

# Fire and Brimstone

## Reagan Talk Strong on Morality in Bid To Rekindle Support of Conservatives

By ADAM CLYMER

Talking of morality to a degree that presidents usually avoid, President Reagan yesterday adhered not only to old-fashioned religion but to old-fashioned political wisdom: "Dance with the girl you came in with."

Before he got to the nuclear freeze issue and the opposite pole of a God-fearing America and a Godless Soviet Union, Mr. Reagan's speech to the National Association of Evangelicals meeting in Orlando, Fla., sounded the themes that won him support and votes from the so-called religious right in his 1980 election.

In speaking forcefully against abortion and for prayer in school to identify himself as one of the "many God-fearing, dedicated noble men and women in public life," Mr. Reagan appealed to a constituency that, after his election, to have retired to the political sidelines.

To Paul Weirich, a conservative who has urged Mr. Reagan to law to the social issues that drew ordinary nonvoting evangelicals to the polls in 1980, yesterday's speech "might as well have been a declaration of candidacy." That view was backed by a high-ranking Republican strategist who spoke on the condition that his name not be used. He said, "It could fairly be interpreted as another in a series of signals that a candidate is talking."

Mr. Weirich, who heads the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, said he told Mr. Reagan to speak Monday to stress the moral arguments against a nuclear freeze. He also said "if Ronald Reagan had sounded like that in 1980, the Republicans would not have lost so many seats as they did."

Mr. Reagan's campaigning for Congressional Republicans was personally concentrated on a defense of his economic policies and a plea to stay the course he had charted. There was little

evidence of interest in the election, or voting, from the white Protestant evangelicals who appeared to have registered and voted in unusually heavy numbers at the polls.

But yesterday Mr. Reagan sounded like the candidate who in 1980 said in a Dallas speech, "The First Amendment was written not to protect the people and their laws from religious values, but to protect those values from government tyranny."

In Orlando yesterday he said, "Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God is acknowledged. Founding Fathers passed the First Amendment, they sought to protect churches from government interference. They never meant to construct a wall of hostility between government and the concept of religious belief itself."

### Pledge on School Prayer

That passage introduced a pledge to campaign for a Constitutional amendment to allow organized prayer in public schools. "Let our children pray," Mr. Reagan said.

He also promised to fight in the courts recent judicial decisions that have prevented his Administration from informing the parents of young people of contraceptives from family planning clinics that receive Federal aid. Mr. Reagan complained that the critics' voices were "louder than ours" on this issue, but he insisted, "The rights of parents and the rights of family take precedence over those of Washington-based bureaucrats and social engineers."

Natal pools do not identify clearly the beliefs of the audience to whom his appeal for, and promise of support were directed. But last September a New York Times poll found that the white Protestants who said they attended church weekly or almost every week were more likely to support school prayer and oppose abortion more strongly than the rest of the public.

In a survey of registered voters, 79 percent of the churchgoers backed a school prayer amendment. Only 62 percent of the others surveyed said they would support it. Under the same conditions said they favored a constitutional amendment prohibiting abortion, as against 25 percent of the others in the poll.

But this group, which in the poll included more people than some other



A man in a Reagan mask was among the demonstrators picketing the Sheraton Towers in Orlando, Fla., where the President addressed evangelicals.

# Reagan Denounces Soviet, Cautioning Clerics on Arms

Continued From Page 1

his national security goals were parallel to the nation's founding spiritual values. He echoed a debating point of the past in praising as a "profound truth," a young father who Mr. Reagan said he once heard discussing communism with his daughters. The President said he had declared:

"I would rather see my little girls die now, still believing in God, than have them grow up under Communism and one day die no longer believing in God."

There was strong applause as the President delivered this line with dramatic emphasis, and an undertone of cheers could be heard in the hall, too.

"Let us pray for the salvation of all those who live in that totalitarian darkness," the President said, adding that Americans also must not forget that Communists "are the focus of evil in the modern world."

