

THE ART OF JON MCNAUGHTON

IMAGES OF AN AMERICAN ARTIST



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www.JonMcNaughton.com

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



McNaughton Studio

I have often seen myself as a one-man-band, as I struggle to release these paintings. When I first began to paint “patriotic” artwork, back in 2008, I had no expectations. Many thought I was not wise to speak out through my art; that it would be the end of my art career. I suppose I’ve always been a little crazy in that I don’t care about kicking up some dust, as long as it is for a good purpose.

Having said that, I know that I owe a great deal to some key individuals who have been there to support me and offer encouragement, advice, and friendship.

I would like to thank Tammy, Lee and Diana, and those who have supported me in my art from the beginning. Also, Austin and Barbara, Bethany and Todd, JC, and many neighbors and friends that have patiently allowed me to use them as models in my paintings.

I would like to also thank Sean Hannity, and the many conservative talk radio hosts, bloggers, and patrons who have listened to and supported my message.

And last, but not least, I would like to thank the thousands of angry liberals who have expressed their opinions regarding my patriotic paintings. I mean this sincerely, because you’ve helped me to develop a thick skin and to understand how the liberal mind thinks. When we as Americans stop worrying about what the politically correct establishment insists is acceptable, we will begin to restore the heart and soul of America.

INTRODUCTION



Jon McNaughton is the most talked-about conservative artist in America today. Millions of Americans have studied these paintings as they've witnessed the upheaval of American politics and religious ideology.

Is it possible that something as simple as a painting can make a difference? Most people are visual learners. These paintings are filled with fine details, carefully thought-out metaphors and symbols that add to the viewer's experience. Unlike most artists who avoid speaking about their work, McNaughton goes to great length to articulate his positions on the interactive web pages and videos he creates for his paintings.

"For me, art is about communicating ideas, and nothing I know can do that more powerfully than a painting."

Does God care about what happens here in America? How do we know where and how to start to make a difference?

Sometimes the answers we seek fall on us heavily like a load of bricks, but sometimes they come to us gently. Jon hopes that you will find strength and hope through his patriotic and religious paintings included in this book.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

The journey of Jon McNaughton has been a joyful one. Full of twists and turns, and it always reveals the unexpected.

He was born in Mesa, Arizona, November 9, 1967, and his family moved to Orem, Utah, in 1983, where Jon's father was hired as the football coach for the local high school. Jon excelled in drawing and painting and in 1984 as a high school sophomore won the Best of Show at a state high school art competition. "I think I'm good at this," he told his family.

Being the son of the football coach brought its usual expectations. He was an anomaly – all Jon wanted to do was paint! He played football for his dad at Mountain View High School, but the mountains were so beautiful he would often drift into an artistic dreamland to the frustration of his teachers. Jon saw the world as a beautiful and interesting place for an artist!

After high school Jon was offered art scholarships to Brigham Young University. He started out as an art major, but his rebellious nature didn't conform to an establishment that encouraged contemporary abstract art.

"I was determined to do it my way without compromise. I like traditional art! This non-conformity has often put me at odds with the art world, but I have since learned that an artist must be fiercely independent, and have a unique personal vision."

Upon graduation Jon felt discouraged. "What have I truly learned from five years in art school?" he asked himself. It was about this time that Jon learned what he would later describe as the "Grand Master Key." This key would put Jon on a path to truly learn the principles of painting and prepare him for what he would do in life.

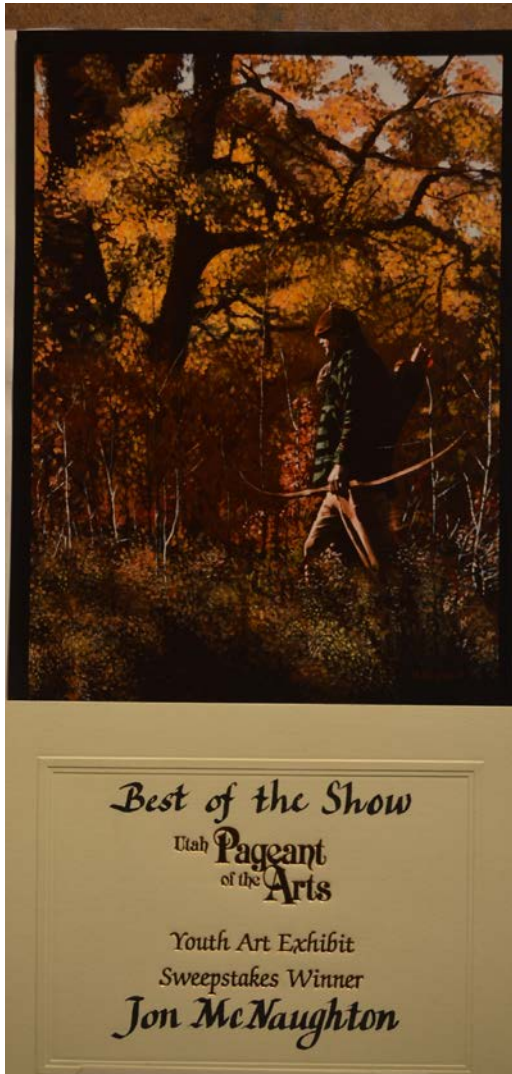
Soon, Jon was married and starting a young family, and had no idea how he could make a living as an artist. "I spent the next eight years learning to be a financial advisor, selling annuities and investments. That wasn't easy for a right-brained person like myself. I didn't mind it, but ached to be able to do what I had studied and prepared to become my whole life. I spent every extra hour, late nights, and weekends studying my craft."

When Jon had enough money saved he decided to try his hand at painting full time. He and his wife decided to take the risk. But after two years of struggling and being a true "starving artist" he wondered, "What have I done?"



Jon McNaughton with his father in 1984

Just as Jon was about to throw in the towel he was invited to show his art in a prominent gallery in Scottsdale, Arizona. They sold everything he sent them and there was hope again. During all of this time he was learning more about himself as an artist.



First painting, "The Bowhunter," 1984

All was going well until Y2K and the 9/11 attack. The art market went sour. Then fate came into Jon's life again, as he was contacted by a retired former executive from Ford Motor Company with the idea of starting a business to market his artwork – the McNaughton Fine Art Company was born!

It's been almost twenty years since McNaughton's career began. He spent most of those years painting landscape paintings and in the last nine years has done more patriotic and religious subjects. "I paint what inspires me, whether it is a soft landscape, a patriotic vision, or a scene from the life of Jesus. I do what I love and don't worry about what anyone thinks."

This journey has been beautiful, spiritual, and heart-wrenching at times. McNaughton's art has been written about by critics from New York, London, Italy, France, and around the globe and at home. "I am hated and loved for what I do, but this I know – art is the way I communicate how I feel about the world around me. I use my *landscape painting* as a way to show what I find beautiful and it relaxes me. I need that in a world that is full of commotion and distress. I love paintings that touch people's hearts and inspire, and I hope to share that through my art."



Example of McNaughton's earlier work. 1987-2005

"God speaks to us in dreams, through other people, and even through a painting." Jon McNaughton

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

In the painting Christ is holding up the U.S. Constitution while behind him are the Founding Fathers and other patriotic heroes from the past two centuries speaking to us from the dust. They are asking us to remember the foundation of our country's greatness and the liberties defined under the Constitution. The fact that Christ holds the Constitution is very significant. I believe it was a divinely inspired document. I believe God holds this country in the hollow of his hand. The Constitution gave Americans the kind of liberty unknown elsewhere in the world. I believe our country has been gradually weakened over the years, and we are reaching a tipping point. In the front of the painting, on the left side, are your strong Americans. On the other side are those who I believe have weakened the country. The painting is very symbolic, and I wanted it to be that way to cause people to study it and ponder its message. I hope people will understand my feelings as they learn more about the meaning of this painting.



1. Jesus Christ	4. George Washington	7. Alexander Hamilton	10. Patrick Henry
2. Tree of Life	5. Abraham Lincoln	8. Nathan Hale	11. John F. Kennedy
3. U.S. Constitution	6. John Adams	9. Samuel Adams	12. American Soldier
			13. Paul Revere
			14. Ronald Reagan
			15. John Jay
			16. Abigail Adams
			17. John Quincy Adams
			18. Fisher Ames
			19. Fighter Pilot
			20. Teddy Roosevelt
			21. John Hancock
			22. Sequoyah
			23. Thomas Paine
			24. Harriet Tubman
			25. Civil War Soldier
			26. Continental Soldier
			27. Ulysses S. Grant
			28. Clara Barton
			29. WWI Soldier
			30. Frederick Douglass
			31. Davy Crockett
			32. Susan B. Anthony
			33. Black Union Soldier
			34. Benjamin Franklin
			35. Dwight D. Eisenhower
			36. Benjamin Rush
			37. Christa McAuliffe
			38. WWII-Vietnam Soldier
			39. Roger Sherman
			40. George Wythe
			41. Thomas Jefferson
			42. Robert Livingston
			43. Dolly Madison
			44. James Madison
			45. Rising Generation
			46. Family Doctor
			47. U.S. Marine
			48. College Student
			49. School Teacher
			50. Mother
			51. Child with Disability
			52. Business Woman
			53. Immigrant
			54. Christian Minister
			55. Farmer
			56. Supreme Court Judge
			57. Notorious Court Cases
			58. Corrupt Politician
			59. Professor
			60. Mr. Entertainment
			61. Pregnant Woman
			62. News Media
			63. Lawyer
			64. U.S. Capitol Building
			65. U.S. Supreme Court
			66. Satan

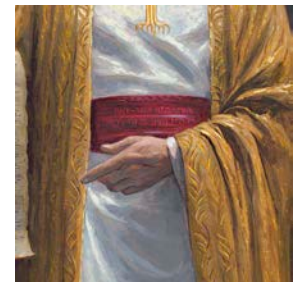
“Someone once said to me that if you mix politics and religion in a painting that is not art. I said that is exactly what art is... if it causes you to think and feel... it is the greatest of all!”



This simple phrase, added to the pledge of allegiance over 50 years ago, became the source of unbelievable debate and heated controversy. Likewise, the phrase “In God We Trust” on our currency has been targeted and continues to be attacked as improper and politically incorrect. Lawsuits have been filed and legal minds employed to ascertain whether such statements violate the concept of “separation of church and state.”

As this debate continues, some so-called experts have implied or concluded that our Founding Fathers and patriots were not religious. These secular champions, in an effort to further their own causes, have even painted these great men and women of our history as being devoid of religious passions or even a belief in God. This is a part of their strategy to remove any discussion of God from the public forum.

These men and women were passionately religious and saw the hand of God all around them. To God they gave thanks for his hand in the founding of this great nation. To Him, according to their own testimony, they turned for wisdom and strength when life and liberty hung in the balance. Certainly the debate on separation of church and state will continue. But no one can dispute how our Founding Fathers and patriots felt about God. The record is clear!



On Christ’s sash is written in ancient Hebrew:

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”

Psalms 33:12



Thomas Jefferson, the same who coined the phrase “separation of church and state,” said, “Almighty God hath created the mind free. . . All attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burdens . . . are a departure from the plan of the Holy Author of our religion . . . all men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of religion.”

It is important to note, the words “Separation of Church and State” first appeared in 1802 in a letter from Jefferson to the Danbury Baptist Church and are nowhere mentioned in the US Constitution.



This view, that we were a Christian nation, was held for almost 150 years until the *Everson v. Board of Education* ruling in 1947. Before that momentous ruling it was common knowledge.

In 1854, the House Judiciary Committee said: “. . . in this age, there is **no substitute for Christianity**. . . **That was the religion of the founders** of the republic, and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants.”

In 1892 the Court stated: “No purpose of action against religion can be imputed to any legislation, state or national, because this is a religious people. . . **This is a Christian nation.**” There it is from the Supreme Court of the United States. This court went on to cite 87 precedents (prior actions, words, and rulings) to conclude that this was a “Christian nation.”

It should be mentioned here that even as late as 1958 a dissenting judge warned in *Baer v. Kolmogoren* that if the court did not stop talking about the “separation of Church and State,” people were going to start thinking it was part of the Constitution.

The papers spread out in front of the Supreme Court Judge represent some of the more notorious Supreme Court cases which I believe have weakened our country. They start with *Marbury v. Madison*, which paved the way for judicial activism, and go in order down to *Kelo v. New London*, which concerns eminent domain and the right to own private property. The papers look as if they have been literally dropped on the steps like a bread trail of errors.

Since this painting there have been new decisions that are harmful to America; notably the ruling on the Affordable Care Act and Same Sex Marriage. The woman is a reference to *Roe v. Wade*, which has since taken the lives of over 57 million American babies. The pregnant woman has chosen to keep her child.

“America was at a tipping point when I painted this in 2009. Now we are a bus going full speed over a cliff.” Jon McNaughton

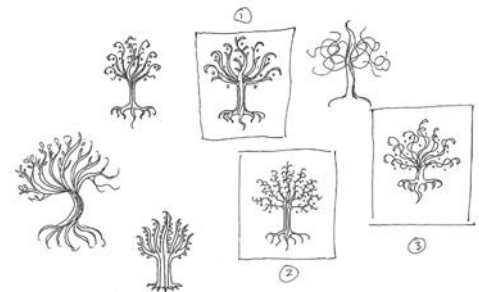


I chose to make the robe golden and kingly, because this is the glorified Christ, no longer the carpenter from Nazareth.

The tree represents the Tree of Life. It is a Messianic symbol of Jesus Christ or the love of God. I wanted to put a symbol on the front of His robe that looked divine and have some symbolic meaning. When I did my research I couldn't find a tree of life symbol that I liked, so I designed my own. This design has many symbols within itself. The tree has seven branches representing the Seven Dispensations of Time. There are twelve fruit representing the twelve tribes of Israel. The center branch is the most fruitful to represent the Millennium. There are also seven roots for the seven creative periods. The trunk has three parts representing the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

The sash is red to represent the blood He spilled for all nations who will come to Him.

On the hem of the robe is an olive branch motif to represent "peace." At the top of the hem is the Greek letters, Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End.



Sketches for Tree of Life motif.

A response to criticisms of "One Nation Under God."

I would like to take a minute to explain some of the points of confusion for those who wish to interpret my painting. I hoped that this painting would encourage dialogue and debate. It is important that you understand my position before you make assumptions.

- 1 Each figure, including Christ, represents a symbol. Everything about the painting is symbolic. This is not a depiction of an actual event, the Second Coming, etc. The purpose is to communicate my thoughts through a painting.
- 2 The figures in the background have been the source of great debate. Let me make myself clear from my writing that just because they stand behind Christ, it does not mean they are devout Christians invoking all to come unto Jesus and be baptized. What I am saying is that they represent those who have influenced our country and our Constitution in a positive way. Many of these men and women gave their lives so we could have the liberties we enjoy. We are now at a time when these liberties are in peril. Our government has grown so big and powerful that the rights of the individual are at risk. This is what the Constitution was about – to limit the size of government. The patriotic heroes who stand behind Christ and the Constitution are pleading with us to defend the cause of liberty.
- 3 In connection to my last statement, I knew when I painted this picture that some of these patriots were not Christian. That was irrelevant to me. I believe God brings about His purposes through different people. Even those who aren't baptized or following the accepted Christian religion.
- 4 Not only have I received flak for this painting from the Left, but also from conservatives as well. Why did you include JFK? Why Lincoln? Why Teddy Roosevelt? I painted this picture to reflect my personal feelings about America. This is not a Republican painting. This is not anything other than one artist's personal feelings about his love for Christ and this country, and a desire to make a point about where we are headed.
- 5 One of the most ridiculous criticisms I have read is that I don't have enough minorities in the painting. The way people throw around the word "racist" these days is overkill. From the beginning of the painting I chose to include a variety of ethnicities under the "Strong Americans" category. I also used different races in the background where I could. One of the most important positions in the painting is where the black U. S. soldier is standing. Originally, I had painted Martin Luther King, but had to remove him because of copyright restrictions. (MLK Foundation)
- 6 Some so called "art experts" feel that a true painting should not be explained, but left to the viewer to interpret. I may not reveal all my thoughts, but I want the world to know what I think and feel – that's why I painted it! Great art causes one to feel. To feel deeply. I knew this painting would evoke emotion on both sides. I knew it was a unique concept, having never been painted before. I don't care if the composition is outdated or whether some other artist may have painted their composition better than me. The message stands alone.



“McNaughton would be a genius if this painting was meant as satire!”

One of my favorite liberal blog comments.

History course from Cambridge University

I’ve received thousands of angry letters and emails from those who hate these paintings. I’ve also had as many positive, encouraging people contact me.

As with all art, the way the viewer responds reflect their own paradigms about the world they live in. I’m not angry if someone hates the painting, or me for painting it.

Until three years ago I had an art gallery at the local mall. I would often paint there and talk with customers. It was difficult to sometimes get any work done, because so many wanted to express their feeling to me regarding the paintings.

I’ve witnessed people come up to the painting and begin to cry because of what it represents; and then others break into a string of profanity.

Just as the painting shows, America is at a tipping point.

“For those well-educated enough and open-minded enough to examine McNaughton’s work for what it is, it becomes evident that McNaughton’s work is not in favor of ‘theocracy’ (as the sensationalist charge has been), but is rather simply symbolic of what Jon McNaughton sees as the state of the United States of America, both at present and historically.

“Not everyone will agree with him. Not everyone will agree that Roe v Wade or Everson v Board of Education have been damaging to the United States.

“But to ignore history is to forfeit heritage, and vice versa. To pretend that Jon McNaughton should be faulted for painting about the demonstrably deep Christian heritage of the United States is to demand that the history books be rewritten.

“As much as the knee-jerk reaction to McNaughton’s painting carries deep streaks of Philistinism, it’s also akin to historical revisionism, and that is the real nonsense.”

