

## Seeing Reality

‘One of Gutzon Borglum’s great works as a sculptor is the head of Lincoln in the nation’s Capitol. He had cut it from a large square block of stone in his studio. One day, when the face of Lincoln was just becoming recognizable in the stone, a young girl was visiting the studio with her parents. She looked at the half-done face of Lincoln, her eyes registering wonder and astonishment. She stared at the piece for a moment and then ran to the sculptor and asked, “Is that Abraham Lincoln?” “Yes”, he replied. The little girl said, “Well, how in the world did you know that he was in that block of stone?”’

Yes, indeed, how did he know? Knowing a little about the nature of reality, and studying how God revealed Himself to the prophets in the Holy Bible, and through the ages, and now to the modern-day prophets, Borglum may well have picked that piece of stone, not knowing what he would carve out of it. Or, more likely, that 6-ton block of marble was predestined by God for Lincoln’s head to emerge from it. God does things like that, you know. John Gutzon de la Mothe Borglum is one of America’s most famous sculptors, with his works all over the country. The sculptor who created Stone Mountain in Atlanta, he’s most well known for carving up Mount Rushmore in South Dakota. His works have

definitely left a mark in this physical world.

But as “monumental” as his Mount Rushmore work is, literally carved in stone though it may be, it will not stand the test of time. Barring catastrophic earthquakes or volcanic eruptions, the elements themselves will eventually wear it away. And the memory of Borglum will fade from consciousness. I doubt that had I not mentioned Mount Rushmore or Stone Mountain, few if any of you would recognize his name. But some men and women are literally timeless and will be remembered for all time and space. And it’s because these people served the Lord God Almighty.

What does it mean to serve God? Why, we conclude every Sunday worship service those exact words, “Go in peace. Serve the Lord”. Serving God means exactly that, to serve Him, like a household servant who waits and listens for his or her master’s every wish and command. Loyal servants, those truly deserving of the name “servant”, do their best to anticipate and prepare themselves for every order they receive. Servants of God do His will, obey His every word. But some ask, how do we know His will? Those who ask that haven’t ever known Him. The first and easy answer to that is to dedicate one’s self to knowing His word. It’s right here! The most widespread, published, translated and distributed book of all time, but among Americans who claim to be Christians, probably the least read, least opened, most dusty of their possessions. Most American households have one or more lying on tables, sitting on shelves, stuffed away in storage boxes.

And then so many people wonder why America is in such a mess. That so many of the “powers that be” have no clue of what to do, let alone what the country actually needs. Not only do most authorities, bureaucrats, academics, etc., have no clue of God’s will, many deny He even exists, or even if He does, He doesn’t matter. Such people only want to do what they want. They think, they live in a “free” country. But freedom comes with responsibility. There is no such thing as unlimited, boundless, freedom. Total freedom leads inevitably to anarchy and violence. In short, lawlessness. Where there are no restraints, no laws, no enforcement, everyone suffers. What is billed as freedom is, in reality, in truth, tyranny, pain, suffering, and death. Feminists claim that women have the right to control their own bodies, namely referring to whether to keep a pregnancy or not. In truth, they don’t. No one does. And those who sin by murdering their own child haven’t the faintest idea of the psychological pain, suffering and bondage they heap upon themselves by the “choice” they make.

For there is reality. There is truth. And then there is falsehood. There is deception. There is “fake news”. The peddlers of lies know that to hoodwink the most people, they only have to come up with a very big lie, and then keep repeating it over and over and over, and, lo and behold, it suddenly becomes the “truth” because most will start believing it. Though examples are everywhere, here’s a current case in point. Since October 7th, pro-Palestinian demonstrators claim that nearly all of what happened

on that day was faked by Israel itself. They claim that in the ensuing war, some 40,000+ Gazans have been massacred by the evil, brutal Israeli army; that Israel is attempting genocide of the so-called Palestinians; that Israel is indiscriminately targeting civilians for extermination, preventing humanitarian aid from reaching the devastated areas; that the Jews are murderous colonizers oppressing the “indigenous Gazans”, and have stolen their lands. Thus, the cry, “From the River to the Sea, Palestine shall be free”. Every last one of these ideas is false on its face. There never was a “Palestine”, never was such a people group. Only in the late 1930s did an Arab journalist come up with the term “Palestinian” to refer to the Arabs who lived in the land the League of Nations, precursor to the United Nations, designated to be the homeland for the Jews. And that lie, from just before WWII, has been repeated so often that most people now believe it to be true.

One can easily see that from that one foundational lie, an entire fake narrative has been constructed. This narrative is designed to culminate in the extermination of the Jews. But why? What have they done? As God Almighty promised in His Holy Book, His Chosen People have been an enormous blessing to the world. Most of the great advances in science, in economics, in medicine, agriculture, have come through Jews. Second to them, by the way, are Christians. Wonder why that is. The vast majority of Nobel Prizes have been awarded to Jews. Why is that? They’re just a tiny majority of the world’s population. Is it because

they're special, or not? And if they are special, why?

God, Who is truth itself, Who is life itself, Who is light itself, is the "Force" that holds everything together. The Bible itself says that the One and Only Son of God, Who is God Himself, maintains the entire creation. Nothing exists without His power and energy enabling it to continue to exist. If God were to completely withdraw, all things would just wink out of existence. We are His creations, made in His very image, designed to be His servants, but more than just servants, to be His very Own children, as if we are Christ Jesus' Own little brothers and sisters. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords, which makes us princes and princesses, priests of God on earth, its administrators, as He always intended.

So if we're His administrators on the earth, His ministers, His cabinet, His servants, it is our responsibility then to nurture the earth and all its people. And if we don't know His will, then we're derelict in our duties, absent without leave, sleeping on the job, and worse. Those who deny Him, refuse to acknowledge Him, who work against Him and His ways, are destined for eternal, unending destruction in hell. Those who don't do their jobs are fired, right? He has told us what is true, and this is true. But for all who repent, who turn away from their own ways and seek to know God and obey His ways, He has provided the one and only way to approach Him, and upon approaching Him, receive His life-power which causes us to live eternally. And that Way is Christ Jesus.

Our human lives are corrupt, devious, pleasure seeking, self

promoting, in short, self centered. No, we are not inherently good. And no number of “second chances”, progressive district attorneys and “compassionate” judges and juries bestow, without God, people are incapable of changing and doing right. As far as America has pushed God away, so far have we become more and more lawless, immoral, and corrupt. It’s past time for a change!

God is real and He is reality itself. He created reality, and this physical world in which we currently live. But there is so much more beyond all that we can see and touch. And He desires so much for us to know Him better, and to know more about the totality of creation. And to those who keep seeking to know Him more, He gives, sometimes glimpses, sometimes extensive visions, of the greater reality in which our physical reality is just a tiny part. Ezekiel was given a wondrous vision of the throne room of God, as was Paul, who described it as if he was a third person. The greater realities that contain all that we know are so far beyond our imaginings that we truly need to expand our minds to even begin to sense, see and experience them. God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is everything He says He is. And He rewards those who sincerely seek Truth, to know what’s really real and true. “Seek and you will find”, our Lord has taught us. Do we care? Do we want to put in the time and effort to study Him? If not, we’ll end up separated from Him for eternity in the most unpleasant circumstances. But the alternative is to know true peace and total genuine love in unimaginable beauty forever and ever.

