



USA News

Student Newsletter

March 2009

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Check out the following cryptic messages on some personalized license plates:

CN U RD THS?	<u>It's a Living</u>	<u>Just for Fun</u>	<u>Good Advice</u>
<u>Car Braggin'</u>	TUPRWR	W8LIFTN	BCOOL
FSTRNU	I FIX BAX	XRCIZE	DOITNOW
IDSMOKU	ISUEM	AV8TR	B LOGICL
I XLR8	OPNWDE	ICESK8	10D 2IT
OK4NOW	LITIG8R	H2OSAKE	BCRE8TV
WAY2BAD	DCOR8	W8N4SUN	UBUKLUP

In God We Trust

St. Patrick's Day

Don't forget to wear something

GREEN

on March 17th - St. Patrick's day!!!

If you don't, as a tradition, you will get pinched!



In 1861, a Pennsylvania preacher named M. R. Watkinson wrote to Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase expressing his fear that future generations looking back on the Civil War era might see it as an unholy period in American history. "Would not," Watkinson asked, "the antiquaries of succeeding centuries rightly reason from our past that we were a heathen nation?" Watkinson came up a strange solution: For some strange reason, he felt the problem could be solved by invoking the name of the Almighty on U.S. coins.

Secretary Chase, a pious man who reportedly liked to sit in his bath and read the Bible, thought it was a great idea...and took it upon himself to make it happen. "The trust of our people in God shall be declared in our national coins," he wrote to James Pollock, Director of the U.S. Mint. "You will cause a device to be prepared without unnecessary delay with a motto expressing in the fewest and tersest words possible this national recognition."

Pollock suggested "One Country, Our God," but Chase preferred "Our God and Our Country", and "In God We Trust" (a

MARCH 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	18	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Schedule of Events

- March 8 - Daylight Savings Time
- March 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- March 20 - Spring Begins

Student's Birthdays

- 1st - Da Min Kwon
- 11th - Jaime Gallego
- 17th - Tsatsral Nyamsaikhan



In God We Trust (cont.)

popular Civil War battle cry inspired by the phrase “in God is our trust,” from the fourth verse of the “Star Spangled Banner”). Chase ordered that one proposed new coin use the first slogan and another use the second. The first coin was never minted, but the second one (the 1864 two-cent piece) was...and by the turn of the century, “In God We Trust” was a standard feature on American coins. But the slogan wasn’t mandated by law.

In 1907, President Roosevelt felt concerns about linking God and money. So he had the phrase removed from the new \$10 and \$20 gold pieces being designed, which ignited a huge public controversy. Congress promptly passed a law requiring that “In God We Trust” be restored to all coins. Today, U.S. law requires that three inscriptions - “Liberty,” “E Pluribus Unum,” and “In God We Trust” - appear on every coin.



OH SAY CAN YOU SEE

During the War of 1812, British troops marched on Washington, D.C. and burned down the White House. Then, with their sights set on Baltimore, they sailed up the Chesapeake River, taking a civilian prisoner with them - a Dr. William Beanes, who'd supposedly helped arrest 3 English soldiers in Washington.



The next day Francis Scott Key, a prominent young lawyer from Washington, met with British military commanders on the Chesapeake

Bay and persuaded them to release Beanes (who'd actually assisted the wounded British soldiers). But the Brits wouldn't let Key go until the planned bombardment of Baltimore's Fort McHenry was over. So he was detained on the British boat overnight.

During the night, Key got a first-hand look at the raging battle. He assumed that the British would take Baltimore, as they had Washington. But in the morning, he awoke to find that the American flag was still flying over Fort McHenry. Inspired by the American defense, he jotted down an emotional poem.

On his way back to shore, Key wrote the words down on an envelope. The next day, he showed the poem to his wife's sister. She found it so inspiring that she took it to a printer, made handbills, and circulated the poem around Baltimore. The next week, the *Baltimore American* newspaper became the first to publish it.

Surprise: the words were set to the melody of a British song called "Anacreon in Heaven." Another surprise: It didn't become the National Anthem until 1931 - after being voted down in 1929 because it's a British tune, and a poor marching song.