Steve Crowder Blog, October 25, 2009



The Forgotten Man, 45X66 inches, 2010

THE FORGOTTEN MAN

All the presidents of the past gather around a man sitting on a park bench. That man, with his head bowed, appears distraught and hopeless as he contemplates his future. Some of the past presidents try to console him and look in the direction of the modern presidents as they exclaim, “What have you done?” Many of the modern presidents behind Barack Obama seem to congratulate each other on their great success, oblivious to the man on the bench. In front of the man, paper trash is blowing in the dust. Crumpled dollar bills, amendments of the Bill of Rights and like a whisper – the U S Constitution is beneath the foot of Barack Obama.



“I want people to some day know what it was like to be alive at this time in our country’s history.”

Jon McNaughton

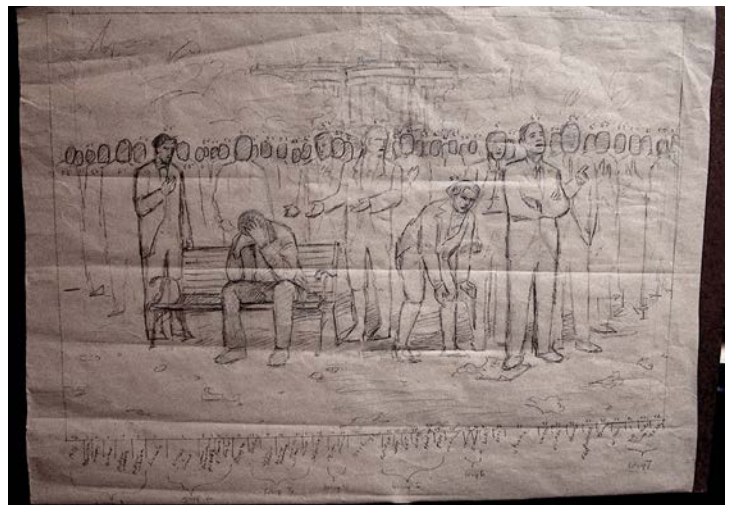
Identification Key

1. George Washington	33. Harry S. Truman
2. John Adams	34. Dwight D. Eisenhower
3. Thomas Jefferson	35. John F. Kennedy
4. James Madison	36. Lyndon B. Johnson
5. James Monroe	37. Richard Nixon
6. John Quincy Adams	38. Gerald Ford
7. Andrew Jackson	39. Jimmy Carter
8. Martin Van Buren	40. Ronald Reagan
9. William Henry Harrison	41. George H. W. Bush
10. John Tyler	42. Bill Clinton
11. James Polk	43. George W. Bush
12. Zachary Taylor	44. Barack Obama
13. Millard Fillmore	45. The Forgotten Man
14. Franklin Pierce	46. The White House
15. James Buchanan	47. American Flag
16. Abraham Lincoln	48. A Storm is Coming
17. Andrew Johnson	49. First Amendment
18. Ulysses S. Grant	50. Second Amendment
19. Rutherford B. Hayes	51. Fourth Amendment
20. James A. Garfield	52. Fifth Amendment
21. Chester A. Arthur	53. Tenth Amendment
22. Grover Cleveland	54. Fourteenth Amendment
23. Benjamin Harrison	55. Sixteenth Amendment
24. Grover Cleveland	56. Arizona SB 1070
25. William McKinley	57. Social Security Act 1935
26. Theodore Roosevelt	58. Social Security Act 1965
27. William Howard Tuft	59. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
28. Woodrow Wilson	60. The Federal Reserve Act 1913
29. Warren G. Harding	61. US Dollars *
30. Calvin Coolidge	62. US Constitution
31. Herbert Hoover	
32. Franklin D. Roosevelt	

MCNAUGHTON
FINE ART COMPANY

Who is the Forgotten Man? He represents every man, woman and child of every color and creed who is an American. Like you and I, he hopes for a better life; to find the American dream of happiness and prosperity. But now, because of unconstitutional acts imposed upon the American people by our government, we stand on the precipice of disaster. What will his opportunities be in the future? Will he ever have a chance to realize the American Dream? We can hear his thoughts: Please don't sell out our future for the crushing debt imposed upon us by entitlement programs and heavy taxes. Why do you not uphold the Constitution? Do you think that the redistribution of wealth and free stuff for everyone at the cost of heavy taxing, uncontrolled spending, and entitlement programs will lead us to some kind of Socialistic Utopia? How can our national debt lead to anything other than collapse? Abiding by the Constitution is the only way to preserve the hope for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Each president takes an oath to sustain and defend the Constitution. Mr. President, what have you done?

“America is not going to see any change until they feel desperate. Until we feel that our little microcosm of security is collapsing, but by then it may be too late.” Jon McNaughton



Conceptual drawing for The Forgotten Man. Each President was carefully placed and drawn according to their height. Notice some changes?

McNaughton Responses to Leftist Criticisms of The Forgotten Man

This is not a partisan painting. I create no favoritism for Republicans or Democrats. Both parties are guilty.

The only solution I offer is to take a 180-degree turn and return to the principles of the Constitution defined by a limited government, individual rights, and none of the baggage we have accumulated over the years in the form of entitlement programs. The only way to cure the cancer is to root it out and endure the painful healing. Perhaps, with God's help, the forgotten men and women will yet survive.

Is it disrespectful to have in my painting the President of the United States standing on the Constitution? Is the president without reproach? I am simply one American speaking to another American. The painting symbolically suggests the actions of Barack Obama. Yes, his actions speak louder than words – as do the brushstrokes in my painting.

Why did I paint this? Like many Americans, I feel shock at the direction in which our country is heading. There is a great polarizing effect taking place today. There are many who swoon over Obama's policies of redistribution of wealth. What will the government give me? If you believe this is the proper role of government you will certainly see great CHANGE in your lifetime. I wanted to paint a picture that portrays the plight of the common man. Maybe the FM will experience this now or in the future. Socialism has never produced a prosperous society in world history. The Constitution is unique. It protects individual rights and the free market system has worked quite well for America. Leave it alone!

I picked the blowing papers based on the issues that have been the most damaging to America. These issues have been trampled by the Left for over a century. When will the American people decide to defend the Forgotten Man? Let us raise our voices together and demand the kind of CHANGE that will truly save our way of life.

Why did I not mention critical information about some presidents that defined their presidencies? My only purpose is to identify each president and with simplicity express what they have done to help the Forgotten Man. I invite all to search deeper into the history of the painting's message and discover if what I paint is true. Can you truly say our house is in order when our debt is stealing away the future of every man, woman, and child in America!

“A black man once asked me when observing the Forgotten Man painting why I didn't make the man black or another color. I told him if I had, the painting would have immediately had racial undertones. He suggested I should have made the man rainbow colors so nobody would be left out.” Jon McNaughton

The Dream

Soon after painting this image I had an interesting dream. I was at a large impressive opera theatre, which was about to begin their production. I stood in the back and it was dark. I wondered if I could find a place to sit.

At that moment an usher took my arm and escorted me to the very front of the room, where I was directed to a chair on the aisle. A spotlight was turned on and illuminated me and the person just across the aisle. I felt the stare of the entire room on us.

The man in the chair turned toward me – it was President Obama. He glared at me and said, “So, I hear you’ve been busy?”

I said, “President Obama, why did you push through Obamacare when you knew most Americans didn’t want it? Are you lying to the American people?”

His answer was, “Yes.”

“It’s so lifelike, you can almost hear the Founding Fathers standing behind him asking, ‘Who gave that slave a suit?’”

Stephen Colbert



When Colbert made that joke I chuckled and marveled at the Left’s skill at dodging the important question. Instead of addressing the meaning of the painting, he used humor to direct its message toward something racial. Many liberals insist that conservatives dislike Obama because he is black. Perhaps they are the racists for judging a person by the color of their skin and not the content of their character?

As an artist, the part that excites me is to bring these famous people to life. I had to study their height and old photos and paintings, so I could find models to photograph and then change their anatomy to become the presidents of the past. I used many of my neighbors and friends to do this in most of my paintings.

One of the most difficult people to paint was JFK. You might wonder why that was the case? He has classic features, but with some quirkiness. There is a fine line. I have to capture their look without going too far.

For example, I want Obama to be alive and real in the painting – not a caricature. I have a great model I use for Obama. I've advised him not to reveal his "secret identity" yet.

"Yes, Mr. President, I have been busy!"

I have been asked the following questions:

Why is FDR standing? Didn't the artist know he was in a wheelchair?

(Dead people don't need wheelchairs.)

Why is Obama the only black man in the painting?

(Because he is our only black president.)

Are you lining up the presidents from most conservative to most liberal? (No, but I do have the worst offender standing on the Constitution.)





Mending the Nation, 24X30 inches, 2014

MENDING THE NATION

I had a vision of a family gathered around an American flag. Not just any flag, but that of a fallen serviceman, a father, a son, a daughter; the kind of flag that would be laid over a casket with great reverence. But upon examining the flag, one can see that it is in horrible condition. Its colors are faded, the edges are torn, and there are many holes. It has been trampled and has not been treated with the honor and respect that it deserves.

Today, our nation is in disarray. Our Constitution has been trampled, our financial solvency is in question, our military is compromised, and the moral fabric of our society is in question. Our government has lost the trust of the people. Our courts do not uphold the Constitution and the American people are afraid for the future of their children. What will it take to mend the nation?

I think that the American spirit is alive and if we muster enough courage and commitment it can be done. The last time I saw such courage was after 9/11 when the country came together for a common good. If we are going to rebuild America, I believe it will take FIVE VALUES. They are: Courage, Family, Hope, Faith, and Love.

Each value is required to make it work – remove one and the whole system fails. In this painting, each member of the family represents a different value. Together we can move forward in “Mending the Nation.”





THE EMPOWERED MAN

There is something simmering deep inside the soul of all Americans. We want to know that we are a free people; that the government acknowledges our individual rights; that fiscal responsibility is an absolute requirement. We want our presidents and politicians to mean what they say when they take the oath of office to defend the Constitution of the United States!

All Americans should be equally empowered to achieve the American Dream:

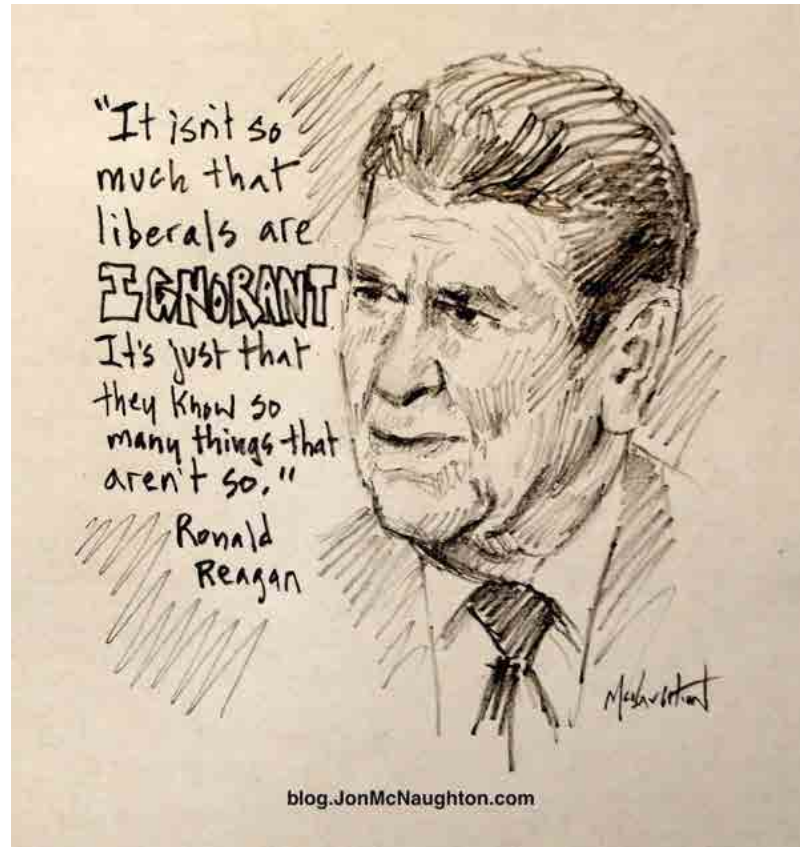
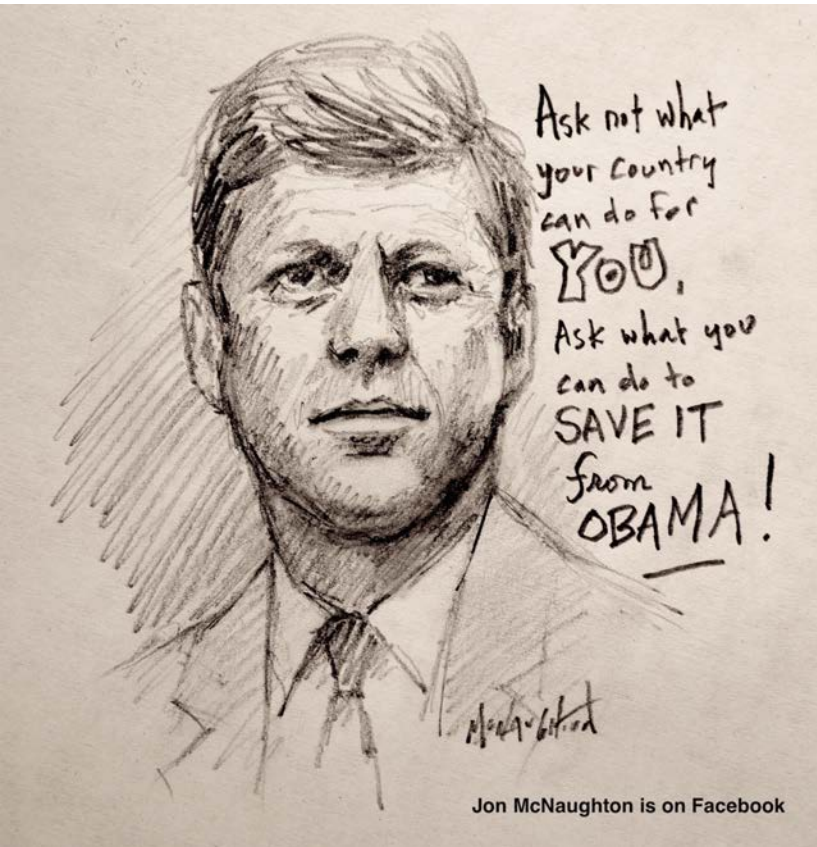
- **Do we have freedom when half the country pays taxes to support the other half?**
- **Do we have freedom when government regulates every aspect of our lives?**
- **Do we have freedom when our currency is controlled by a corporation that has no accountability to the American people?**
- **Do we have freedom when we have more debt than can possibly be repaid?**

The government bureaucracy is to a point where it is no longer worth what is required by the taxpayer to maintain it. I wonder how many Americans realize they have sold our God-given freedoms for a mess of pottage.

I hope everyone will see themselves as the Empowered Man. It makes no difference whether you are a man or woman, how old you are, or the color of your skin. You must decide to no longer be silent, to get off your bench, pick up that Constitution and hold it high in the air as a standard for the world to see. Don't hold back! Don't be silent! You are the future of this nation and without YOU, the American dream will perish.

**“I want to be remembered as a man who cared more
about his God and country than himself.”**

Jon McNaughton



"What if the 800-billion-dollar stimulus at the beginning of Obama's presidency had been equally divided among the American people – would that have stimulated the economy?" Jon McNaughton

What would happen if political correctness became unpopular and people said what they really thought?

What would happen if racism only inspired images of white supremacists, the Klu Klux Klan, and the Black Panthers and NOT every nuance under the sun? And people just stopped being so sensitive and blaming skin color for every societal problem?

What would happen if news organizations actually just gave the news without trying to sway the public's opinion?

What would happen if we ended the war on drugs and only prosecuted those who infringed on others' rights?

What would happen if we no longer had winner-take-all electoral-college methods used for tallying state elector votes?

What would happen if the U.S. Supreme Court could only comment on the constitutionality of cases, and Congress would decide whether it was constitutional?

What would happen if gay rights had no effect on Christian families or institutions? Would Christians no longer feel threatened?

What would happen if state senators were elected by the state legislation, as it was before the 17th Amendment and lobbying was illegal and there were term limits?

What would happen if we made education completely controlled by the state and community with no federal government involvement?

What would happen if we just told all Social Security recipients that we will pay back what they put in and end the Ponzi scheme for good?

What would happen if we stopped giving financial aid to countries that hate us and used the money to secure the borders?

What would happen if violent crime were punished in such a way that the offender would shudder at the thought of ever doing it?

What would happen if non-profit status only applied to charitable organizations and churches?

What would happen if all federal regulations were dissolved and businesses were simply accountable to their employees and patrons for any wrongdoing?

What would happen if government completely kept its nose out of all healthcare issues and people could make their own decisions?

What would happen if the U.S. Treasury started to print Treasury notes and the Federal Reserve was found to be unconstitutional? What if we no longer borrowed money from other countries to fund our debt?



Wake Up America, 40X60, 2013

WAKE UP AMERICA

Every man, woman, and child in America is enslaved to our national debt. As an artist, I have laid out my vision of the dire circumstances that surround us. Now, more than ever, each American must make a choice: will we unlock the shackles that enslave us, or will we give up the greatest gift we have – our freedom? It is my hope and prayer that America will “wake up” before it is too late.

Those who are familiar with my work know I like to use symbolism and metaphor to engage the viewer. See if you can find and decipher the many symbols in this image.

In the painting I have intentionally hidden six keys that will WAKE UP AMERICA and release us from the chains of economic and political bondage. Find these keys and share them with as many Americans as you can. If we don’t “wake up,” the next generation may not know what it means to be free.



