

CONGRESSIONAL SPONSORS

# CAPITOL ministries®

**INSIDE** 

MINISTRY UPDATE

Why I Am Committed to Written Bible Studies. . . . 2

VERSE OF THE WEEK

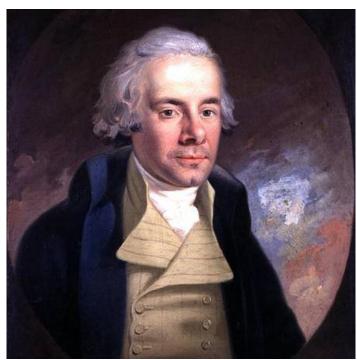
**Colossians 3:16**..........3

**ABOUT** 

**Capitol Ministries**.....8



## Wilberforce: Insights on Successfully Persevering in Office, PART 1



RITISH LAWMAKER William Wilberforce, who worked indefatigably for more than 20 years to abolish slavery in Great Britain, is often sighted by the Religious Right movement as their exemplar for political activism.

On February 23, 1807, after Wilberforce had left office and only three days before he died, Great Britain's House of Commons voted to end the practice of African slave trading throughout its empire.

While Wilberforce is a wonderful model, it is evident that the Religious Right completely misses the point regarding what we can learn from the example of Wilberforce, especially when it comes to the role of the Church in politics. Let me explain.

William Wilberforce would be a forgotten figure in history had it not been for a churchman like John

Continued on page 2

Robert Aderholt, H: AL Marsha Blackburn, H: TN Jim Bridenstine, H: OK Tony Cardenas, H: CA John Carter, H: TX Bill Cassidy, S: LA Michael Conaway, H: TX Kevin Cramer, H: ND Rick Crawford, H: AR Steven Daines, S: MT Jeff Denham, H: CA John Duncan, Jr., H: TN Ioni Ernst, S: IA Mary Fallin, G: OK John Fleming, H: LA Bill Flores, H: TX Randy Forbes, H: VA Trent Franks, H: AZ Scott Garrett, H: NI Louie Gohmert, H: TX Tom Graves, H: GA Tim Griffin, Lt G: AR Gregg Harper, H: MS George Holding, H: NC Bill Huizenga, H: MI Randy Hultgren, H: IL Bill Johnson, H: OH Jim Jordan, H: OH Steve King, H: IA John Kline, H: MN Doug Lamborn, H: CO James Lankford, S: OK Cynthia Lummis, H: WY Mark Meadows, H: NC Jeff Miller, H: FL Randy Neugebauer, H: TX Steve Pearce, H: NM David Perdue, S: GA Robert Pittenger, H: NC Mike Pompeo, H: KS Bill Posey, H: FL Tom Price, H: GA Reid Ribble, H: WI Cathy McMorris Rogers, H: WA Austin Scott, H: GA Tim Scott, S: SC Lamar Smith, H: TX Marlin Stutzman, H: IN Glenn Thompson, H: PA John Thune, S: SD Scott Tipton, H: CO Tim Walberg, H: MI Randy Weber, H: TX Daniel Webster, H: FL Lynn Westmorland, H: GA Roger Williams, H: TX Joe Wilson, H: SC Rob Wittman, H: VA Steve Womack, H: AR Rob Woodall, H: GA Ted Yoho, H: FL

#### Weekly Bible Study During Session

**SENATE:** 8:00 AM Tuesdays, Rotating Offices of Senators. *Hot Breakfast Served.* **HOUSE:** Capitol H324: Monday or Tuesday Evenings after First Votes Back. *Dinner Served.* 

#### Wilberforce: Insights on Successfully Persevering in Office, PART 1

#### MINISTRY UPDATE

## Why I Am Committed To Written Bible Studies



Ralph & Danielle Drollinger

Scripture says "Faith comes from hearing and hearing by the Word of Christ" (Romans 10:17). Fundamental to making disciples in the political arena is teaching the Word of God. It is the irreducible minimum in effective ministry. In my estimation, people in ministry who are not committed to regularly teaching God's Word year round are missing the mark. How can you say you are making disciples amongst the political people group of America if you have five or six, a dozen, or two dozen Bible studies with them every year — if any at all? That doesn't cut it in my book.

The question in the political arena, is how best do you unleash the Word of God? I believe the answer to that question must be informed by the lifestyle of Public Servants: the higher they go in their career paths, the more complicated their daily schedules become — and the more difficult it is for them to maintain consistency in attending a weekly Bible study — wherein I or another ministry leader teach them (in person) the Word of God.

Accordingly, for the past 20 years (and with seminary training) I have been committed to continually perfecting written Bible studies for Public Servants — Bible studies that have both depth and personalized application to these busy,

Continued on page 4

Newton. Newton remained singularly focused on his calling, which was making disciples of Jesus Christ by the Word of God. He was perhaps just as responsible for ending the slave trade in Britain as Wilberforce yet he never engaged directly in politics.

A motion picture titled "Amazing Grace," highlights the life of William Wilberforce and I heartily recommend it to you. This movie's title is derived from the famous Christian hymn of the same name which was written by Newton. Newton had been a wretched man (his own words), a slave trader who was dramatically saved by the powerful message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. After his conversion he became a pastor and had a profound personal impact on Wilberforce: not a political impact, but a spiritual one.

Newton and other ministers within the Church were responsible for helping Wilberforce develop convictions born from Scripture. Their discipleship efforts led Wilberforce to become a man driven by theology and doctrine.

The Church made Wilberforce who he was through the ministry of the Word.

After he became a Christian he decided to spend legislative recesses studying the Bible. It was common for him to spend 10 hours per day studying and memorizing Scripture. This righteous conviction rooted in biblical doctrine is what sustained and directed Wilberforce during his decades-long battle against slavery.