He then criticized unidentified people, who, he said, would have the nation accept Communism "at their word and accommodate themselves to their aggressive impulses."

"So I would urge you to speak out against those who would place the United States in a position of military and moral inferiority," President Reagan continued.

### Church Stands on Freeze

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops is scheduled to vote in May on a final draft of a pastoral letter on the arms race. The bishops have endorsed a two-way nuclear freeze and the final version is expected to include such a statement, many Protestant denominations have taken similar stands against nuclear arms.

Last month, in another major statement, the Council of American Evangelicals, representing six leading groups of conservative, Reform and Orthodox organizations, asserted that the United States was "morally bound" to reduce the danger of nuclear war. The statement further urged President Reagan to "renew his commitment to the goal of a total cessation of production and deployment of nuclear weapons."

In discussing domestic issues that have been dormant in the Administration's recent budget troubles, the President's position on social proposals being pressed in the Congress by conservative legislators and church leaders.

"No one seems to mention morality as playing a part in the subject of sex,

Mr. Reagan said in complaining that "sexually active" has replaced "promiscuous" as a description for some girls. Mr. Reagan defended the "sexual rule," proposed by his Administration and enjoined temporarily by two Federal judges, under which parents must be notified when children receive contraceptive help from Federally aided clinics.

### Court Fight Pledged

"If all of Judeo-Christian tradition wrong?" Mr. Reagan asked, drawing strong applause as he added: "We are going to fight in the courts. The rights of parents and the rights of family take precedence over those of Washington-based bureaucrats and social engineers."

He then urged, with his comments punctuated by the crowd's frequent applause, Mr. Reagan urged these steps: "A renewed fight for a constitutional amendment for public school prayer. Let our children pray," he said.

"A renewed fight to end 'abortion on demand.' 'You and I must not bow,' he said, until abortion is outlawed.

"Congressional hearings on 'infantile' legislation to protect the handicapped against 'hearing killing.' The President said this was a growing problem. It is related to a decline in respect for human life, generated by the growing prevalence of abortion.

### 'Enjoined by Scripture'

"There is sin and evil in the world," the President declared. "And we are enjoined by Scripture to stand against it with all our might."

The President called on the Christian preachers to tell their pupils to denounce "the groups preaching bigotry and prejudice." The gathering applauded in approval.

The National Association of Evangelicals is the largest umbrella group for conservative Protestants. Formed in 1962, it is a loosely knit organization of 38,000 members and church groups from 40 denominations with a total membership of 3.5 million. While members and the Soviet central religious beliefs common among evangelicals, the association has generally refrained from taking strong stands on social issues.

But an activist group has been gaining strength within the association in recent years. Many in the group, called Evangelicals for Social Action, have pressed the association to consider making an antinuclear statement. In May, the activists plan a large conference in Pasadena, Calif., on war and peace.

### Bill to Protect Truman Home

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP)—The House of Representatives voted today to protect the home of Harry S. Truman in Independence, Mo., a national historic site. Bess Truman, the President's wife, left the house and its contents to the United States when she died in October. The bill, passed on a voice vote, now goes to the Senate.

# Excerpts From President's Speech to National Association of Evangelicals

ORLANDO, Fla., March 8 (AP)—Following are excerpts from a transcript of President Reagan's speech today to the National Association of Evangelicals:

This Administration is motivated by a political philosophy that sees the greatness of America in your people, and in your families, churches, neighborhoods, communities—the institutions that foster and nourish values like concern for others, respect for the rule of law under God. Now I don't want to tell you that this puts us in opposition to what is out of step with a prevailing attitude of many who have turned to a modern-day secularism, discarding the tried and time-tested values upon which our very civilization is based.

No matter how well-intentioned, their value system is radically different from that of most Americans. And, while they proclaim they are freeing us from superstitions of the past, they have taken upon themselves the job of superintending us by government rule and regulation, sometimes their voices are louder than ours, but they are not a majority.