Notice the man holding the big sign? Yup, that's me.

“If I lived in most countries I’d be dead by now.”

Jon McNaughton



**The Six Keys we need to
wake up America:**

1. Reverse Deficit Spending
2. Stop the Entitlement Mentality
3. Eliminate Our Dependency on Foreign Oil
4. Stop Unfair Trade Agreements
5. Stop Manipulating the U.S. Dollar
6. Vote Obama Out in 2012 (Too late.)

I've now added a seventh:
STOP ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION!

When you see the people in this small portion of the painting, who do you most identify with? Honestly, I often feel like the man with the little hacksaw trying to cut through the chains. Without the keys to undo the locks, it's almost hopeless.

I purposefully had people scoffing and sneering at those who are trying to remove the chains. In this small snippet alone, there are four of the keys hidden in the painting. Some are in pockets and others are held in their hands.

Why the chicken? That darn rooster tends to show up in a lot of my paintings. It reminds me of when Peter denied Christ in the New Testament. Three times he denied and then went and wept bitterly. The cock crowing is a reminder that we need to WAKE UP!

Other than the illegal immigrant on the far right side, the rooster is the only other one not in chains.



“My son says I’m like William Wallace with a brush. Freeeeeeeeedom!” –JM




Peace Is Coming, 66X44 inches, 2008

PEACE IS COMING

The scene is set against the darkened skies of a smoky battlefield as the glorified Christ moves through the midst of soldiers from all the different eras of time. As if they had stepped from the battle moments before, bloodstained and exhausted, they bow in submission, overwhelmed by emotion before the King of Kings.

On Christ's sash, the words of Isaiah are written in ancient Hebrew: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares ... neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4).

Can anyone truly comprehend the sacrifices our young men and women make who serve in the military? To all those who have served or are serving their country on the battlefield, to their families, and to those who prayerfully await the return of their loved ones, I humbly dedicate this painting. May we remember them in our prayers and know that peace is coming.



Identification Key

1. Jesus	21. US WWII
2. Roman	22. US Continental
3. US Iraq	23. British India
4. Conquistador	24. Union
5. Arab	25. Roman Scout
6. Knight	26. Palestinian
7. US Vietnam	27. Female Israeli
8. Chinese	28. Egyptian
9. US Indian	29. Crusador
10. Black Knight	30. WWII Pilot
11. Satan	31. Samurai
12. Viking	32. Spartan
13. Confederate	33. World Trade Center Ruins
14. French	34. Mount of Olives
15. Roman Elite	35. Star, sign in the heavens
16. African Zulu	36. Broken Swords
17. Nazi German	37. Words of Isaiah
18. Scottish	38. Tree of Life
19. English Moore	
20. Pacific Islander	

MCNAUGHTON
FINE ART COMPANY

The original concept for this painting came through a friend. The idea was to capture the very moment when these soldiers realize that peace is really here. How would they feel? The emotions would be enormous.

I painted mortal enemies next to each other where I could. For example, the U.S. soldier and the Arab Terrorist; the Conquistador and the Native American; the Vietnam Veteran and the Chinese; and the U.S. Pilot and the Japanese samurai.

The reaction to this painting has been humbling. I have witnessed many people come into my gallery and break into tears over the meaning of the painting. Often they are veterans or family of those who have loved ones serving in the military. Sometimes they are regular people who feel great gratitude for those who serve our country or who empathize with the heartache of war. Everyone has their own story they bring to the painting.

The only model where I used myself was the pilot with his arm over his face. This was a very emotional work for me.



Here you can get a good look at the robe on Christ. This particular painting was before “One Nation Under God” and was the first to use this design. Much effort went into the detail of His robes.

I also spent much effort in researching the detail in the soldier’s attire. You can’t go down to the store and rent costumes like this, so I had to do a lot of careful prep work on this painting; it took nearly four months to paint.

No detail was too small. From a hint of a nail mark on the hands and feet of Christ, to the insignia on the uniform of the U.S. soldier, I relished every detail.

As mentioned in the “key” for the painting, even Satan himself is under the ruins of the World Trade Center in the top left. Wherever there is war, Satan is lurking nearby.





Story of the Young U.S. Soldier in the Painting

My model was Cody Hencheid of the 101st Airborne Division, who served in Iraq and received the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for saving the life of his companion. Few people know the true story behind his act of bravery.

When I was looking for a U.S. soldier model for this painting I went to the Jose F. Valdez U.S. Army Reserve Center and asked whom they would recommend for my new painting. Cody was who was referred to help me.

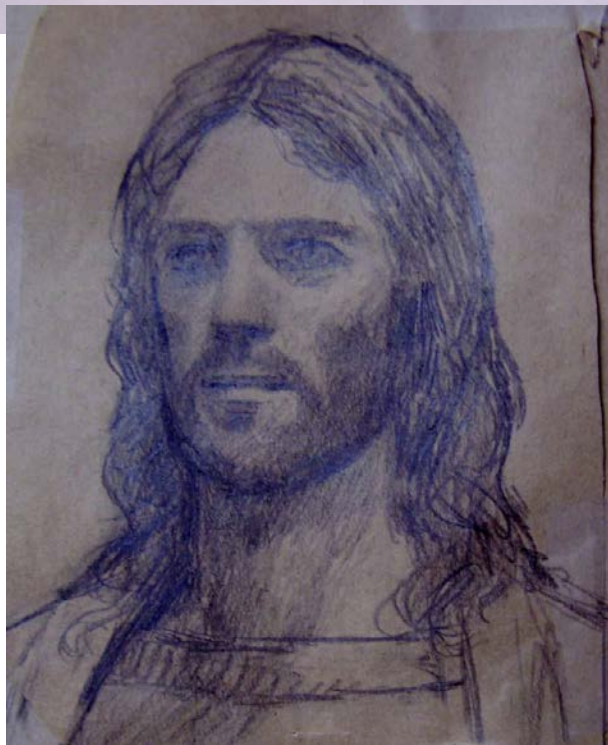
When the painting was finished I learned that he had been decorated and suffered from his wounds, but the real surprise was when he shared what happened that day when a roadside bomb blew up under his convoy.

He said he and his partner were pinned down and his friend was unconscious from the blast. When he thought all hope was lost he offered this in his own words: "An angel picked us up and laid us down away from the fire."

Cody's commanding officer didn't want to hear about the angel story, so Cody was awarded the medals for saving his friend's life. It was touching for me to hear this story in light of the spiritual nature of the painting.

Here is an actual photo taken just after the road side bomb exploded during the Iraq War.





The preliminary sketches are important to the finished work. I often go to great lengths to work out these details so that the final painting meets my expectations. As an artist, I think the most critical skill is to be able to think creatively and to visualize your subject without having photographs always there to guide you. You must be a visionary.



Obamanation, 40X60 inches, 2012

OBAMANATION

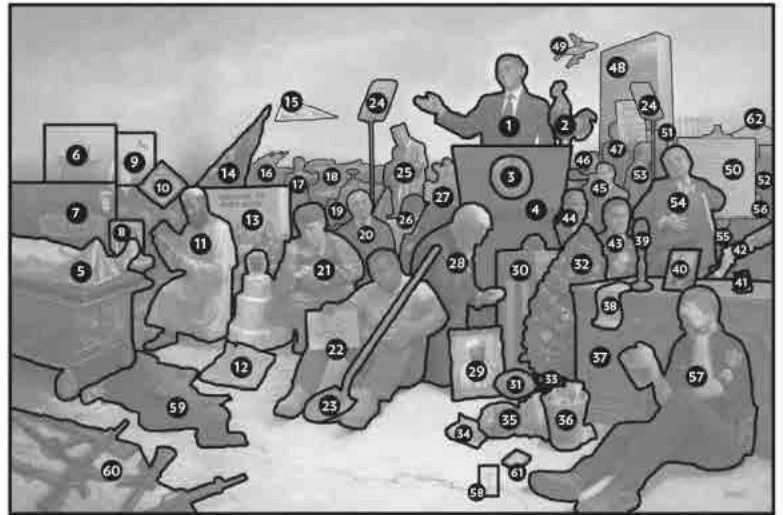
I chose to use an undisclosed studio so I could paint privately, without interruption, to focus on the task of embedding in a single painting all the subtle, mindless, radical, and dangerous atrocities of the Obama administration up until 2012.

I am just one person, a citizen of this country using my first amendment rights to speak out through my art. This is my declaration that we have never had a president do more to harm our country than Barack Obama.

To those who scoff or wish to trivialize this painting, I challenge you to study the various symbols and metaphors that you see. There are over 60 in the painting. No person could have analyzed this image and learned about these facts and still, in good conscience, voted for Obama in 2012.

I do not hate this president, but I hate the fact that I had to paint this picture. Has the painting gone too far? I knew when I did this that most Obama supporters would reject what I have done. But as a conservative, I'm fed up with the corruption in Washington. And I'm sick of the political correctness that has derailed our country from examining things as they really are!

My art is an expression of the times in which I live and people will know how Jon McNaughton felt about being alive in America in 2012.



Identification Key

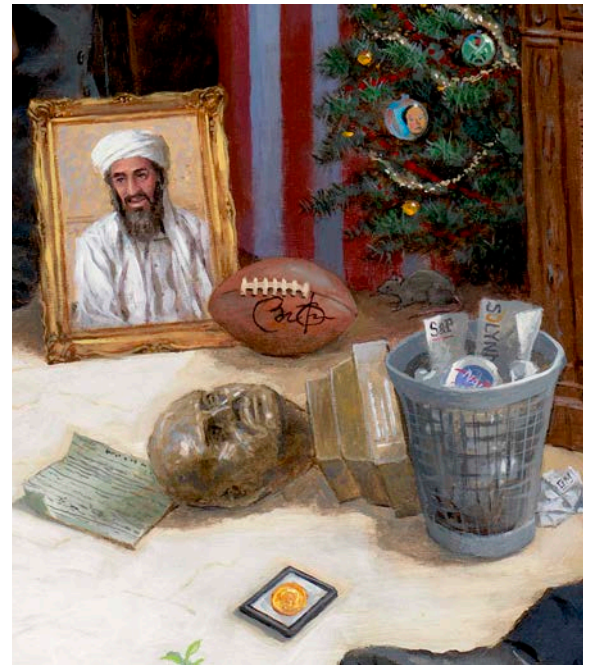
- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Barack Obama | 33. Rat |
| 2. Jeremiah Wright | 34. Birth Certificate |
| 3. Obama Seal | 35. Churchill Bust |
| 4. The Press | 36. Trash (Standard and Poors, NASA, Solyndra, GM) |
| 5. Obamacare | 37. Resolute Desk from White House |
| 6. Drilling for Oil | 38. List of Czars and Other Disreputable Appointees |
| 7. Occupy Wall Street | 39. Mandated CFL bulb |
| 8. Toilet humor | 40. Abraham Lincoln |
| 9. Amnesty to Illegals | 41. Frank Marshall Davis |
| 10. Illegal Immigration | 42. White House Leaks |
| 11. Radical Islamic Free Pass | 43. Mitt Romney |
| 12. U.S. Constitution | 44. Eric Holder |
| 13. Fort Hood Tragedy | 45. Dmitry Medvedev |
| 14. Arizona Laws | 46. Hosni Mubarak |
| 15. F15 Fighters for Saudis | 47. Pro-Choice Activist |
| 16. Nuclear Missiles | 48. United Nations |
| 17. Ahmadinejad | 49. Air Force One |
| 18. Cash for Clunkers | 50. Budget Plans |
| 19. Keystone Pipeline | 51. Gay Rights |
| 20. Netanyahu | 52. Confused Obama Supporters |
| 21. Repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell | 53. Gaddafi |
| 22. Unemployment | 54. George Soros |
| 23. Stimulus | 55. G. W. Bush |
| 24. Teleprompters | 56. Bill Clinton |
| 25. Veteran Disrespect | 57. Cop who acted "stupidly." |
| 26. Illegal Uncle | 58. Hope |
| 27. Golf Clubs | 59. BP Oil Spill |
| 28. Religious Freedom | 60. Fast and Furious |
| 29. Osama Bin Laden | 61. Nobel Peace Prize |
| 30. Ballot Box | 62. Bridge (You didn't build that!). |
| 31. Football | |
| 32. White House Christmas Tree | |



This small portion is loaded with various symbols, but the most important is the Constitution on the ground ripped between the words "We the / People."

An Islamic Radical Terrorist within the very ranks of our military carried out the attack and murder of 13 U.S. soldiers and wounding of 45 at Fort Hood. Because of fear of offending Muslims, he went unchecked despite the signs of problems. Even Obama, upon hearing of the mass murder, refused to refer to the incident as an act of terrorism, calling it "workplace violence."

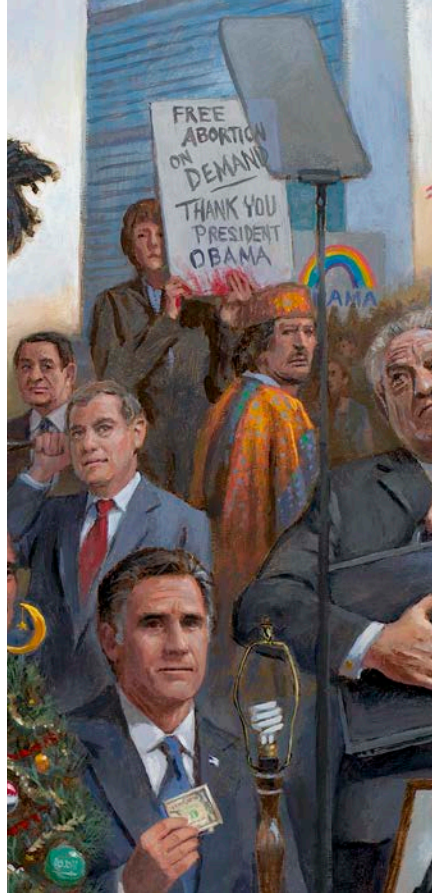
In an effort to be politically correct and not offend minorities in America, the Department of Justice under Obama and have turned a blind eye to illegal actions and hate crimes if the perpetrators fit the politically correct narrative.



How many symbols can you see in this small section of the painting? I count at least ten!



The repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” and open LGBT in the military, has demoralized our military, on top of all the other poor military decisions since Obama took office. Our country has never been more vulnerable and at risk. Obama has “fundamentally changed” the United States of America, as he promised he would do in 2008.



The woman is thanking Obama for his support of abortion through Obamacare. Notice the rainbow. After the same-sex marriage ruling by the Supreme Court, Obama lit up the White House with the rainbow colors. That would have looked great in the painting.



Pushing “The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act” through the Democratically controlled House and Senate – although the majority of the American people disapproved of the new law – Obama said it was constitutional and for our good. We were promised that it would not fund abortions, create death panels, and that there was no tax involved. Since the passing of the law it has been proven those were lies and that the cost is twice the original estimate, making it the largest tax hike in U.S. history. The Supreme Court ruled the law Constitutional only after Justice Roberts changed the meaning of the “mandate” to a “tax” versus a “penalty”; otherwise he would have deemed it unconstitutional. Thank you Obama for giving us the largest socialized healthcare in history – I’m sure that it will work out just as wonderfully as all the other government programs we have.

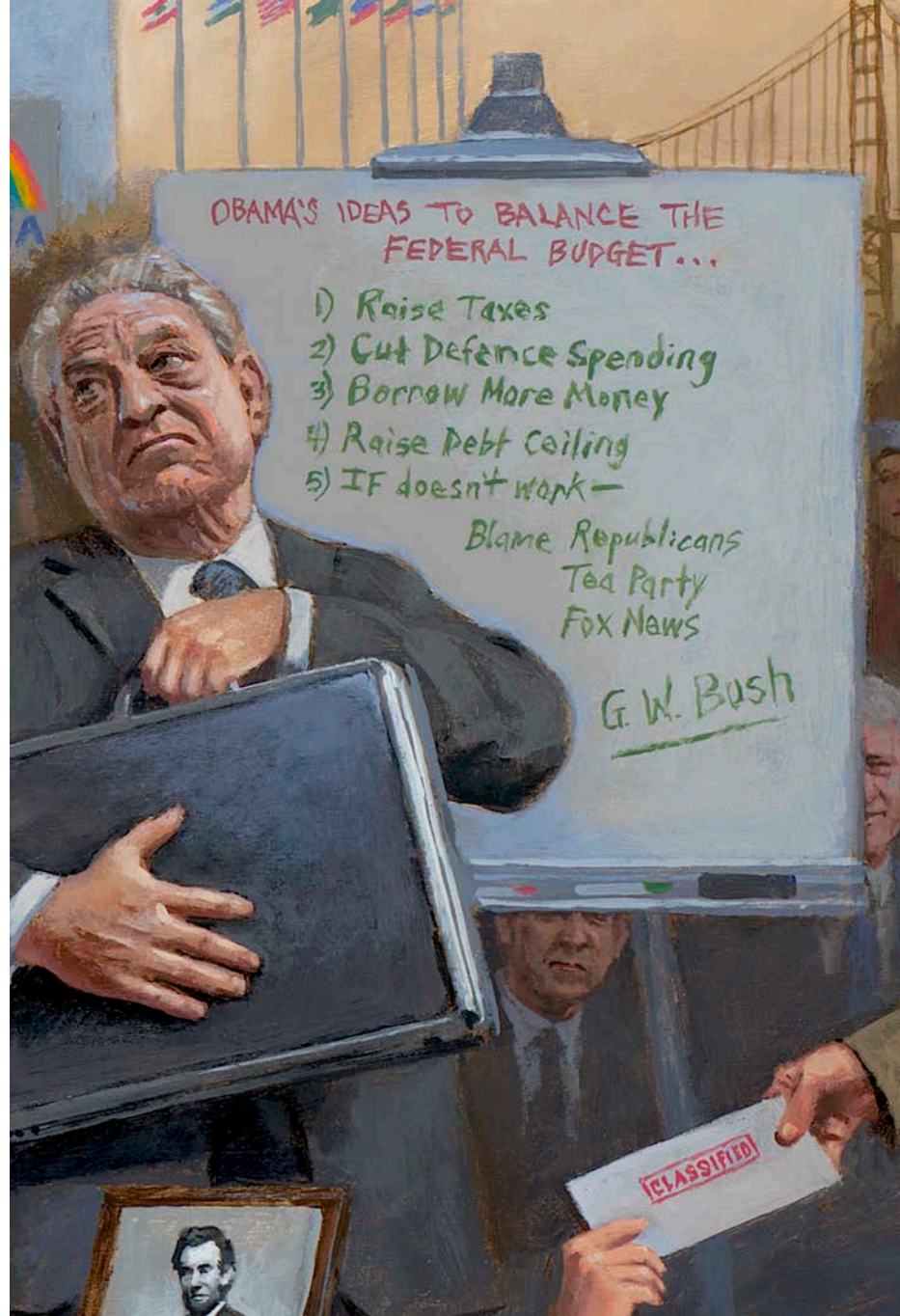
**“We love our military –
let them eat cake.”**

Obama Military Policy



Obama's administration negotiated the treaty with Iran that released 150 billion dollars to the greatest contributor of terrorism in the world. The faulty agreement ensures that Iran eventually acquires a nuclear arsenal, which surely will be used against Israel and us. He has betrayed our greatest ally, Israel, and helped ISIS in an effort to control oil in the Middle East. Now, as our military wonders if we will be entering another war, with possibly Russian and China involved; what will Obama do next?

