



ARISE! MINISTRIES

Mount Up On Wings - Isaiah 40:31

Tom Stiles, Editor

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EDUCATION IN THE PARTY PLATFORMS

“And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day? Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons; “ -- Deuteronomy 4:8-9

Although the reference refers to Israel, I believe it applies to the United States as well. “What nation is there that is so great?” And like Israel, our nation is great because it was founded on the principles of the Word of God -- “*statues and judgments.*”

The Bible in verse 9, and elsewhere, reminds us that education is primarily the responsibility of parents. Now let’s look at the Democratic and Republican Platforms to see which most honors this responsibility.

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

In the [Democratic platform](#), the education section begins by stating that “Democrats fundamentally believe that every student deserves a quality education, regardless of their parents’ zip code or income.” While this sounds like the phraseology that is often used to promote school choice, the Democrat platform explicitly states that they “oppose the use of private-school vouchers, tuition tax credits, opportunity scholarships, and other schemes that divert taxpayer-funded resources away from public education.”

This statement is followed with the explanation that “public tax dollars should never be used to discriminate.”

The platform explains that a “quality education” includes free universal preschool for all four-year-olds, and free community college and trade school. Student loan relief provided through the federal government is also emphasized as well as more support for teachers and school personnel.

Recognizing the learning loss and mental health issues from the pandemic, the platform offers as solutions a focus on social and emotional learning, longer school days and school years, more tutoring options, community schools, and “setting high expectations for student attendance.”



THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

In the [Republican platform](#), the education section begins by stating that “Republicans offer a plan to cultivate great K-12 schools, ensure safe learning environments free from political meddling, and restoring parental rights.”

The platform then states a commitment to an educational system that “empowers students, supports families, and promotes American Values.”

To accomplish this, the platform lists several goals which include providing universal school choice, restoring parental rights, opposing the teaching of Critical Race Theory and “gender indoctrination,” reinstating the [1776 Commission](#), and supporting First Amendment rights to protect the freedom to pray and read the Bible in public schools.

The platform also expresses support for “overhauling standards on school discipline” to provide “safe, secure, and drug-free schools.”

Regarding teachers and principals, the platform says that Republicans will “support schools that focus on excellence and parental rights” and will also support merit pay and ending teacher tenure.

The platform also emphasizes returning control to the states: “We are going to close the Department of

Education in Washington, D.C., and send it back to the States, where it belongs, and let the States run our educational system as it should be run.”

-adopted from AACPS Washington Flier (8/30/24)

Well, there you have it. The two political parties have very different philosophies on education.

The Democratic party platform promotes an educational system that is controlled by the federal government, while the Republican platform emphasizes local control by states and parents.

EAGLE’S EYE ON THE NATION

“It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.” - Proverbs 21:19

KAMALA HARRIS CNN INTERVIEW

Vice President Kamala Harris on Thursday gave her first sit-down interview since she became the Democratic presidential nominee last month.

She presented herself as a pragmatist in the long-anticipated interview, given to CNN’s Dana Bash alongside her running mate, Tim Walz. She sought to strike a balance between defending the Biden-Harris administration’s legacy and charting her own path, if she is elected president.

Although she has flipped on numerous issues, she said, “The most important aspect of my policy perspectives and decision is my values have not changed.”

Donald Trump responded:

“I just saw Comrade Kamala Harris’ answer to a very weakly-phrased question ... her answer rambled incoherently, and declared her ‘values haven’t changed.’ On that I agree, her values haven’t changed — the Border is going to remain open, not closed, there will be Free Healthcare for Illegal Aliens, Sanctuary Cities, No Cash Bail, Gun Confiscation, Zero Fracking, a Ban on Gasoline-Powered Cars, Private Healthcare will be abolished, a 70-80% tax rate will be put in place, and she will Defund the Police,” [he wrote](#). “America will become a WASTELAND!”

RFK, JR. – ON OR OFF THE BALLOT

Since suspending his race for the presidency, Robert F. Kennedy, JR., endorsing Donald Trump, has sought to have his name removed from the ballot in swing states where he believes it would hurt Trump.

So far, it isn’t working out that way:

In **Michigan**, where he wants off, the Secretary of State refused his request

In **Wisconsin**, the Wisconsin Elections Commission voted last week (5-1) to keep his name on the ballot.

In **New York**, where he fought to keep his name on the ballot, the Court of Appeals upheld a lower court ruling that said his name could not appear.

LIBERAL LOGIC???

“Politico” showed its media bias this week with the headline, “Our Corrupt Leadership: Vance tries to tether Harris to Biden during rally in Michigan.”

As Biden’s Vice President, she is tied to President Biden, supporting his agenda and breaking a tie vote in the Senate to pass his programs.

LIE OF THE WEEK

Last week on August 29, Kamala Harris posted a lie so big that no one is defending it.

“If Donald Trump wins, he not only will sign an abortion ban – he also intends to create a national anti-abortion coordinator, forcing states to report on women’s miscarriages and abortions.”

EAGLE’S EYE ON NEW YORK

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” – Prov. 9:10

The state’s **Community Commission on Reparations Remedies** met this week for the second time in Albany to get the \$5 million, one-year study off the ground.

They decided who should hold leadership positions and reviewed the overall task at hand: The long-term impacts of building the Empire State on the backs of enslaved labor — consequences which, members said are not just echoes of the past but continue today.

“The consequences of slavery in New York state... can still be observed in daily life,” Chairman Tarrant-Reid said. “Systemic racism has cemented a legacy of generational poverty, and we still see this today in Instances of voter suppression, housing discrimination, biased policing, food apartheid and disproportionate rates of incarceration.”

The group will compile a report of recommendations to be submitted to the Legislature and Gov. Kathy Hochul next summer.

MINISTRY REPORT

On August 22, 2024, I was told: “Regrettably and effective immediately, I cannot continue to sustain your position as Director of Church Relations.”

A few weeks later began **“Arise Ministries” and God has blessed**. I am thankful for pastors and other friends that have made this ministry a success.

TOM STILES SPEAKING Schedule

Sept. 6	LBBC Silver Saints
Sept. 8	Grace Bible Church, Wappinger Falls, NY
Sept. 15	Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church, Webster, NY
Sept. 22	Gospel Community Church, Sayville, NY
Sept. 29	Freedom Baptist Church, Auburn, NY