarding Obamacare by the president] that will extend government subsidies to members of Congress and their staffs to defray their health care costs while the people they represent must suffer the slings and arrows of this outrageous program forced upon them through a host of backroom deals that would shame a mobster. Some of these representatives, unwilling to accept the deal for themselves, were actually complicit in
forcing Obamacare on all Americans without even reading it. This is the height of irresponsibility, and it is hard to imagine how anyone claiming to represent the interest of their constituents could even look at themselves in the mirror if they are guilty of such actions."—The Washington Times, August 21, 2013

TAXES

"There is nothing fair about a tax code that is so complex that it is virtually impossible to comply with every aspect of the thousands of pages of rules and regulations. Because of the complexity of this code, the government can target virtually anyone and find a mistake in their tax documents, which can be used to extort money or worse. We are talking of nothing less than the precursor of a totalitarian government. Many alternative forms of taxation are used throughout the world, but the model that appeals most to me is based on biblical tithing. Under that system, everyone was required to pay one-tenth of their income to the designated authorities of the theocracy. You were not excused if you experienced a crop failure, nor were you asked to pay triple tithes if you had a bumper crop. Under this system, the man with the bumper crop obviously would pay a lot more in tithes than the man who experienced the crop failure. If we bring this concept forward to modern times and use the 10 percent model—although it could be any percentage—a Wall Street wizard who makes $10 billion a year would have to pay $1 billion, whereas a schoolteacher who makes $50,000 a year would have to contribute $5,000. Some would say this system would not be fair because it doesn't hurt the billionaire as much as it hurts the teacher. The problem with this line of reasoning is that no one can be completely objective in determining exactly how much each person should be hurt. Proportionality eliminates this dilemma and simplifies things to the point where we don't need complex agencies such as the IRS. Instead of trying to decide how much we need to hurt the billionaire, we should be grateful that his contributions are building roads and keeping bridges in good repair proportionately as much as the contributions of hundreds of teachers. Of course, the teachers are making other important contributions to society, and we recognize this by giving everybody the same rights regardless of their financial status. The other big plus for this proportional system of taxation is that everyone is included."

"...if everyone is included in the tax base, it forces the government to be more frugal with the taxpayers' money. Officials must answer to everyone, especially when they propose tax hikes."—The Washington Times, July 17, 2013

TRADITIONAL MORAL VALUES

"I believe one of the reasons our nation prospered was a strong emphasis on traditional family values that included instruction on the difference between right and wrong, teaching that began in the home and continued at school. And one of the central sources for defining values was the Bible, which back then was found in all public schools. Basic religious principles were taught in public schools in such a way as to have the broadest possible application without favoring any particular denomination. Children were taught that there was a Creator to whom they were responsible and that there was a moral code given to us by the Creator to whom we would all have to answer in the afterlife. The founding fathers had much to say regarding the morality of our nation and how important it
was to our future, but I think one of the best quotes that summarizes their feelings is from John Adams when he said, ‘Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.’”—America the Beautiful, page 105

TEA PARTY

‘...the Tea Party was not simply an arm of the Republican Party, but rather a significant force for real change. Its constituents recognized that both the Democrats and the Republicans were responsible for excessive spending, incessant pork barrel projects to benefit special constituent groups, and intrusion into the private lives of citizens.—America the Beautiful, page 23

UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

“The Constitution was written primarily to protect the rights of the people and not the right of the government to rule the people. It restrains the natural tendencies of government to expand while disregarding the rights of its constituents. Our freedoms are safe as long as we abide by its principles.”—One Nation, page 172

VOTER FRAUD

“Manipulators will claim that their opponents are trying to suppress the vote by demanding identification cards in areas where they fear they won’t do well electorally. I have visited many non-white countries, if you will, in the last few years, and all of them require voter identification before anyone casts a ballot. Surely these nations aren’t racist?”—One Vote, page 39

WAR ON WOMEN

“Attempting to characterize love and compassion for human life as a ‘war on women’ is deceitful and pathetic. We the people must stop allowing ourselves to be manipulated by those with agendas that do not include regard for the sanctity of life. You know, there are those ... who have told women that there’s a war on them because that cute little baby inside of them, they may want to get rid of it and there are people that are keeping you from doing that. There is no war on them [women]; the war is on their babies, babies that cannot defend themselves. Over the past few decades, we have destroyed 55 million of them. And we have the nerve to call other societies of the past heathen.”—The Washington Times, January 22, 2014

WELFARE

“A truly moral nation enacts policies that encourage personal responsibility and discourages self-destructive behavior by not subsidizing people who live irresponsibly and make poor choices. This can be done in a compassionate way by phasing out government assistance for those already receiving it and by making it clear that there will be no government assistance in the future in these situations. That is not to say that the affected individuals cannot be aided by their families, churches, and other charitable organizations and individuals. What we have just discussed may seem a bit harsh to many bleeding heart do-gooders, but I submit that what is harsh is continuing to encourage irresponsible behavior and generating a permanent underclass.”—America the Beautiful, page 106
Inside back cover