It saddens me as I think of the many great men and women who have given their lives for liberty. For what? To be squandered by a president with a radical globalist ideology that that brings America to its knees.



Here you see George Soros with a suitcase. What's his purpose? Behind Soros is Obama's strategy to balance the budget. It didn't work out too well. Actually, he never had a real plan.

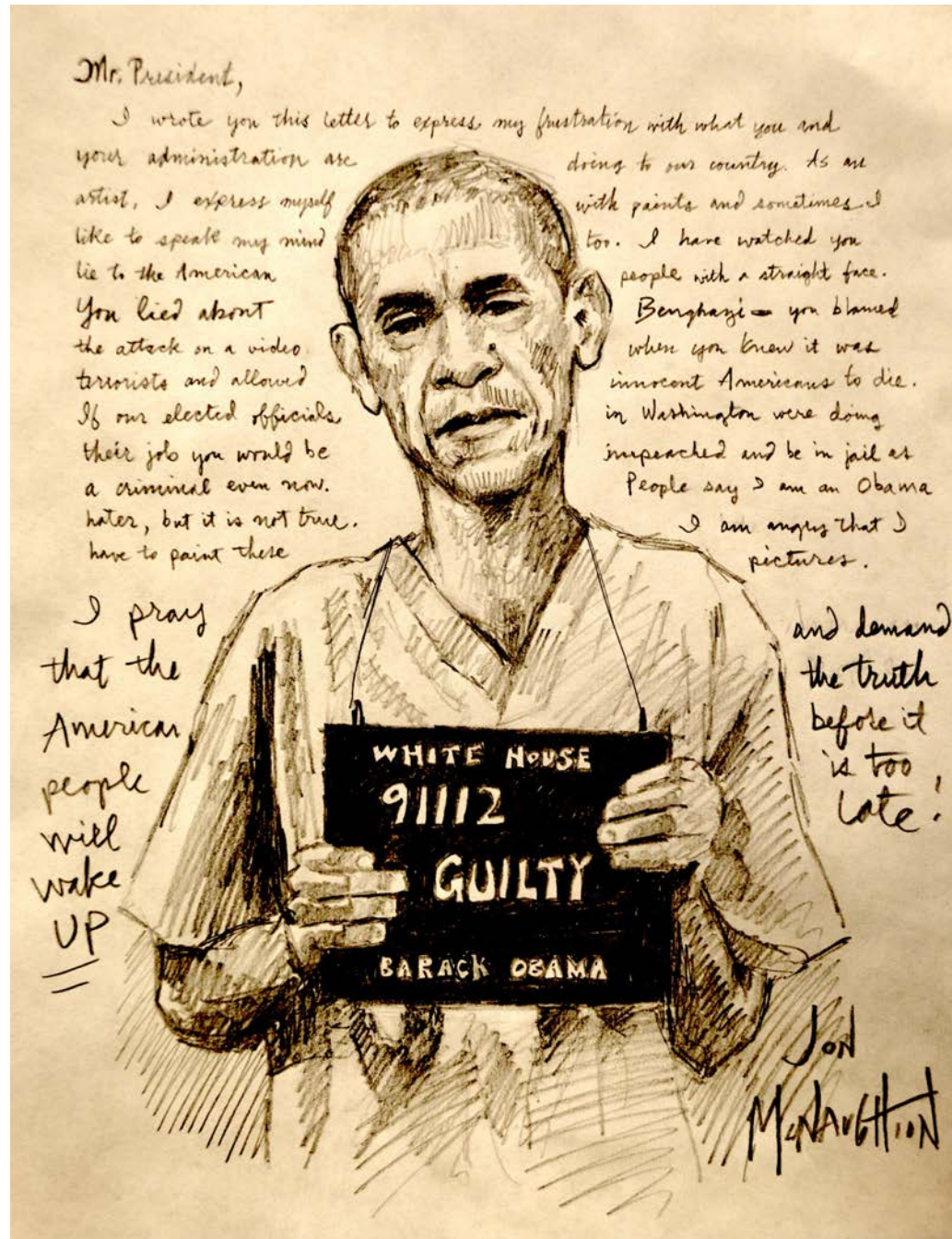
After we began to learn about the details of the September 11, 2012, Benghazi Massacre and the duplicitous handling by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, I wrote this letter to President Obama. This is the first time I've shown it publically. I feel that every attempt to discover the truth of that day has been swept under the rug.

Mr. President,

I wrote you this letter to express my frustration with what you and your administration are doing to our country. As an artist, I express myself with paints and sometimes I like to speak my mind too. I have watched you lie to the American people with a straight face. You lied about Benghazi – you blamed the attack on a video terrorists and allowed innocent Americans to die. If our elected officials in Washington were doing their job you would be impeached and be in jail as a criminal even now. People say I am an Obama hater, but it is not true. I am angry that I have to paint these pictures.

I pray that the America people will wake up and demand the truth before it is too late!

Jon McNaughton





RUNAWAY SLAVE

This painting is a tribute to Reverend C. L. Bryant, a man who holds the “torch of liberty” and unlocks the chains that bind millions of Black Americans today.

In the summer of 1963, as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, he delivered one of the most powerful speeches in our nation’s history. Known for its famous line, “I have a dream,” this speech concluded with these words:

“And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, ‘Free at last, free at last! Thank God Almighty, we’re free at last!’”

So, is Black America free at last? Is it possible that a man can be enslaved in other ways besides chains and shackles? Do shouts for affirmative action and government intervention really help the black community?

My position is that the Democratic Party has brought about the demise of Black America. Currently, 95% of all blacks vote Democrat, and yet what do they have to show for it? 25% of blacks suffer from poverty conditions. 16% of blacks are unemployed and 30% of all abortions are black babies. Also, the majority of our prison inmates are Black Americans.

"Why are we still thinking we are not free at last? What ideas are keeping us down?" Reverend Bryant asks. “For too long, we have been depending on other people for our success. We have to pursue our happiness; our happiness is not



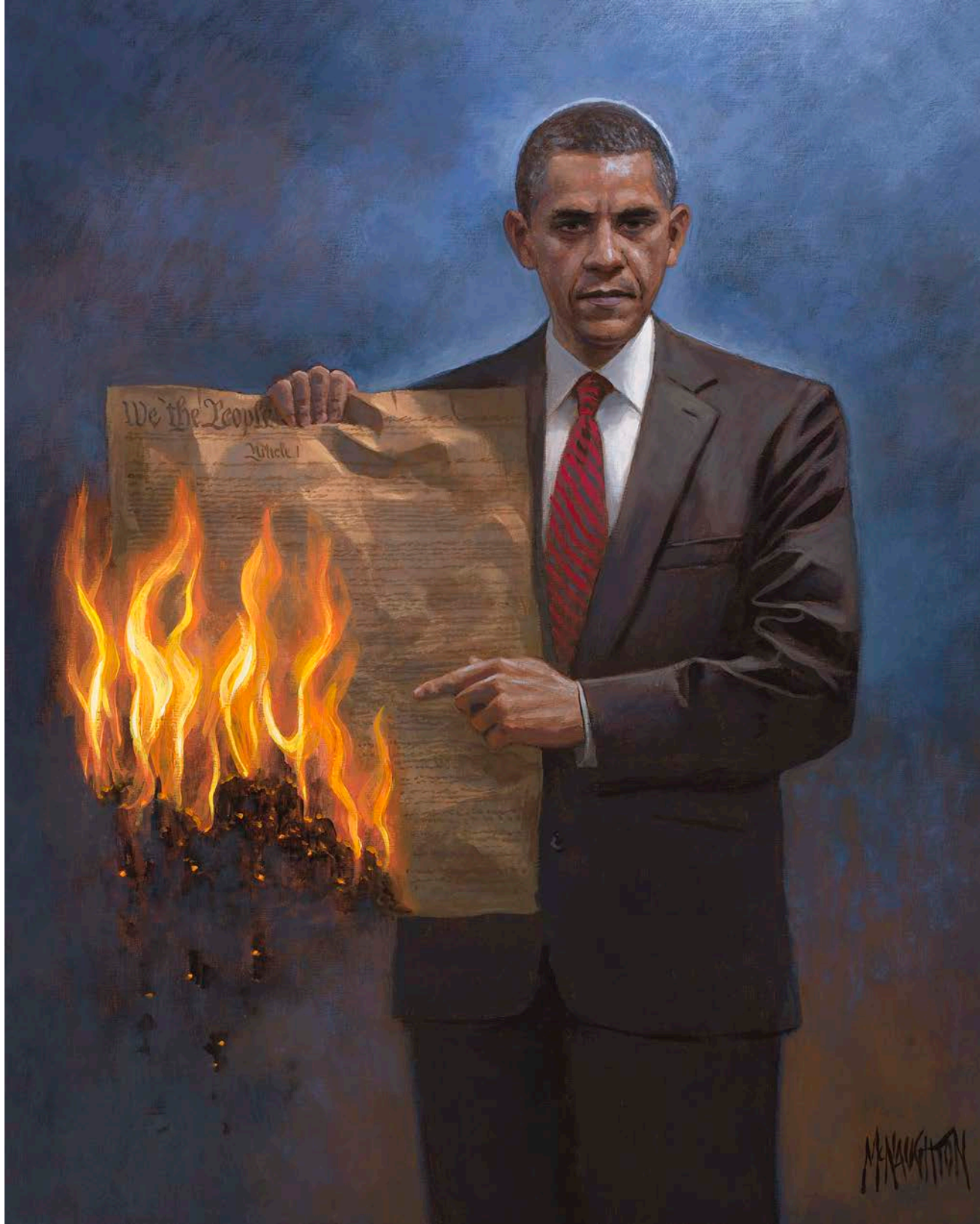
CL and me at the Freedomworks event in Salt Lake City in 2014. I had the honor of introducing Reverend Bryant. I had not framed the original of Runaway Slave yet, but I still brought it to the event. He's a soft-spoken man, but when he's at the pulpit he roars like a lion!

provided to us. If we are relying on someone else for our wellbeing, that in itself is a form of slavery."

Rev. Bryant's conclusion? It's time to run. "Run away from economic slavery. Run toward the blessings of liberty. Let us remain strong in this fight. Run away from socialism; run away from progressivism. And if you get tired, America ... RUN HARDER!"

This painting is a beacon to all Americans, to free yourselves from the government bondage that enslaves your very soul. Be FREE of the old taskmaster that will offer you all the comforts if you will but do his bidding. Rise up and be great in the sight of God! YOU are the RUNAWAY SLAVE!

****100% of profits from "Runaway Slave," the painting, go to help CL Bryant Institute for Racial Understanding, U.S.A.



ONE NATION UNDER SOCIALISM

I pledge allegiance to the United States of America, and not to an ideology, which can never stand, one nation under socialism, divisive with no liberty or justice for anyone.

McNaughtons Answers to Questions Regarding This Painting:

Why the title “One Nation Under Socialism?”

Our federal government has been moving in the direction of socialism for over one hundred years. Many presidents and politicians have compromised the Constitution as we have given away our freedoms under the guise of entitlements and government intervention. When the people are willing to sacrifice the next generation for their current lifestyles and allow the federal government to have all the power for an illusory mess of pottage you have chosen “One Nation Under Socialism.”

What do you mean by an ideology, which can never stand?

I will not support an ideology that will lead to the destruction of America. In the history of the world, never has there been a recorded example where socialism has led to the betterment of the human condition or improved the liberty of the people. I know there are varying degrees and definitions of socialism. Even the European model of Democratic Socialism has proven to be a dismal failure. Do you want to see our country become like Greece, Italy, Portugal, or even Great Britain?

What do you mean by divisive, with no liberty or justice for anyone?

Socialism uses the illusion of offering fairness and justice for everyone by redistributing the wealth of the nation, picking and choosing winners and losers. This administration has taken over our healthcare system, and given bailouts to the automotive industry, banking industry, and energy industry. They support the Occupy Wall Street movement of increased taxing of the rich to pay for the welfare of the less rich. The Constitution never guaranteed equal things, only equal rights and justice. In America we should be FREE TO SUCCEED and FREE TO FAIL!

At this very moment our Constitution is literally going up in flames. What will you do to preserve the Constitution and save America?

“If good art is supposed to strike a response ... and get a reaction from people, I don’t think I could say it better than One Nation Under Socialism.” Sean Hannity



When Fox News commentator Sean Hannity purchased “One Nation Under Socialism” it created a firestorm of controversy. Many news sources around the country were outraged that Hannity would purchase the painting. Hannity threatened to demand that the Metropolitan Museum of Art hang the work, because of its important controversial statement. If they could display provocative work desecrating the Virgin Mary, how could they refuse?

It wasn’t long before comedian Stephen Colbert did a segment on his show skewering my art for its political statement. The crowd booed when “One Nation Under Socialism” was unveiled. I laughed through most of his skit at his outrageous sarcasm as he oversimplified the paintings and made humor from my paintings. Although I don’t take myself too seriously, I have great anxiety for our country – and that is serious.

Soon, liberal artists were on the Internet to beg Colbert for the same media attention for their own political art.

In the meantime the media was abuzz with conjecture for how much Hannity paid for the painting.

Strangely, the rumor circulated that Hannity spent up to \$300,000.00 for the painting. Newspaper articles quoted art aficionados commenting on the unheard-of success of this political artist. Of course, they brought out the art critics from New York, Los Angeles, London, and around the world to comment on the newest controversial painting.



**“The Drudge Report had put this up and I knew it’s controversial,
but I thought the Libs loved controversial art?”**

Sean Hannity



One jewel came when CBSDC contacted Jerry Saltz, an art critic for New York Magazine, about the painting:

- Saltz said that the painting contained “bad academic derivative realism,” calling it “typical propaganda art, drop-dead obvious in message” and “visually dead as a doornail.”
- “It panders and preaches to the converted and tells them what they already believe,” Saltz told CBSDC. Saltz said the painting could not be compared to WWII art.
- “It has no graphic power of its own. It simply attempts to crawl into the body of that sort of illustration.”
- When asked if removed a few years from Obama’s presidency could the work be then viewed as art, Saltz said the work is “inverted, with an American as an enemy — Hitler, Tojo, Stalin, whoever.”
- “It’s much closer to the hate images produced in Germany pre-1939, in 1950s USA Redscare, in the USA around Jim Crow, etc.”

(CBSDC March 20, 2012)

CBSDC

It amuses me to hear the liberal media and art experts criticize the painting for its lack of depth and over-simplicity. Do they know the intent of the artist? Yes, part of the painting’s message is obvious – Obama’s actions are unconstitutional. But also this painting was prophetic. The bottom of the flames makes the shape of the lower half of the US, as it represents the coming destruction of America brought by illegal immigration. Hidden in the flames is the word “obey,” representing Obama’s refusal to enforce the border. And THAT is just the beginning. Maybe Sean will share the rest of the story with everyone some day?



The Demise of America, 16x24 inches, 2014

THE DEMISE OF AMERICA

Many Americans today feel a sense of dismay and horror as we see our country in a downward spiral, economically, morally, and politically. President Obama's indifferent attitude and the continuous list of scandals and bad policy are leading the country to ruin.

As an artist I am reminded of the old saying "Nero fiddled while Rome burned." History believes that Nero himself may have set the great fire that burned a part of Rome during his leadership. Afterwards, he blamed it on the Christians who suffered great persecution under his rule. I see great similarities to what we are experiencing today. Obama fiddled, while the people witnessed the demise of America, and like with Nero the failure is always blamed on others.