A red silhouette illustration of a soldier in a military uniform, wearing a cap and holding a rifle. Behind the soldier is a circular frame containing a stylized American flag with stars and stripes.

IN DEFENSE OF THE BIBLE

Is the Bible a trustworthy, supernatural book? Is there any evidence to support the view that the Bible is reliable? Actually, there are a number of pieces of evidence.

EVIDENCE FROM ARCHAEOLOGY

Critics have questioned many of the Bible's historical statements. Yet archaeological discoveries in recent decades have turned up evidence that proves them wrong.

For example, the Bible refers to the Hittite people 36 times. Since no record outside the Bible had affirmed their existence, objectors said that Bible couldn't be trusted. However, excavations in Turkey have now shown that the Hittite Empire was extensive.

The Ebla tablets, discovered in Syria in the 1960, include the names of Ur, Sodom, and Gomorrah, cities that Bible opponents said did not exist. These tablets also dispel the notion that since writing was not practiced in the 1400s B.C., Moses could not have written the first five books of the Bible. Yet these tablets were written about a thousand years before Moses! The Bible's references to the many Assyrian kings are accurate. Archaeologists have uncovered Assyrian artifacts that record the names of all these kings. Certain customs recorded in Genesis are also noted in the Nuzi tablets found in present-day Iraq.

EVIDENCE FROM PROPHECY

No book other than the Bible has ever

given precise predictions of future events (prophesies) hundreds of years in advance, predictions that were fulfilled exactly. Far from the vague generalities or general guesses like those given by fortunetellers, the prophecies in Scripture contain explicit details which no human could possibly devise on his own. Imagine trying to come up with the name, ancestry, birthplace, and kind of death for a person who would be born in AD 2800. That would be humanly impossible! Only God could make such predictions and see them carried out perfectly. But that is exactly what we have in the Bible. Jesus' identity, name birthplace, triumphal entry, betrayal, suffering, death, and burial - all were foretold in the Old Testament seven hundred years before He was born.

If only 48 prophecies about a person were fulfilled, the odds would be 1 in 10. That's a one followed by 157 zeros! And Jesus fulfilled more than 300 prophecies!

EVIDENCE FROM IMPACT

Neither the Koran nor writings from Hinduism or Buddhism give satisfactory answers to: Where did the universe come from? How

did the human race originate? What is wrong with the world? Why is there suffering in the world? What is the answer to people's sense of guilt? How can people live upright lives? What will happen to the world? Only the Bible gives an answer to people's grief, loneliness, sadness, bitterness, and hatred. Only the Bible tells what is wrong with the human heart and gives a solution. Unlike any book written by a mere human, the Bible can transform people's lives, make people good inside, and give them peace, forgiveness, and purpose. This book has given hope, life, and deliverance. No other book in the world can make such a claim.

This huge body of evidence gives testimony that the Bible is God's reliable truth. The Bible's central message focuses on the problem of sin - and God's answer. Jesus died on the cross for our sins, so that we may have salvation by trusting in Him as our Savior. Because the Bible is trustworthy, Jesus Christ can be trusted. He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6



What am I?

1. I wear the face of a leader of men. My financial worth is small and my appearance not impressive, yet my presence is a passport to any country and society. I have the entrée alike to the boudoir and the armed camp; I penetrate to royal palaces and to the far corners of the earth. In my youth I am bright and fresh-looking; later, my face is marred and disfigured and I am cast aside as nothing; but when I am very old I am eagerly sought, and a safe refuge is provided for me, where I am exhibited to admiring visitors. What am I?
2. Everything that is presented to me I return at once. Although helpless I can wound; although speechless I can encourage. People are afraid of my fabled revenge so I am seldom hurt. Children adore me. A widely known character once went through me and discovered an amazing country. What am I?
3. I am positively the worst ever. I am absolutely the best on record. I am always surpassing myself. My past is negligible, my future a matter of universal concern and infinite conjecture. Most people profess a prophetic vision of me, but birds and animals know more about me than they do. Everybody complains of me, but nobody ever does anything to correct or improve me. What am I?