An example of that vocal superiority is evident in a controversy now going on in Washington. Since I'm involved, I've been wanting to hear from the parents of young Americans who far are they willing to go in giving to government their prerogatives as parents?

Let me state the case as briefly and simply as I can. An organization of citizens sincerely motivated and deeply concerned about the increase in illegitimate births and abortions involving girls well below the age of consent established clinics nationwide to offer help to these girls and hopefully alleviate this situation.

Order on Birth Control Clinics Again let me say, I do not fault their intent. However, their well-intentioned effort, these clinics and devices and birth control drugs and devices to underage girls without the knowledge of their parents.

For some years now, the Federal Government has helped with funds to subsidize these clinics. In providing for this, the Congress decreed that every effort would be made to maximize parental participation. Nevertheless, the drugs and devices are prescribed without getting parental consent or giving notification. Girls termed "sexually active"—that has replaced the word "promiscuous"—are given this help in order to prevent illegitimate birth or abortion.

We have ordered clinics receiving Federal funds to notify the parents such help has been given. But the nation's leading newspapers, has created the term "sexual rule" in editorializing against us, and we are being criticized for violating the privacy of young people. A judge has granted an injunction against enforcement of our rule. I have watched a TV panel shows discuss this issue, have read columns pontificating on our error, but no one seems to mention morality as playing a part in the subject of sex.

Is all of Judeo-Christian tradition

wrong? Are we to believe that something so sacred can be looked upon as a purely physical thing with no potential for emotional and psychological health? And isn't it our responsibility to give counsel and advice to keep their children from making mistakes that may affect their entire lives?

Many of us in government would like to proceed in this manner, to let this intrusion in their family by government. We are going to fight and we are going to win. Parents and the original tenets of American democracy, the rights of family take precedence over those of Washington-based bureaucrats and social engineers.

Rule of Law Under God But the fight against parental notification in a school district is only one of many attempts to water down traditional values and even abrogate the original tenets of American democracy. Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God acknowledged.

When our Founding Fathers passed the First Amendment, they sought to protect churches from government interference. They never meant to congregate persons of different faiths and the concept of religious belief itself.

The evidence of this permeates our history and our government: The Declaration of Independence, the preamble to the Constitution, less than two years ago, "In God We Trust" is engraved on our coinage; the Supreme Court opens its proceedings with prayer; invocation; and the members of Congress pray their sessions with a prayer.

I just happen to believe the schoolchildren of the United States are entitled to the same privacy as the Supreme Court Justices and Congressmen. Last year, I sent the Congress a constitutional amendment to restore prayer in public schools. It is an embarrassing that amendment and calling on the Congress to act speedily to this end.

Let our children pray. Perhaps some of you read recently about the Lubbock school case where a judge actually ruled that it was unconstitutional to have a school district give equal treatment to religious and non-religious student groups, even when the group meetings were held during the school day.

The First Amendment never intended to require government to discriminate against religious speech. Senator Dan Rostenkowski and Hatfield have proposed legislation in the Congress on the whole question of prohibiting discrimination against religious speech for public school students. Such legislation could go far to restore freedom of religious speech for public school students and I hope the Congress considers these bills quickly and with your help, I think it's possible we could also get the constitutional amendment through the Congress this year.

### Court Decision on Abortion

More than a decade ago, a Supreme Court decision in a case involving the rights of 50 states protecting the right of unborn children, "Abor-

tion on demand" now takes the lives of up to one and a half million unborn children a year.

Human life legislation ending this tragedy will someday pass the Congress—and you and I must never rest until it does. Unless and until it can be proven that the unborn child is not a living entity, then its right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness must be protected.

You may remember that when abortion on demand began many, indeed, I'm sure many of you warned, that the practice would lead to a decline in respect for human life, that the philosophical premises used to justify abortion on demand would ultimately be used to justify other attacks on the sacredness of human life, infanticide, mercy killing. Tragically enough, those warnings proved all too true: Only last year a court permitted the death by starvation of a handicapped infant.