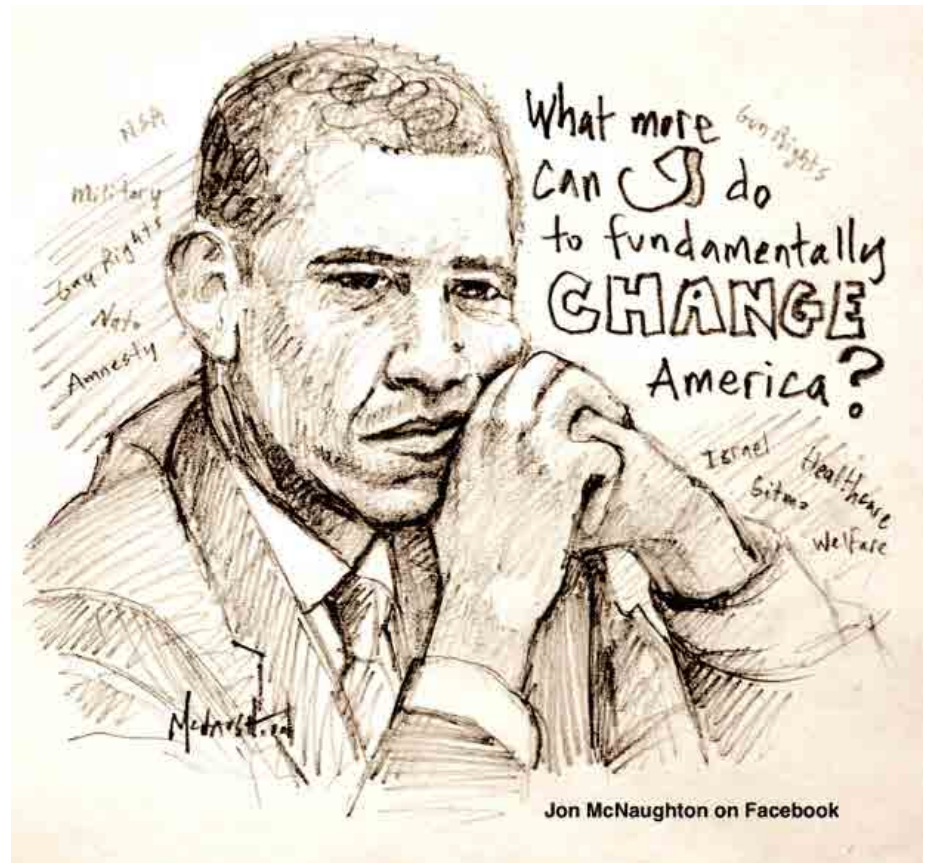
Interesting note about the painting:

When it was first released I had multiple messages from people familiar with playing violin or fiddles. The consensus was I painted him with terrible form!

I asked my model who posed with his old family relic – the fiddle his great-great-grandpa used play at the local bar.

As far as his fiddle technique he said, "I have no idea what I'm doing on that!"

He indeed was the perfect model for Obama.





M. WASHINGTON

STAND YOUR GROUND

America is about freedom. We believe in strong families, patriotism, God, and justice. We won't bother you if you don't bother us . . . well, that's the way it should be.

I wanted to paint a picture that represents why I think gun ownership is important. Since our country's inception, we have proudly believed in the right of each citizen to own firearms. No man, or group, can take away these unalienable rights.

The man in this painting can be any American who is patriotic, responsible, well trained, and won't back down to any kind of aggressor.

My model for this painting is a neighbor who is an amateur bodybuilder. I could never figure out the right painting I could ask him to model for me, because he looked too much like a super hero. Well, when I got the idea for this painting he was the perfect guy.

He's also well trained with firearms.



I'm with the Director of Border Narcotics Alliance, Mike Presnell. The group consisted of about 53 members, all of whom had background working in intelligence. Their focus was to gather intelligence on drug and human smuggling coming through the Arizona border to assist government agencies. (2012)



TAKE A STAND

America is about freedom. We believe in strong families, patriotism, God, and justice. We won't bother you if you don't bother us . . . well, that's the way it should be.

The purpose of this painting is to show the strength and honor of the American woman. You could consider her a female soldier or the mama bear that you don't want to mess with. Either way, she is not afraid to face the opposition that wants to infringe upon her God-given rights.

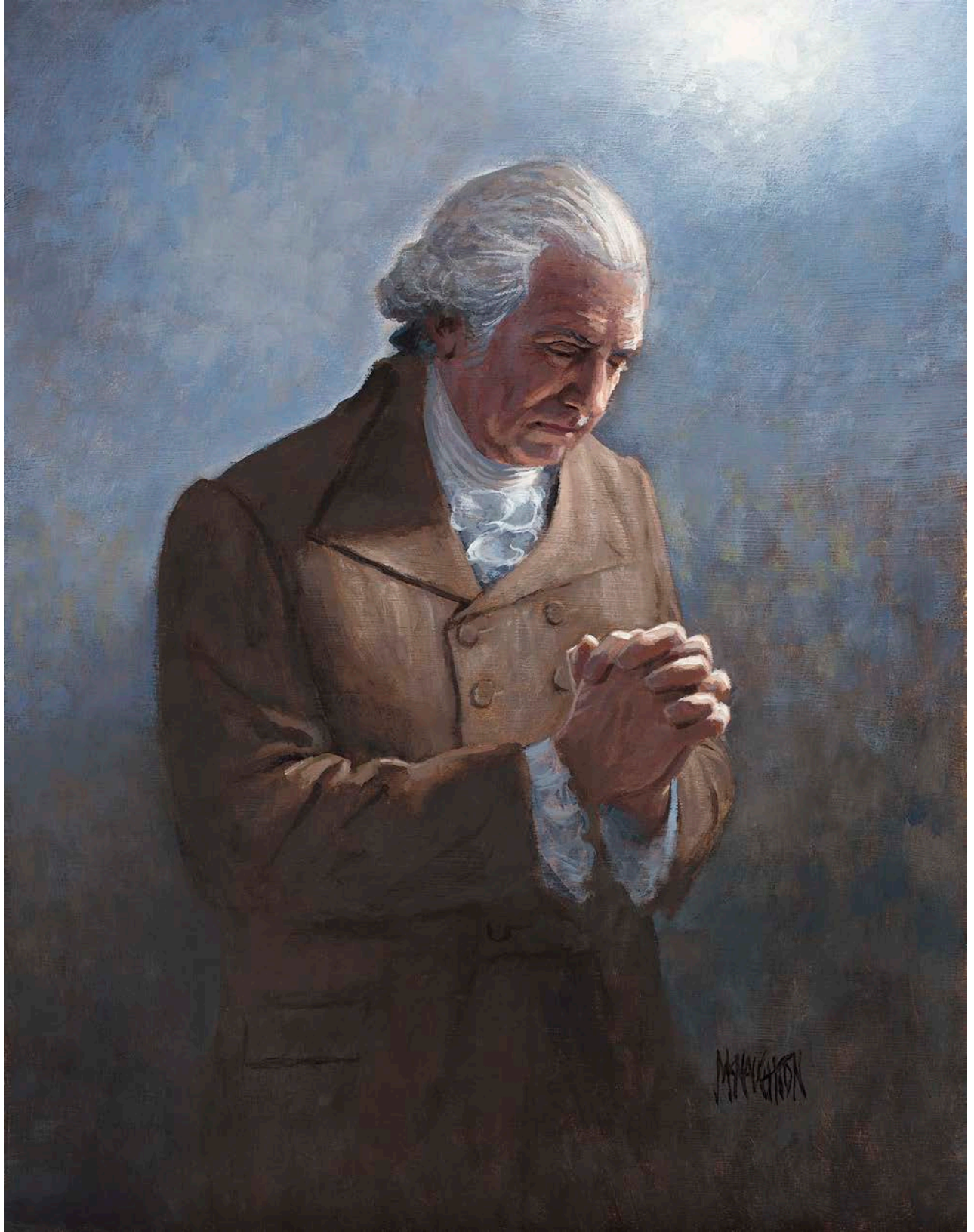
In today's society the rights of an individual have been reduced to what many people perceive as necessary. The Federal Government continues to encroach upon individual liberties, as the First and Second Amendments of the Constitution are under attack.

Here, the woman holds a SIG 556 Firearm as her weapon of choice. Her finger remains in the safety position, and she is well trained. Had this been Joan of Arc she would have been holding a sword with just as much fervor and determination. The American woman will never give up or back down and when she is threatened she will – Take a Stand!

I found a nice lady to model for this piece; she was a bodybuilder friend of the man who modeled for "Stand Your Ground." When I first drew the picture I had many comments that her hair wasn't regulation cut, so I chose to pull it back in the final painting. Some liked it better longer. Boy, did I take flak for this painting! Her arms are too big, her breasts are too big, her gun is too big, make her blond – give me a break! More people wanted to chime in on how she looked than what the painting represented. I think this says a lot about our culture. If every American, man and woman had the resolve that these two paintings are about – America would rise to heights like we've never seen before.



I actually had to scale down her arm a little to make it more believable in the painting. Here is the photo to prove it!



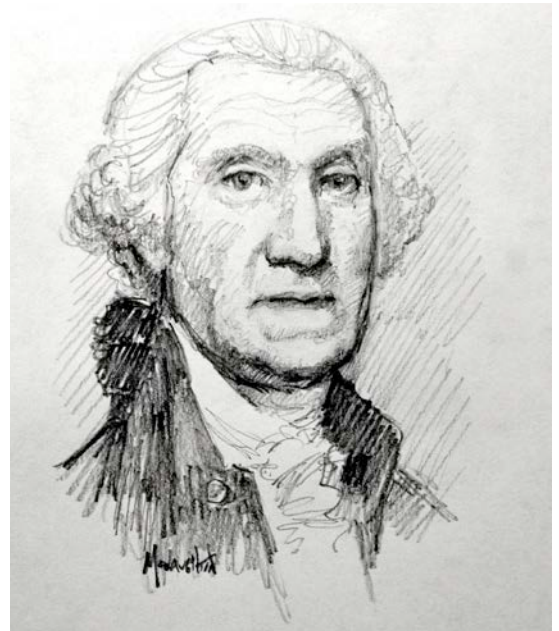
WASHINGTON'S PRAYER

George Washington was the father of our country, and was also a man who prayed. On Inauguration Day, April 30, 1789, after taking the Oath of Office, he kissed the Bible and looked up, reverently closed his eyes and said, "So help me God!" He then gave his first Inauguration Address, which he ended by saying:

"I shall take my present leave; but not without resorting once more to the Benign Parent of the Human Race, in humble supplication that, since He has been pleased to favor the American people with opportunities for deliberating in perfect tranquility, and dispositions for deciding with unparalleled unanimity on a form of government for the security of their union and the advancement of their happiness."

He wore a brown suit that day and walked with members of Congress to St. Paul's Chapel where he offered prayer and devotion in behalf of a new Republic.

Many today argue whether Washington truly worshipped Jesus Christ.



In George Washington's personal prayer book, in his own handwriting he wrote:

"And since Thou art a God of pure eyes, and will be sanctified in all who draw nearer to Thee, who dost not regard the sacrifice of fools, nor hear sinners who tread in Thy courts, pardon I beseech Thee, my sins, remove them from Thy presence, as far as the east is from the west, and accept of me for the merits of Thy son Jesus Christ, that when I come into Thy temple and compass Thine altar, my prayer may come before Thee as incense, and as I desire Thou wouldst hear me calling upon Thee in my prayers, so give me peace to hear the calling on me in Thy word, that it may be wisdom, righteousness, reconciliation and peace to the saving of my soul in the day of the Lord. Jesus."



Separation of Church and State, 24x30 inches, 2015

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

Once a year, the President of the United States makes a speech to a joint session of Congress. Reporting on the condition of the nation, he outlines the priorities of his administration. It is called “The State of the Union Address.”

I envisioned Jesus speaking to this joint session where all the leaders of our country are gathered. He looks at them from the pulpit; He pauses, and then begins to address the assembly.

He reminds them of the covenant that was made with the founders of our nation that He would protect and bless us if we would remember Him; and then Jesus opens the Holy Bible to Psalms 33:12, and reads the verse:

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD.”

At this moment the Chamber erupts into shouts of anger and disgust, as the body of the joint session turns into a hostile mob - reminiscent of the mob that shouted out to Pilate, “Crucify him!”

Jesus, with a countenance of gentle peace, although saddened by the rejection of his offer, looks across the assembly at the angry mob. He turns and begins to exit the pulpit. The large American flag rips from top to bottom, like the veil of the temple ripped as He hung on the cross and said, “It is finished!”

A woman, unable to bear His glance, holds her face in shame. Words of mockery, angry shouts, and venomous threats fill the hall.

Above the torn flag, engraved in the marble stone of the Congressional Chamber of Congress are the words, “In God We Trust.” Oh, the irony! A shaft of light from the Courts of Heaven shines upon the word “God” as a reminder of whom they have rejected.

O, America – why have you abandoned the rock from whence you were hewn!

As Jesus exits this unholy chamber he turns to gaze at you, the viewer of this painting, and asks the question, “What will YOU do now?”

The painting is meant to be a symbol of our government’s abandonment of God and His Covenant; for **surely, He has not abandoned us, but we have abandoned Him.**



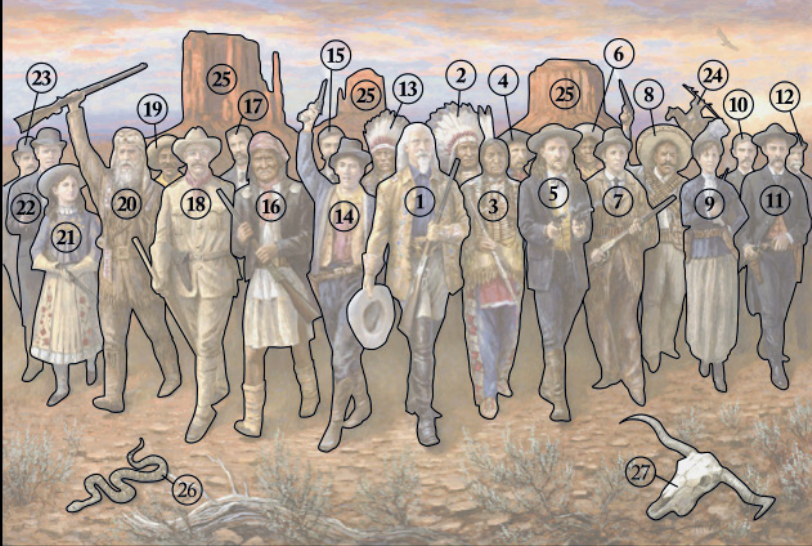
Wild Wild West, 30x48 inches, 2015

WILD WILD WEST

Are you a lover of the Old West? How many of these figures did you recognize? The history of the American frontier is rich with legends and heroes who have stirred our imagination about the Wild West for over a hundred years. In a new painting we can see many of the most famous outlaws, frontiersmen, and gunslingers, together for the first time coming out of the dust, hooting and hollering in a blaze of glory. They come towards the viewer as alive and realistic as they ever were in life.

McNaughton has gone to great lengths to recreate each figure with detailed accuracy as they would have appeared over a hundred years ago.

“As a patriotic artist I find the Old West to be a part of the history of American ideals. The men and woman who tamed this land fought hard for justice and freedom. This painting contains the good, the bad, and the ugly. To learn from history is to know your future. The generations that come will look upon us as the Wild Wild West of the twenty-first century.”



Identification Key

1. Buffalo Bill	15. Pat Garrett
2. Red Cloud	16. Geronimo
3. Sitting Bull	17. Jesse James
4. General Custer	18. Teddy Roosevelt
5. Wild Bill Hickok	19. Bill Pickett
6. Deadwood Dick	20. Jeremiah Johnson
7. Calamity Jane	21. Annie Oakley
8. Poncho Villa	22. Butch Cassidy
9. Belle Starr	23. Sundance Kid
10. Doc Holliday	24. Crazy Horse
11. Wyatt Earp	25. Monument Valley
12. Black Bart	26. Diamondback Rattlesnake
13. Quanah Parker	27. Longhorn skull
14. Billy the Kid	



Below is a younger Teddy Roosevelt. His motto: "Walk tall and carry a big stick." Teddy is an interesting historical person. As a politician I saw two Teddys; one I liked and one I didn't. The "big government progressive Teddy" – not so much. What I loved was his indomitable spirit that caricatured the spirit of the "Man of the West."

It was a lot of fun bringing these famous figures to life in the painting. Many of them were mortal enemies. Many were controversial in their time and even today. The good and the evil have always coexisted in a constant tug-of-war. Billy the Kid would have been considered a thug in today's world. Notice Pat Garrett behind him, the lawman who killed him. Buffalo Bill is surrounded by famous chiefs of legendary status. Even General Custer is poking his head into the picture.

In my paintings I've always been interested in putting together opposites and "what if" scenarios to engage the viewer. If these works don't raise an eyebrow they haven't accomplished their purpose.

