

## Revised History and Ignorance Randy Minnick

After more than 20 years of paying attention to history and politics, I have found that revisionist history is rampant in this country. It would appear that haters of truth, justice, and the American way, would keep us in darkness at just about all cost. Such perpetrators doubtless have an equally dark agenda; an agenda that can come to no good to the American people.

One such revision concerns the reasons for which the Civil War was fought. I had been taught (almost 50 years ago) that it was for the cause of the abolition of slavery. A random check with most folks will confirm that, they too, think that the issue of slavery was the primary purpose for the conflict which slew more than all other wars combined to date in this country.

As I researched the (very easily obtainable) information concerning this matter, I was both astounded and angered at the deception. It became apparent that there are those who simply have no regard for history, empirical evidences, and/or any truth which applies to any given matter concerning our nation. It is a certainty of the accuracy of the old adage "History is always written by the victor". That this "spin" is being accepted as "gospel" is remarkable given the fact that "the truth" is readily and easily available to any who seek it.

But there's the rub. It would also appear that there are a huge number of those who are simply complacent about such matters and who eat whatever slop is ladeled up in their bowl. Though libraries abound, books are available by the millions, and the entirety of the knowledge of man is available over the internet, the people in this country are as ignorant (or even more so) than at any given point in our history. I don't mean for this to be an indictment. Rather, I say it with all contrition, humility, and with deep sadness. You see, it is because of a lack of knowledge (i.e. ignorance) that people are taken captive (and even destroyed). When someone goes into captivity when there is no reason to do so, is terribly sad since it just isn't necessary. In fact, it is most remarkable to observe those who will not fight for their freedom and who actually seem to prefer the comfort of slavery.

I do understand that there is always a tendency to simply remain static and to embrace our existing knowledge as unabridged truth. This is both the path of least resistance and a comfort zone. But, the only way to escape captivity is to fight. This tendency to remain comfortable must be resisted and the fighting is nothing other than putting forth an effort to make progress. It is merely a discipline and a determination to remain free.

This is also to say that there is no passivity for those who desire to remain free. We see this dynamic expressed by many sage men like Sir Edmund Burke who said this: "All that is required for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing". Likewise we see this saying from the Greek political leader Pericles (430 BC): "Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you". Any people who value and covet their freedom cannot afford to remain ignorant and sit quietly and idly by while there are those who are diligently and deceptively (and even mercilessly) seeking to steal it from them.

We must use every available advantage to insure that we can keep the treasure of freedom that our founding fathers gave us. The most valuable of all weapons is knowledge and that knowledge is at hand. But, no sword is ever used that is not picked up.



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