I have directed the Health and Human Services Department to make clear to every health care facility in the United States that the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects all handicapped persons from discrimination based on handicaps, including infants.

And we have taken the further step of requiring that each and every recipient of Federal funds who provides health care services to infants must post and keep posted in a conspicuous place a notice stating that "discriminatory failure to feed and care for handicapped infants in this facility is prohibited by Federal law." It also lists a 24-hour, toll-free number so that nurses and others may report violations in time to save the infant's life.

### Problem of Infanticide

In addition, recent legislation introduced in the Congress by Representatives Hyde and others, which places restrictions on publicly financed abortions, it also addresses this whole problem of infanticide.

I urge the Congress to begin hearings and to adopt legislation that will protect the right of life to all children, including the disabled or handicapped.

I'm sure you must get discouraged at times, but there is a great spiritual awakening in America, a renewal of the traditional values that have been the bedrock of America's goodness and greatness.

One recent survey by a Washington-based research group concluded that Americans were far more religious than the people of other nations; 85 percent of those surveyed expressed a belief in God and a huge majority believe the Ten Commandments had real meaning for their lives.

Another study has found that an overwhelming majority of Americans disapprove of adultery, teenage pregnancy, abortion and hard drugs. And this same study showed a deep reverence for the importance of family ties and religious belief.

I repeat: America is in the midst of a spiritual awakening and a moral renewal. With your biblical keynote, I say today let justice roll on like a heavy rain, let righteousness like a never-failing stream.

Now, obviously, much of this new political and social consensus I have talked about is based on a positive view of American history, one that takes pride in our country's accomplishments and record. But we must never forget that no government schemes are going to perfect man; we know that living in the world means dealing with what philosophers would call the phenomenon of evil or, as theologians would put it, the doctrine of sin.

### National Legacy of Evil

There is sin and evil in the world, and we are enjoined by Scripture and the Lord Jesus to oppose it with all our might. Our sin and evil in America is evil with which it must deal. The glory of this land has been its capacity for transcending the moral evils of our past.

For example, the long struggle of minority citizens for equal rights, since a source of racial hatred and racial hatred in this country. I know you have been horrified, as have I, by a resurgence of some hate groups preaching bigotry and prejudice. Use the mighty voice of your pulpits and powerful standing of your churches to denounce these hate groups in our midst. The commandment given us is clear and simple: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

But whatever sad episodes exist in our past, any objective observer must hold a positive view of American history, a history that has been the story of hopes fulfilled and dreams made real. Especially in this century, America has kept alive the torch of freedom—not just for our nation, but for millions of others around the world. And this brings me to my final point today.

During my first press conference as President, in answer to a direct question, I pointed out that as good Marxists-Leninists the Soviet leaders have openly and publicly declared that the only morality they recognize is that which will further their cause, which is world revolution.

I think I should point out: I was only quoting Lenin, their guiding spirit, who said in 1920 that they repudiate all morality that proceeds from supernatural ideas or ideas that are outside class conceptions; morality is entirely subordinate to the interests of class war; and everything that brings me necessary for the annihilation of the old exploiting social order and for uniting the proletariat.

### Fate of Soviet Doctrine

I think the refusal of many influential people to accept this elementary fact of Soviet doctrine illustrates an historical reluctance to see totalitarianism for what they are. We saw this phenomenon in the 1930's; we see it too often today. This does not mean we should isolate ourselves and refuse to seek an honest dealing with them, are

I intend to do everything I can to persuade them of our peaceful intent, to remind them that it was the West that refused to use its nuclear monopoly in the 40's and 50's for territorial gain and which now proposes 50 percent cuts in strategic ballistic missiles and the elimination of an entire class of land-based, intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

At the same time, however, they must be made to understand we will never compromise our principles and we will never give away our freedom. We will never abandon our belief in God.

And we will never stop searching for a genuine peace. But we can assure ourselves of these things America stands for through the so-called nuclear freeze solutions proposed by some. It is a very dangerous fraud, for that is merely the illusion of peace. The reality is that we must find peace through strength.