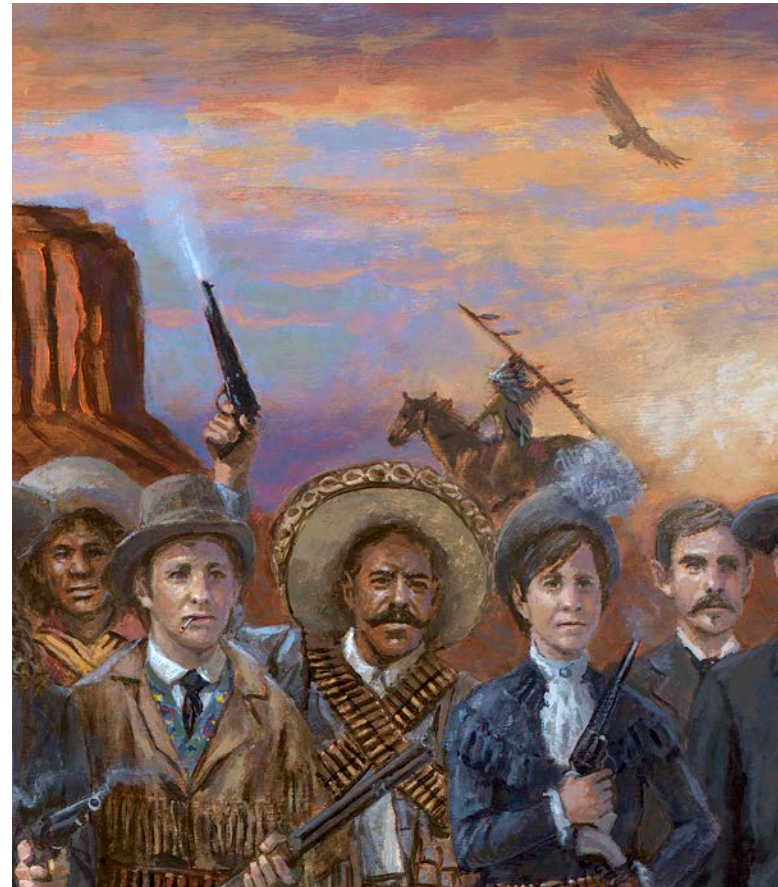




In the image below from the painting you can see two of the women famous for their rebelliousness: Belle Star and Calamity Jane. Behind them, Poncho Villa and Crazy Horse in the distance. The soaring eagle, a symbol of freedom, and beautiful colors of Monument Valley in the distance. Our country's history is rich with diversity, triumph and sadness. We can either condemn ourselves for our weakness and demand retribution, as many liberals would propose, or we can learn, move forward, and stop being the wussy state that has to cater to every politically correct whiner that we see. Our Constitution protects our right to liberty, not the right to not be offended!

In my studio with the original "Wild Wild West." I paint these images for myself and sell prints. I keep many of the originals in a vault and sell them upon request. I rarely do commissions, but focus on my own vision and ideas. Yes, it's a great job – except those darn Obama paintings – I hate doing those!

Typically, I'll paint a patriotic image, followed by a couple religious and a couple landscapes, then I'm back to the political. I can't help myself. I'm constantly checking news stories and posting things on Facebook. Not much of a Twitter person yet. I'm fairly old school; it took forever for my wife to get me to upgrade from my flip phone to the one that does texting. I took back my smart phone, because I don't need a computer and phone hooked together. My passion is the art. I like talking to people, even liberals. They are usually disarmed when they realize I'm a pleasant person. I consider modern day liberalism a disease, so I must feel compassion for their helpless situation.





LIBERALISM IS A DISEASE



1. Al Gore
2. Keith Olbermann
3. Rosie O'Donnell
4. Whoopi Goldberg
5. Matt Damon
6. George Clooney
7. Alec Baldwin
8. Piers Morgan
9. James Carville
10. Lawrence O'Donnell
11. Ed Schultz
12. Rachel Maddow
13. Jesse Jackson
14. Harry Reid
15. Michael Moore
16. Nancy Pelosi
17. Bill Maher
18. Sean Penn
19. Katie Couric
20. Stephen Colbert
21. Anthony Weiner
22. Matt Lauer
23. David Letterman
24. Jon Stewart
25. Chris Matthews
26. #1 Liberal Satan
27. Al Sharpton
28. Democratic Party
29. Environmentalism
30. New York City
31. Rhino butt (Liberal Republicans)

What do you mean liberalism is a disease?

We have a disease. It's infecting every aspect of our society and its time we did something about it.

Some of these people I really like and some I don't, but for the sake of our health, our children, and our sanity, we need to take drastic action quickly.

What if we could bring them all together, put them on a desert island, and quarantine them, for one hundred years?

They believe they have all the answers to everything. But every liberal idea I've ever seen has led to total failure. If they were right, their new island home would be a utopia before long.

Let's look at the most liberal communities in the country. New York City, Detroit, Chicago...how are they doing?

Yes, I say let's quarantine them and let nature take its course.

“Rachel Maddow once had a contest on her blog to insult one of my paintings. The attention led to a huge Internet surge and I sold a ton of art. I never had a chance to thank her publically.” JM



Many of these liberals have been rather entertaining over the years. I chose my subjects in this painting because I see them like cartoon characters of the Left. I painted them with larger heads and smashed together to emphasize the obvious satire of the painting. I admit, I had fun with this one.

This is one of the few images of which I don't sell prints. Feel free to use as you wish – share with the world! Share with your friends. Print it out and give to a liberal friend as a birthday gift.

Some have asked, “Why are there no Republicans in the painting?” I think they missed the obvious – the big elephant butt on the left side – or is that a rhino butt? The painting is filled with little jabs regarding the nuttiness of liberalism. One interesting observation after releasing this image: it was immediately scolded by many “moderate Republicans” as beyond the pale. Many RINOs in the Republican Party feel a need to cater and capitulate to the Left to keep the peace. This has been a sore curse on the Republican Party and has created a divide that has made it easier for liberals to get what they want in Washington. The “disease” is rampant in politics and we need to quarantine it immediately!

You might have this disease if you agree with liberals on any of the following:

We should remove guns from law-abiding citizens who have a right to protect themselves, and leave them in the hands of criminals who will acquire the firearms anyway... How many gun-free zones do you know that have low murder rates?

The same liberals who are trying to save us from guns turn around and demand abortion rights for women at the expense of over 57 million human lives, and counting.

We should raise the national debt to meet the continued demand for welfare and entitlement spending at the expense of our country's economic future.

We should fight a war against terrorism without identifying who the enemy is because of political correctness, and then allow illegal aliens to cross the border by the millions, without identifying possible terrorists among them.

We should provide kid-glove treatment to Islamic radicals and unfriendly regimes and then show religious intolerance to Jews and Christians.

We should allow a minority of gay rights activists to dictate the definition of marriage and force Christians to comply.

We should use environmentalism to thwart the energy interests of Americans at a time of great financial stress and threats to national security.



Why is Satan in the painting? Are you saying these people are Satanic?

I don't know that. Perhaps most of them are just deceived. Satan is what I call the "Number One Liberal." Liberalism is about control. Satan wants to promise you everything in exchange for your freedom. He uses lies, deceit, and compulsion to have you do his bidding. In the end, you are left with nothing. Has any liberal idea ever ended well? It is instant satisfaction at the expense of your soul. Yes, liberalism is a disease.

Some have asked: “Why are you making fun of these people?”

Most of my paintings are serious in nature (although liberals find them amusing). This one is more of a satire. This means to me that although it is humorous on the surface, the underlying message is very serious. Liberals use humor relentlessly as a tool to suppress conservative ideas. As always, if my paintings can cause someone to think about or debate the serious issues, they were successful.

Do you think all liberals are bad?

Well, yes, but I’m talking about their ideologies, which are destructive. I have many liberal friends. I know many good people that for some unfortunate reason are infected by the disease.

How did you decide whom to include in the Liberalism is a Disease painting?

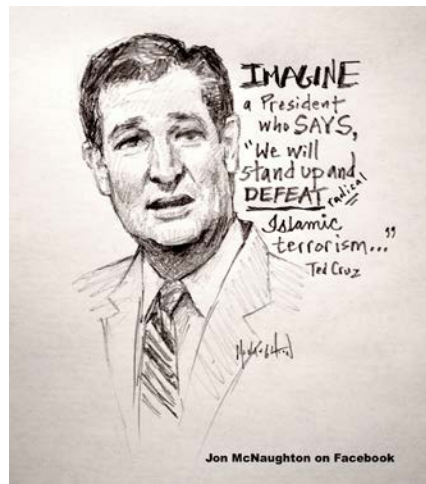
I chose well-known liberals in different fields that influence Americans every day. There are many more who I could have included that I think are spreading the disease. Perhaps some liberals will be pleased if they were included in the painting; like a “badge of honor.”



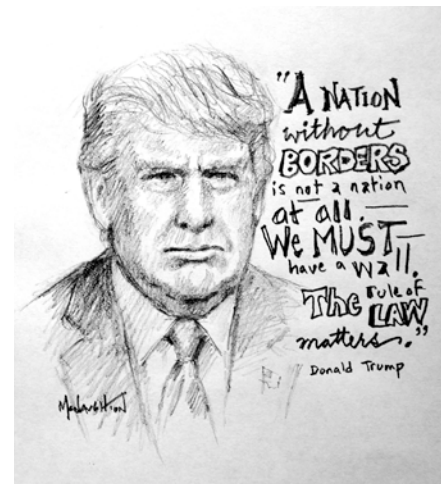
An idea for a Hillary campaign poster. Do you think she'd like it? I was trying to bring out her essence; how did I do?



I don't think we got a good trade when Obama gave away five terrorists for Sgt. Bergdahl. He's not the best at negotiating.



I don't know who is going to win the Republican nomination as I'm writing this.



These little drawings are very therapeutic for me.

Dear Obama Supporters,

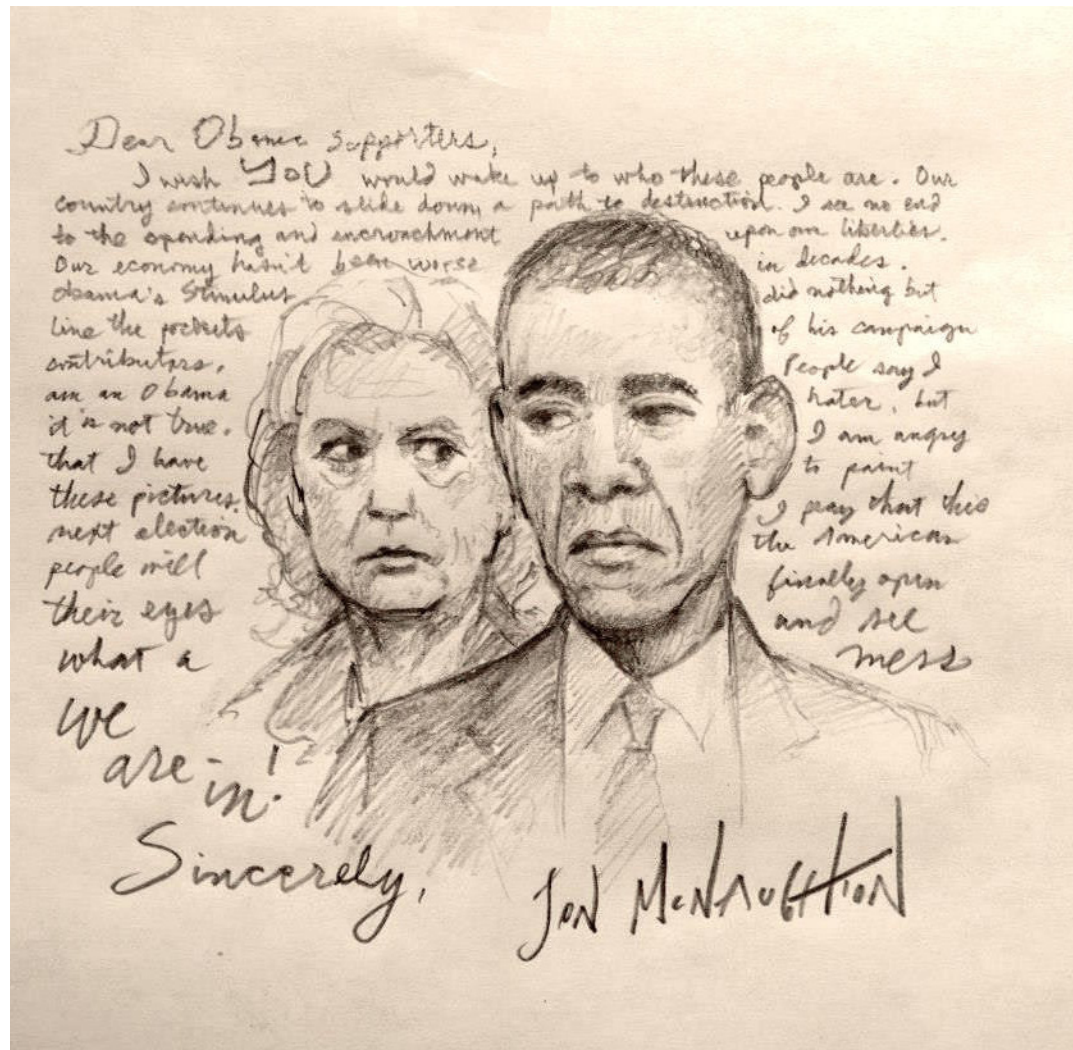
I wish YOU would wake up to who these people are. Our country continues to slide down a path to destruction. I see no end to the spending and encroachment upon our liberties. Our economy hasn't been worse in decades. Obama's Stimulus did nothing but line the pockets of his campaign contributors.

People say I am an Obama hater, but that is not true. I am angry that I have to paint these pictures.

I pray that this next election the American people will finally open their eyes and see what a mess we are in!

Sincerely,

Jon McNaughton



Note to reader:

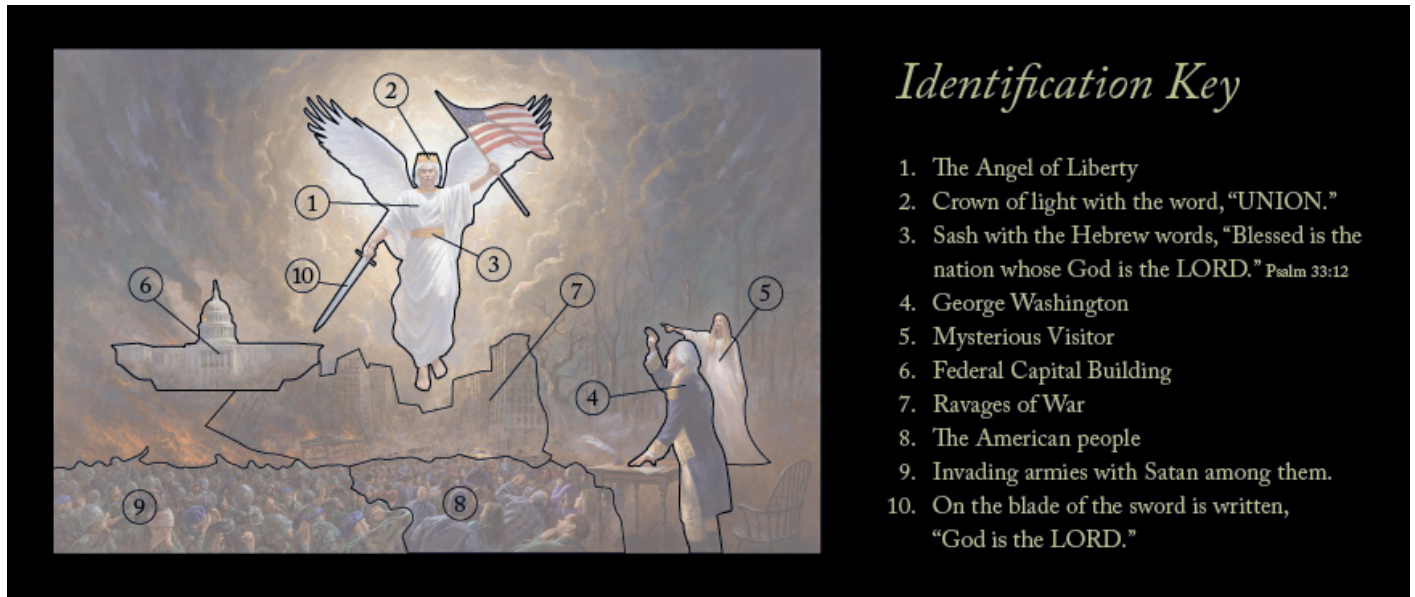
At the time I am writing this Hillary is currently one of the Democrat nominees for president. Her unauthorized emails are under investigation by the FBI and many Americans are suspicious of Benghazi and the trail of lies and deceit that clouds her history going back to before she was the First Lady. I hope to high heaven she is not elected, because I don't want to paint her.



ANGEL OF LIBERTY

The vision of George Washington is not so well known by most Americans, but it is worth consideration as our country stands in peril of losing everything we hold dear. At a time when our financial solvency and our national security are more vulnerable than ever, what is it that can save us from the doom that lurks at our doorstep? I chose to paint this vision at the triumphant moment when the Angel of Liberty bursts upon the scene. Whether or not the vision is authentic is debatable, but the message it contains is timeless.

In the National Tribune, in 1880, an article appeared giving an account of the “Vision of Washington” at Valley Forge. The account was told by a gentleman named Anthony Sherman, who supposedly was at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777–78. The story has been published several times.





"George Washington's Vision"

This afternoon, as I was sitting at this table engaged in preparing a dispatch, something seemed to disturb me. Looking up, I beheld standing opposite me a singularly beautiful female. So astonished was I, for I had given strict orders not to be disturbed, that it was some moments before I found language to inquire the cause of her presence. A second, a third and even a fourth time did I repeat my question, but received no answer from my mysterious visitor except a slight raising of her eyes.

By this time I felt strange sensations spreading through me. I would have risen but the riveted gaze of the being before me rendered volition impossible. I assayed once more to address her, but my tongue had become useless, as though it had become paralyzed.

A new influence, mysterious, potent, irresistible, took possession of me. All I could do was to gaze steadily, vacantly at my unknown visitor. Gradually the

surrounding atmosphere seemed as if it had become filled with sensations, and luminous. Everything about me seemed to rarefy, the mysterious visitor herself becoming more airy and yet more distinct to my sight than before. I now began to feel as one dying, or rather to experience the sensations, which I have sometimes imagined accompany dissolution. I did not think, I did not reason, I did not move; all were alike impossible. I was only conscious of gazing fixedly, vacantly at my companion.



That's me with the ball cap looking away.

Presently I heard a voice saying, "Son of the Republic, look and learn," while at the same time my visitor extended her arm eastwardly, I now beheld a heavy white vapor at some distance rising fold upon fold. This gradually dissipated, and I looked upon a stranger scene. Before me lay spread out in one vast plain all the countries of the world — Europe, Asia, Africa and America. I saw rolling and tossing between Europe and America the billows of the Atlantic, and between Asia and America lay the Pacific.

"Son of the Republic," said the same mysterious voice as before, "look and learn." At that moment I beheld a dark, shadowy being, like an angel, standing or rather floating in mid-air, between Europe and America. Dipping water out of the ocean in the hollow of each hand, he sprinkled some upon America with his right hand, while with his left hand he cast some on Europe. Immediately a cloud raised from these countries, and joined in mid-ocean. For a while it remained stationary, and then moved slowly westward, until it enveloped America in its murky folds. Sharp flashes of lightning gleamed through it at intervals, and I heard the smothered groans and cries of the American people.



That's me with the ball cap looking away.

A second time the angel dipped water from the ocean, and sprinkled it out as before. The dark cloud was then drawn back to the ocean, in whose heaving billows it sank from view. A third time I heard the mysterious voice saying, "Son of the Republic, look and learn," I cast my eyes upon America and beheld villages and towns and cities springing up one after another until the whole land from the Atlantic to the Pacific was dotted with them.

Again, I heard the mysterious voice say, "Son of the Republic, the end of the century cometh, look and learn." At this the darkshadowy angel turned his face southward, and from Africa I saw an ill-omened specter approach our land. It flitted slowly over every town and city of the latter. The inhabitants presently set themselves in battle array against each other. As I continued looking I saw a bright angel, on whose brow rested a crown of light, on which was traced the word "Union," bearing the American flag, which he placed between the divided nation, and said, "Remember ye are brethren." Instantly, the inhabitants, casting from them their weapons became friends once more, and united around the National Standard.

Again, amid the fearful noise of the conflict, I heard the mysterious voice saying, "Son of the Republic, look and learn." As the voice ceased, the shadowy angel for the last time dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it upon America. Instantly the dark cloud rolled back, together with the armies it had brought, leaving the inhabitants of the land victorious! Then once more I beheld the villages, towns and cities springing up where I had seen them before, while the bright angel, planting the azure standard he had brought in the midst of them, cried with a loud voice: "While the stars remain, and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the Union last." And taking from his brow the crown on which blazoned the word "Union," he placed it upon the Standard while the people, kneeling down, said, "Amen."

The scene instantly began to fade and dissolve, and I at last saw nothing but the rising, curling vapor I at first beheld. This also disappearing, I found myself once more gazing upon the mysterious visitor, who, in the same voice I had heard before, said, "Son of the Republic, what you have seen is thus interpreted: Three great perils will come upon the Republic. The most fearful is the third, but in this greatest conflict the whole world united shall not prevail against her. Let every child of the Republic learn to live for his God, his land and the Union." With these words the vision vanished, and I started from my seat and felt that I had seen a vision wherein had been shown to me the birth, progress, and destiny of the United States.



Can you see Satan in this crop from The Angel of Liberty?



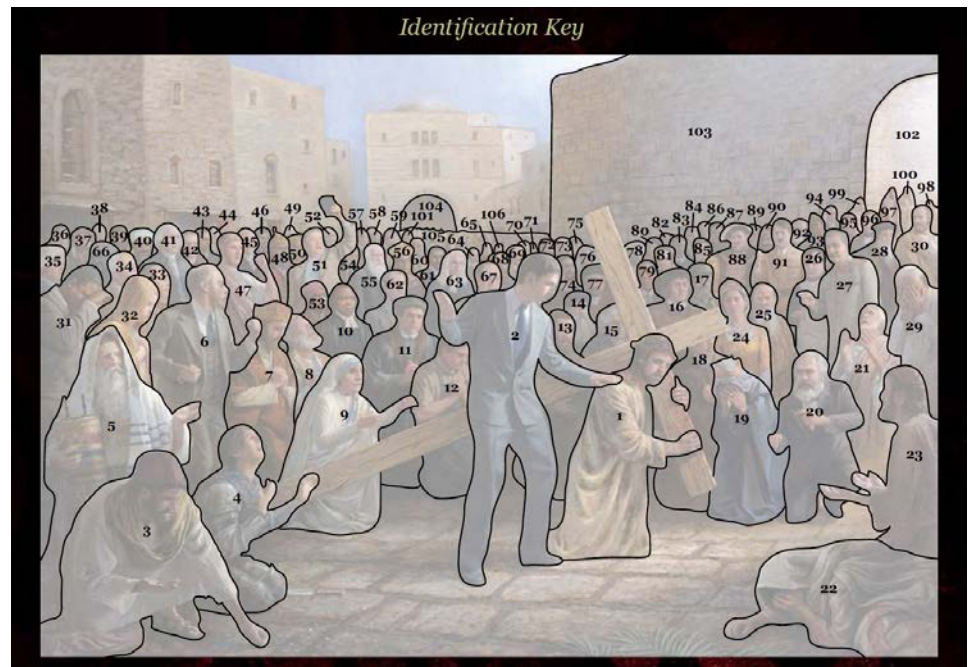
"And again I heard the mysterious voice saying "Son of the Republic, look and learn." At this the dark, shadowy angel placed a trumpet to his mouth, and blew three distinct blasts; and taking water from the ocean, he sprinkled it upon Europe, Asia and Africa. Then my eyes beheld a fearful scene: From each of these countries arose thick, black clouds that were soon joined into one. Throughout this mass there gleamed a dark red light by which I saw hordes of armed men, who, moving with the cloud, marched by land and sailed by sea to America. Our country was enveloped in this volume of cloud, and I saw these vast armies devastate the whole county and burn the villages, towns and cities that I beheld springing up. As my ears listened to the thundering of the cannon, clashing of sword, and the shouts and cries of millions in mortal combat, I heard again the mysterious voice saying, "Son of the Republic, look and learn." When the voice had ceased, the dark shadowy angel placed his trumpet once more to his mouth, and blew a long and fearful blast. "Instantly a light as of a thousand suns shone down from above me, and pierced and broke into fragments the dark cloud which enveloped America. At the same moment the angel upon whose head still shone the word Union, and who bore our national flag in one hand and a sword in the other, descended from the heavens attended by legions of white spirits. These immediately joined the inhabitants of America, who I perceived were will nigh overcome, but who immediately taking courage again, closed up their broken ranks and renewed the battle.



VIA DOLOROSA

This painting has over 100 figures, both good and bad, men and women that have left their footprint on Christianity. The man in the middle represents the modern Christian...a man who must decide whether or not he will stand up for his Christian beliefs. Many are shouting out to tell him what to do. He raises his hand to say, "Be silent, for I know that Jesus is the Christ!" He touches Jesus' shoulder to indicate that he gets his strength from the Master. Today, Christians are the most persecuted people in the entire world. Yet many of us stand idly by as we are mocked and persecuted for what we know to be true. As true Christians, we must not fear to speak the truth, even if it means we have to stand alone in the world.

"Via Dolorosa" is Latin for "Way of Suffering" and is the name for the traditional road in which Christ carried his cross to Calvary.



- Identification Key*
- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Jesus Christ | 37. Johannes Gutenberg | 73. Bach |
| 2. Modern Christian | 38. George Bush | 74. Raphael |
| 3. Judas Iscariot | 39. Ahmadinejad | 75. John Wycliffe |
| 4. Joan of Arc | 40. Osama bin Laden | 76. George Fredric Handel |
| 5. Jewish Priest | 41. Thomas Jefferson | 77. Rembrandt |
| 6. Vladimir Lenin | 42. Patrick Henry | 78. Mark Twain |
| 7. Constantine | 43. Barack Obama | 79. Charles Tindley |
| 8. Isaiah | 44. Jimmy Carter | 80. Florence Nightengale |
| 9. Mother Teresa | 45. George Washington | 81. Mary of Aragon |
| 10. Absalom Jones | 46. Abraham Lincoln | 82. Augustine |
| 11. Martin Luther | 47. Nero | 83. Oliver Cromwell |
| 12. Jon McNaughton | 48. Tamerlane | 84. L. Ron Hubbard |
| 13. Michelangelo | 49. George Whitefield | 85. Kim Jong Il |
| 14. Leonardo daVinci | 50. Richard the Lionheart | 86. Polycarp |
| 15. John Newton | 51. Politically Correct Preacher | 87. Pol Pot |
| 16. Christopher Columbus | 52. Samuel Adams | 88. King Henry VIII |
| 17. Fidel Castro | 53. Harriet Tubman | 89. Jim Jones |
| 18. Tomas de Torquemada | 54. John Dewey | 90. Vlad the Impaler |
| 19. Helena Augusta | 55. Charles Darwin | 91. Adolf Hitler |
| 20. Karl Marx | 56. Queen Ranavalona | 92. Charles Taze Russell |
| 21. Ignatius | 57. George Mason | 93. Idi Aman Dada |
| 22. Former Disciple | 58. John Witherspoon | 94. John Wesley |
| 23. Apostle Paul | 59. William Stroughton | 95. John the Baptist |
| 24. Queen Isabella | 60. Benjamin Franklin | 96. Joseph Smith |
| 25. Leo Tolstoy | 61. George Washington Carver | 97. Apostle John |
| 26. Napoleon Bonaparte | 62. Sigmund Freud | 98. Child |
| 27. Joseph Stalin | 63. Isaac Newton | 99. Apostle Luke |
| 28. John Calvin | 64. Galileo | 100. Mary |
| 29. Pope John Paul II | 65. Louis Pasteur | 101. John Bunyan |
| 30. Apostle Peter | 66. Satan | 102. Eternal Life |
| 31. Christian Leader | 67. C. S. Lewis | 103. Wall of Doubt |
| 32. Catherine of Alexandria | 68. Charles Dickens | 104. Spiritual Death |
| 33. Chairman Mao | 69. J. R. R. Tolkien | 105. Others |
| 34. Kruschev | 70. Ralph Waldo Emerson | 106. Thomas Aquinas |
| 35. Elizabeth Stanton | 71. Mary Eddy | |
| 36. William Tyndale | 72. Carl Bloch | |



How did you get the idea for this painting?

In 2007 I took a trip to Israel to do some research for future paintings. I walked through a street called the “Via Dolorosa” where Christ traditionally carried his cross to Calvary. As I looked down I could see some of the old pavement stones that were about two thousand years old. In my mind I saw Christ suffering as he was forced to carry the cross by the Roman guards. He was surrounded by throngs of people both mocking and intently watching. I could see the actual event in my mind unfold as I stood within the walls of that sacred city.

I wondered...if I was alive at the time of Christ, would I have spoken out in defense of my Lord? Or would I have been silent because of fear? Then it occurred to me... that same question is asked of Christians in every age of history. Today, more than ever, we are asked...will you stand for your Christian beliefs, or will you be silent?

When Christ made his triumphant entrance into the city of Jerusalem riding the donkey, many of his disciples laid down palm leaves and shouted, “Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest” (Matthew 21:8,9). He then entered the temple, cast out the moneychangers and gave a scathing rebuke to the high priests of the people. He told the people in essence that they had to make a choice: “Neither be ye called masters: for one is your master, even Christ”(Matt 22:10). There were undoubtedly many of His disciples that would no longer follow Him. He was taken by the Sanhedrin and judged of Pilate. Pilate asked them, “What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, let him be crucified” (Matt 27:22). Only four days after His triumphant entry into Jerusalem he was condemned to be crucified by some who had claimed to love Him.

“As a Christian, if you don’t stand for something, you stand for nothing.” Jon McNaughton



How did you choose the historical figures for this painting?

Each person was chosen based on how they may have influenced Christianity for good or evil. Some were great leaders or inspiring examples of those who spoke the truth regardless of the consequences. Others were merciless in their persecution of those who professed Christianity. And some are considered to be good or evil depending on whom you talk to. In some cases it's hard to know...only God can judge. But to know history is to know ourselves, and we must be willing to stand up and be counted!

What do you hope to accomplish with this painting?

I hope Christians who see the painting will ask themselves: where would you find yourself standing on the Via Dolorosa?

According to the World Evangelical Alliance, over 200 million Christians in at least 60 countries are denied fundamental human rights solely because of their faith. David B. Barrett, Todd M. Johnson, and Peter F. Crossing in their 2009 report in the International Bulletin of Missionary Research (Vol. 33, No. 1: 32) estimate that approximately 176,000 Christians will have been martyred from mid-2008 to mid-2009. This, according to the authors, compares to 160,000 martyrs in mid-2000 and 34,400 at the beginning of the 20th century. If current trends continue, it is estimated that by 2025, an average of 210,000 Christians will be martyred annually. In the last two thousand years of Christian history, about 70 million faithful have given their lives for their faith.



Since I painted this image in 2013, I have witnessed a growing surge in Christian persecution, as I've never seen before in my lifetime.

Tens of thousands of Christians are murdered and raped – men, women and children – in the Middle East and around the world by radical Islamic groups such as ISIS, Al Qaeda, and Boko Haram. Much of the world has remained silent, including our current President Barack Hussein Obama. Thousands of Islamic refugees from Syria and abroad are invited to come to America and yet this administration has blocked Christians from seeking asylum. Our own mainstream media barely mentions the atrocities committed by these evil people.

Recently, nine people were murdered and many more wounded in a school attack in Oregon. The murderer had each Christian stand and identify themselves before putting a bullet in their head.

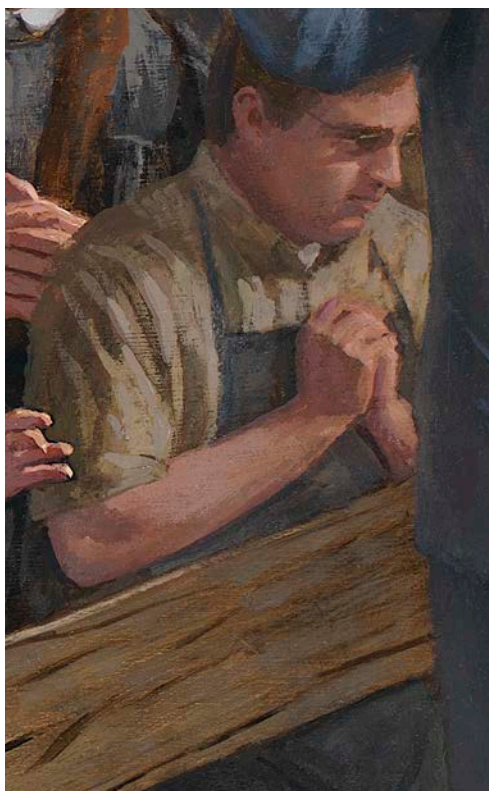
Will you stand up and be counted – or be silent?

I for one will not be silent, but I sure won't be a lamb to the slaughter.

This is a Christian nation, founded on the premise that God gave us the unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We allow all to worship as they will, without government encroachment, but you sure better not tell us to stop because you're offended!

The Holocaust took the lives of six million Jews during World War II. They thought it could never happen to them. Most Christians today feel secure that they have nothing to worry about, while the institution of marriage is legally changed by our own Supreme Court, and Christians are demonized by our own government institutions.

Be ready to take a stand.

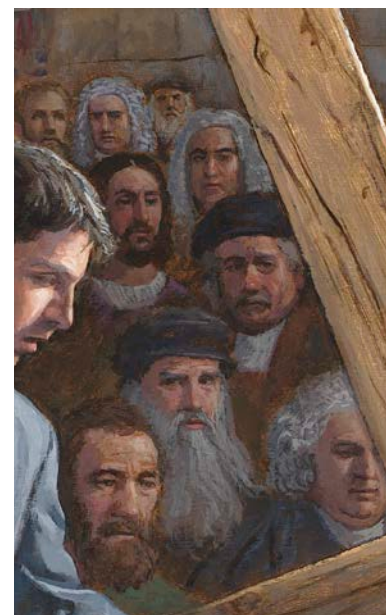


I often put myself in my paintings. I'll use myself as a model, or because I see myself participating in the vision of the painting. When I had the thought to paint myself near the cross I hesitated and I didn't really want to do it. But I had the impression that this painting is my witness of the very thing the image represents – to stand for what you believe. Most Christian folk are gentle and aren't exactly ready to become activists. Perhaps they need to see themselves as soldiers for Christ.



Did you notice the dark figure turning away from Christ in the painting? The history of Christianity has been filled with both good and evil since the days of Jesus. Many of the greatest heroes of the Lord may never be recognized in the history books, but they are written and memorialized in the books of heaven.

In the above image you can see some of our presidents, both recent and distant, who have had interesting positions on Christian faith. Do you recognize the black man in the front with his hand over his head? Many of the most notable of Christian leaders carried serious demons during their lifetimes. We are all weak, but in Christ all things are possible.



I grouped many of the famous artists who have painted or composed about Jesus Christ.



PRAY FOR AMERICA

America needs to have a conversation.

Not about who deserves something and who doesn't.

It's not about whether Cliven Bundy deserves to graze his cattle on the land of his fathers, but whether he has the right to stand up for himself.

America needs to have a conversation.

Not about whether a white police officer has the right to defend himself, but whether one American has more rights than another.

America needs to have a conversation, my brothers.

Not about whether I am my "brother's keeper," but whether God will honor us for being brothers.

America needs to have a conversation.

Not about whether our government has all the answers, but whether we'll have a conversation with the One who does have all the answers...

And to choose love instead of hate.

It's time to have a conversation.

In April of 2014 I went down to Nevada to visit with the Bundy family with the idea of doing a painting. I was apprehensive, not knowing what to paint that would reflect the conflict in a proper way. As I arrived I was expecting to see a large ranch like the Ponderosa, but was met by humble people in a simple home who prayed together and spoke of their love for America.

I was told the firsthand story of their struggle with the BLM to maintain their ranch that had been in the family for generations. As I was preparing to leave, Cliven asked to speak with me privately. He wanted to share some ideas for future paintings. He hoped I would paint a picture that would tell the story of the people who had worked hard to settle Clark County. Then he wanted to know if I could paint something to show the plight of the minorities in America. He was concerned about black Americans who are living on the dole of the U.S. government and need to be freed from oppression. He spoke of the hard living conditions for them and also for the Latino people who struggle in America. He



I'm standing with the Bundy family the day before Cliven was skewered by the press.