I would agree to a freeze if only we could freeze the Soviets' global desires. A freeze at current levels of weapons would remove the essential incentive for the Soviets to negotiate seriously in Geneva, and virtually end our chances to achieve the major arms reductions which we have proposed. Instead, they would achieve their objectives through the freeze.

A freeze would reward the Soviet Union for its enormous and unparalleled military buildup. It would prevent the essential and long-overdue modernization of United States allied defenses and would leave our aging forces increasingly vulnerable. And an honest freeze would require extensive prior negotiations on the systems and numbers to be limited and on the measures to insure effective verification and American history.

And the kind of freeze that has been suggested would be virtually impossible to verify. It is a major effort would divert us completely from our current negotiations on achieving substantial reductions.

Let us pray for the salvation of all those who live in totalitarian darkness, pray they will discover the joy of man stand alone without God.

### Evil in the Modern World

But until they do, let us be aware that while they preach the supremacy of the state, declare its omnipotence over all human institutions and predict the eventual domination of all peoples of the earth—they are the focus of evil in the modern world. It was a man who, in his unforgettable "Screwface Letters," wrote: "The greatest evil is not done in the streets of London or in the slums of London, it is done in the concentration camps and labor camps. In those we see its final result. It is done in the concentration camps (moved, secured, carried, and minuted) in clear, carpeted, warmed, and well-lighted offices by quiet men with white collars and cut fingernails and smooth-shaven cheeks who do not need to raise their voices." Research shows that "Screwface" men do not "raise their voices." They are sometimes seen in soothing tones of a cultured and cultured, but also those other dictators before them, they are

always making "their final territorial demands," some would have us accept them at their word and accommodate ourselves to their aggressive impulses.

But, if history teaches anything, it teaches: Simple-minded aggression or wishful thinking about our adversaries is folly—it means the betrayal of our pride, the squandering of our freedom.

So I urge you to speak out against those who would place the United States in a position of military and moral inferiority. You know I have always believed that old Screwface reserves his best efforts for those of you in the church.

So in your discussions of the nuclear freeze proposals, I urge you to beware of those who would pride in the temptation to declare yourselves above it all and label both sides equally at fault, to ignore the facts of history and the logical impulses of an evil empire, to simply call the arms race a giant misunderstanding that can be removed by itself from the struggle between right and wrong, good and evil.

### Nuclear Arms Negotiations

I ask you to resist the attempts of those who would give us without your support for this Administration's efforts to keep America strong and free, while we negotiate real and verifiable arms reductions and the clear arsenals and one day, with God's help, their total elimination.

Let America's military strength move forward, let us know we have always maintained that the struggle now going on for the world will never be decided by bombs or rockets, by armies or military might.

The real crisis we face today is a spiritual one; at root, it is a test of moral will and faith. It is a test of our faith in God.

Whittaker Chambers, the man whose own religious conversion made him a witness to one of the largest traumas of our age, the Hiss-Chambers case, writes that the crisis of the Western world exists to the degree in which the West is not in firmness of the degree to which it collaborates in Communism's attempt to make man stand alone without God. For Marxism-Leninism is actually the second oldest faith, he said, first proclaimed in the Garden of Eden with the words of temptation: "You shall be as gods." The Western world can answer this challenge, he wrote, but only provided that Communism is God and the freedom He enjoins is as great as Communism's faith in man. It was a man who, in his unforgettable "Screwface Letters," wrote: "The greatest evil is not done in the streets of London or in the slums of London, it is done in the concentration camps and labor camps. In those we see its final result. It is done in the concentration camps (moved, secured, carried, and minuted) in clear, carpeted, warmed, and well-lighted offices by quiet men with white collars and cut fingernails and smooth-shaven cheeks who do not need to raise their voices." Research shows that "Screwface" men do not "raise their voices." They are sometimes seen in soothing tones of a cultured and cultured, but also those other dictators before them, they are