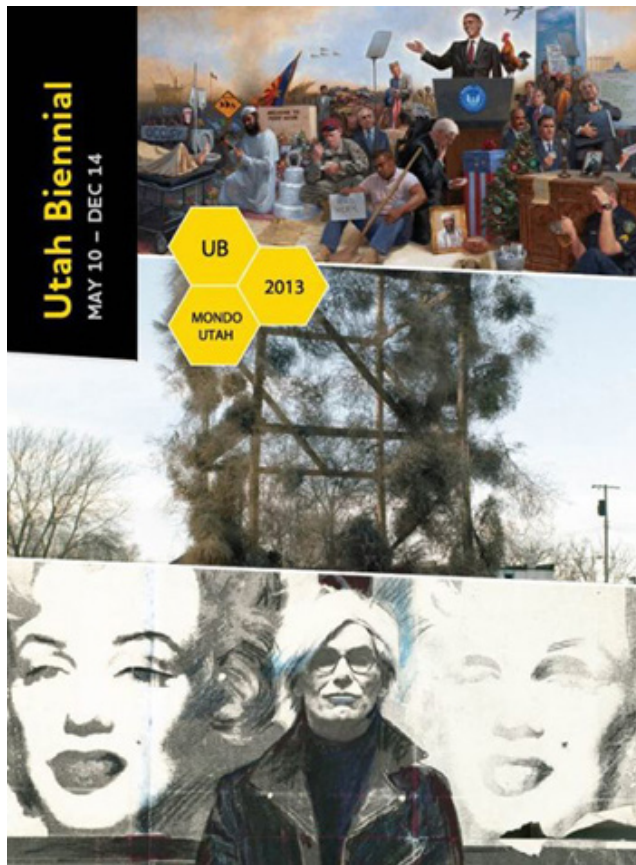
had tears in his eyes as he rehearsed almost the same things he would notoriously speak the following day and bring the media's ire crushing down upon him. Some have said, "Cliven should have kept his mouth shut. Those old-school cowboys are just racist." I think Cliven is the farthest thing from being a racist. He is a man of the West who loves his country and loves other people. There are many who don't like him because he is different. He doesn't just do what he's told and say what he's supposed to say.

I thought about what I should paint and felt that this painting is bigger than one man. It's about what is important to America. What have we become? Why must people hate each other for a word? Why can't people fight for their freedoms to the extent they fight against racial hatred? Why can't we hug each other instead of hurt each other?

When you see this painting, the way you view it is a reflection of the world you choose to live in. If you see racism, hate, oppression, and religious diatribe, you surely won't like this painting. If you see the love of country and family and a prayer to the God who loves all men and women regardless of race or color, you understand what I meant when I painted, PRAY FOR AMERICA.

"I believe 95% of the people that call others racist are indeed racist themselves. Anyone who judges another unfairly for the color of their skin – including minorities – is in my book a true racist." JM

HATED AND LOVED BY THE CRITICS



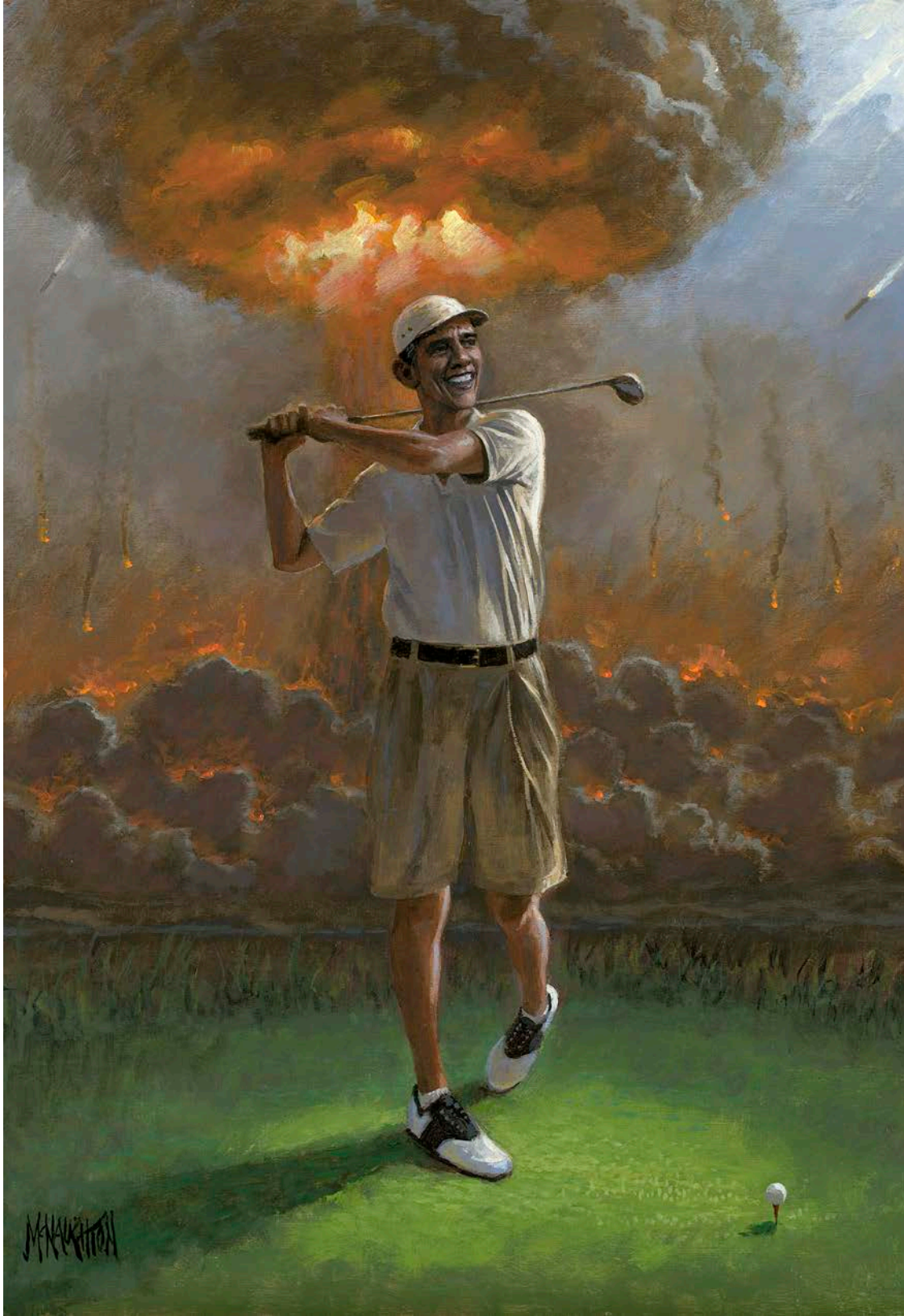
McNaughton featured in the inaugural art exhibit at the Utah Contemporary Museum of Art. The only overtly conservative artist in the show, a rare thing in the art world.



Someone sent me this showing how The Forgotten Man would look hanging in the Louvre in France. I didn't paint it quite that large.

In 2014 Listupn posted "The Ten Most Controversial Paintings in the World." McNaughton was rated number 9, the only living artist in the mix. He was preceded by Leonardo DaVinci, Michelangelo, Picasso and Salvador Dali. It was almost as if the list were put together simply to mention the painting, "One Nation Under Socialism." Other such lists have popped up on the Internet with different paintings, each seemingly showcasing the Obama painting.

"When I painted One Nation Under Socialism it was a response to some outrageous action Obama had taken. I grabbed an old landscape painting with flowers on one side and painted Obama burning the Constitution on the other. I had no idea it would get the attention it did. I simply was expressing what many Americans were feeling at the time."



OBAMA FOREIGN POLICY

Is the world a safer place since Obama was made President of the United States? I felt a need to paint a new image to capture the delicate situation we face as Americans.

What has happened since he's been in office? Where is the stability and peace in Egypt, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Crimea, Ukraine, Russia, Iran, Israel, Palestine, China, and North Korea? How are our veterans doing? Are American citizens safer as they travel abroad? When the balance of the world seems to stand on the edge of a knife, where is our president?

Since Obama has been president he has played over 200 rounds of golf.

THIS is not a game - this is Obama's foreign policy.

What has Obama done?

- Weakened Egypt and the rise of the "Arab Spring."
- Toppled Libya, which led to the emboldening of Al Qaeda and the 2012 Benghazi Massacre.
- Embarrassment in Syria and the "red line." Opened door for occupation by Russian troops. (We shouldn't be meddling in the first place.)
- Gave away multiple Guantanamo Bay prisoners who returned to ISIS and Al Qaeda for an AWOL soldier who caused the loss of American servicemen.
- Demoralized our military and has done little or nothing to strengthen the VA hospitals even after exposed corruption.
- Removed missiles from Ukraine and opened the door to Russian forces.
- Continued to insult Israel and create a volatile environment in the Middle East.
- Removed troops from Iraq without an exit strategy. Iraq is not a proxy state of Iran.
- Planned removal of troops from Afghanistan without an exit strategy. The Taliban is resurging.
- Improper use of drones in Pakistan and Yemen with many civilian casualties.
- Killing of American citizens abroad in the name of national security.
- Soft on ISIS in the wake of horrific attacks in the Middle East.
- Insistent to not mention radical Islam as a major threat to American interests.
- Inviting thousands of Syrian refugees to immigrate to America despite threat to national security.
- Not adequately protecting the border despite threat of infiltration of gangs, cartels, drug and human traffickers, and terrorist cells.
- Forging an agreement with Iran, giving 150 billion in funds, to the world's largest supporter of terrorism, and creating a security risk to our greatest ally, Israel. Despite their own government declaring that they will not abide the agreement, Obama and his administration push forward setting the stage for World War III.

"I hope this painting will not become prophetic in its meaning." Jon McNaughton

RIGHT AND WRONG, NOT LEFT AND RIGHT

A Book Series from “America’s Right and Wrong Project”

by

James Michael Pratt and Jon McNaughton

We live in a time like no other.

The people of the United States of America are being divided up into “left” and “right” camps by a government who carries their own institutionalized and self-serving political party definitions for “right and wrong.”

Down is now reported as up. Right is reported as wrong. Good is called evil and traditional American morals are called intolerant. Freedom of speech is shackled by politically correct speech with the threat of government punishment and intervention if you disobey.

Americans who yearn for traditional values are now increasingly labeled as racist, intolerant, unfair by an imperial-acting president and a transparently biased allied media.

We have been told by a U.S. president, “You didn’t build that,” when we actually did. We are blamed for the effect of a divided America, itself divided by mandatory hyphens imposed by the government: White, Hispanic, Black, Jewish, Christian, and at least a dozen other categories.

When the political-correct police decide it is time to change the name of a category we are chastised, sometimes losing our jobs or businesses for not knowing how to refer to another American in a government-approved way, resulting in racism and bigotry charges.

In foreign affairs allies like Israel, whom we need most, are tossed aside for governments like Iran who cry “Death to America,” as a presidential administration literally pays them billions of dollars to arm themselves with nuclear weaponry. Those who hate us are given preferential treatment to those who have always been trustworthy and love us.

Now using their God-given rights to freedom of speech, millions of Americans cry out to elected officials of both ruling political parties for redress of grievances:

- National debt, now amassed in 20 trillion dollar amounts, is not repayable in our grandchildren’s lifetimes nor capped or paid down, but instead grows.
- The U.S. Constitution is becoming universally disrespected as a necessary annoyance at best, and a document to altogether avoid at worst by all three branches of government.
- The mainstream media have joined a sitting president in using hateful sexual and other epithets for the average American who protests new taxes and burdens placed upon them.
- The rule of law is ignored on a border where terrorists promise to cross.
- The idea that illegal trespassers sneaking into the country are instead “undocumented immigrants” is sanctified by a government unwilling to enforce laws created to protect Americans and legitimate documented immigrants.
- Christianity, once merely mocked, is under full-fledged assault by our government as hate speech at the very least, and treated as domestic terrorism at the very worst.
- For the first time in United States history the government has forced citizens to purchase an inferior government product – healthcare – and categorized the product as a “tax.”
- Corporations have learned that they may be subsidized by taxpayers through politically motivated crony “stimulus

plans” that enriches their bottom line without traditional risk.

- Police are now blamed for enforcing laws and assumed to be guilty of unnecessary deaths and injuries when assaulted by criminals.
- Guns are blamed for violence instead of the criminals who use them, while millions of law-abiding gun owners are stereotyped as dangerous and a cause of gun violence.
- Americans who defend traditional marriage between a man and a woman are now called bigots and haters and may be sued for exercising their freedom of speech.
- People who through diligence and effort earn more than others are called unfair and told by government that they “must spread the wealth around” and “pay their fair share.”
- We must show photo IDs to purchase adult beverages, register a car, purchase a home, buy a gun, and go to college, but not at the voting booth, lest we be called racists.
- The fires of race, gender, and class warfare are intentionally stoked from the Democratic Party as media allies supply the spin lines.

As we protest these abuses and others we are called unpatriotic and radical; and the list goes on.

The American People’s Dilemma

We love our country but hate being “ruled.” We love our U.S. Constitution, but feel we must acquiesce to those who repeatedly circumvent it. As the country becomes more divided through the influence of the media and those now in power, the most crucial national election of our lifetimes will happen in 2016.

Whatever the election of 2016 becomes it is only preceded by historical midterm elections of 2010 and 2014 in favor of

candidates preaching conservative ideals. Yet, for millions of Americans who participated in the democratic process of voting, it now appears that their cries for “principle over party politics” have fallen on mostly deaf ears of those leaders elected in the 2010–2014 conservative election wave.

Conservative citizens have become shocked to find the national political party, to which they have given so much, often oppose this idea of “principle” in favor of backroom strategies, posturing, and power games, with some exceptions to that rule: senators such as Mike Lee (UT), Ted Cruz (TX), Rand Paul (KY), among others.

The American people have finally awakened to the truth and it is this: politics is an elitist game of money and influence, and too often becomes about whatever the “meaning of the word ‘is’ is,” as coined by William Jefferson Clinton in his perjury investigation during impeachment hearings of 1998.

The mainstream press long ago sided with the Machiavellian politics of progressive and liberal suit-wearing thugs of both major political parties; those who have lied their way through the century-old fable of left and right and who avoid the penalties of laws governing right and wrong.

Ronald Reagan tried to break the lock on this politically manipulated myth as far back as 1964 in his famed “Time for Choosing” speech where he eloquently pointed out:

“You and I are told increasingly we have to choose between a left or right. Well I’d like to suggest there is no such thing as a left or right. There’s only an up or down—man’s old dream, the ultimate in individual freedom consistent with law and order—or down to the ant heap of totalitarianism.”

A Ronald Reagan type political leader only comes along every 100 years. While voters beg for one, it is unrealistic to rely upon the “next Reagan” to fix things.

Tens of millions of Americans have awakened to the simple truths of wise political men and women like Ronald Reagan and the repeated warnings about ever-growing and out-of-control big government. They realize that education is the key to

informing Americans of their rights and duties in perpetuation of freedom.

These patriotic Americans, now called “radical” by the elitist political class of government, also increasingly realize that it is they themselves who must stand up for the U.S. Constitution, principles over politics, and their fundamental rights handed down by wise founders of our institutions in the first place.

The Urgency for Moral Clarity

The world is on fire with real enemies of freedom, yet it remains politics as usual, with blame-the-freedom-loving American in a new ploy to pit citizens against one another. Moral clarity accompanies truth. Information supplies truth, which when suppressed then dumbs-down an electorate.

Information and education are the friendly and harmless weapons to combat ignorance that leads any people down the path to slavery and bondage. The media often distorts, under-reports, uses comedians to disparage conservatives, and even lies to cover up truths that may damage the elites in their cause to subvert it. Information has always been the enemy to those political rulers from history who use platitudes to govern but force to protect their positions.

With such a short window to try to correct the devastation that 100 years of left and right politics have created, it is time for concerned and educated citizen voices to arise from the ashes of national crisis, and with moral clarity speak directly to an American audience looking for principle-based solutions.

These solutions are “Right and Wrong, Not Left and Right” in content. They are logical and time tested. They are not unfamiliar to any world or national audience except the desperately uninformed, those who only seem to care about what big government promises can do for them, not what freedoms can do for their own success and independence.

America’s Right and Wrong Project

Jon McNaughton and author James Michael Pratt offer the millions of Americans still in love with the traditions of liberty, hopes, and dreams of Americans past and present a simple guidebook series that illustrates the difference between “right and wrong” vs. continuing down the destructive path of “left and right.”

In a timeless combination of art and narrative, the easy-to-read books seek to inspire American citizens with the courage to speak up and articulate their beliefs against the backdrop of the present danger: the loss of the America so many have sacrificed for and we once thanked God to be part of.

The authors invite you to join them through purchase of the Right and Wrong, Not Left and Right book series.

Benefit from the free eBooks on moral principles being offered. Enjoy the coming YouTube channel videos that illuminate the principles guiding a personal and national moral compass.

Use the information to inform others about “right vs. wrong” in this time of deceit and manufactured chaos.

The authors promise the kind of art combined with moral clarity that first set America on its path to independence and exceptionalism over two hundred years ago.

A non-politician, Thomas Paine inspired a revolution with his 1776 book titled Common Sense. Now with simple but powerful visual imagery and morally compelling logic, Jon and James intend to inspire a nation of believers regarding their right to reclaim a heritage of freedom, faith, and the quintessential American Dream...before it is too late!

Please visit these website pages to learn more!

www.jonmcnaughton.com

www.jamesmichaelpratt.com