Wilberforce's vital work occurred in the late 1700s. Today, as Christian Lawmakers, you continue legislative battles for good laws that will underpin and buttress our nation.

To aid you in your crucial work, we will examine in two parts, Wilberforce: Insights On Successfully Persevering In Office.

Read on, my friend.

Capo Malija

## I. INTRODUCTION

One of the darkest chapters in American history is nineteenth-century African slavery. During America's Civil War (1861-1865), Bible scholars on both sides of the slavery issue were firing theological volleys back and forth at one another in an attempt either: (1) to decry the enslavement of one human being by another; or (2) to justify slavery by aligning it with slavery in the Bible.<sup>1</sup>

Commenting on this theological war-

fare, one historian writes, "Abolitionists argued vehemently that, based on the Bible, the spirit of Christianity forbids the enslavement of one race by another. Slavery's defenders in the South argued just as vehemently that the Bible itself did not condemn slavery but took it for granted."<sup>2</sup>

While it is not the purpose of this study to reconstruct and analyze the theological arguments surrounding this human atrocity, it is the firm conviction of this writer that nineteenth-century



African slavery in America was in no way biblically justified.<sup>3</sup> Nor was it justified in Great Britain. Let's examine the primary figure behind the abolition of African slavery in Great Britain 200 years ago, the politician William Wilberforce.<sup>4</sup> And importantly,

#### HOW DID WILBERFORCE PERSEVERE IN HIS DECADAL QUEST THAT CHANGED THE COURSE OF A NATION?

Contemporary Religious Right activists<sup>5</sup> often cite this man as the par excellence example of Christian political activism.6 His ultimately successful 20-year fight in British Parliament to end slavery is looked upon as a jewel in the crown of moralistic campaigning. While it cannot be denied that Wilberforce fought a persevering, meritorious fight, prevailing against the odds, and that he helped eradicate a vile cancer from his part of the world, what sustained him as he fought the good fight for so long? Was he motivated by the simple desire to take back the culture? Or, was there something deeper that put the fire in his bones to fight for righteousness? As the following pages will show, it was the Word of God that dwelt richly in Wilberforce, a vibrant and growing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ that steered his political career, informed his convictions and gave him the motivation to persevere against incredible odds.<sup>7</sup> The following survey of Wilberforce's life will bear this out. In Wilberforce's own words:

"The diligent perusal of the Holy Scriptures would discover to us our past ignorance. We should cease to be deceived by superficial appearances, and to confound the Gospel of Christ with the systems of philosophers; we should become impressed with that weighty truth, so much forgotten, and never to be too strongly insisted on, that Christianity calls on us, as we value our immortal souls, not merely in general, to be religious and moral, but specially to believe the doctrines, and imbibe the principles, and practice the precepts of Christ."8

In yet another way to answer what motivated him, he was involved in Bible study with other believers in Parliament, one that was led by a skilled Bible teacher named Newton. It saddens my heart that so many believers in office in America today do not get this! How unfortunate it is to see believers leaving office this year in discouragement — unfortunately many of them never connected to a Bible study while on the Hill.

## II. WHO WAS WILLIAM WILBERFORCE?9

William Wilberforce was born in 1759 in Hull, England. He was a contemporary of some of England's (and history's) greatest preachers, including John Newton, John Wesley and George Whitefield. God used unusual circumstances in the life of young Wilberforce to bring him into the company of Evangelicals and one of these great men of God — John Newton. Writes Wilberforce biographer John Pollock:

"... when William was turning nine, his father died at the age of forty. Abel Smith became head of the business; the firm changed its name to Wilberforce and Smith, and William's life changed too. Not merely because he would be

#### VERSE OF THE WEEK

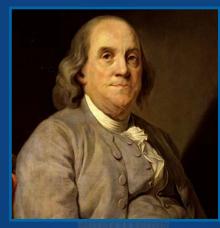
#### Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you.



it was the Word of God that dwelt richly in Wilberforce, a vibrant and growing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ that steered his political career, informed his convictions and gave him the motivation to persevere against incredible odds.

Benjamin Franklin



"Slavery is such an atrocious debasement of human nature, that its very extirpation, if not performed with solicitous care, may sometimes open a source of serious evils.""

 Benjamin Franklin, signer of the Declaration of Independence; diplomat; printer; scientist; signer of the Constitution; Governor of Pennsylvania.

Benjamin Franklin, An Address to the Public, November 1789.





Continued from page 2

influential people. As you know, I publish 52 studies a year, one per week, that average 8 pages in length.

In my way of thinking, if someone is reading my studies every week, he is reading the equivalent of a 400-page college/seminary-level book every year! Unfortunately, very few people in our culture will read a 400-page book related to biblical theology, commentary, and word studies of the original Greek and Hebrew – and yet that is precisely what they most need to grow in Christ and do their job of leading our nation in a Godhonoring way! By publishing a four-color, beautifully illustrated Bible study every week, I believe that we are creating taste buds for the Word of God in a way that is attractive and palatable to the people who lead our nation! I believe that accomplishing this objective is directly related to one's overall effectiveness in making disciples: again, teaching the Word of God is the irreducible minimum in making disciples! Romans 12:1-2 states that we are transformed by the renewing of our minds.

Greatly aiding the effectiveness of producing printed weekly Bible studies is today's technology: Computeraided design, color printing, internet distribution, email blasting, and website posting - all aid in creating attractive, applicable, in-depth Bible studies that can be efficiently delivered to Public Servants throughout America and the world at every level of their career paths. Without such technological advancements such a singular niche approach would not be possible. Such a niche ministry approach to ministry was not available to ministers even a decade ago. That's to say, as a result, how much greater now - versus in the past – can be our influence for the Gospel amongst the world's political leaders! My vision is to match in-depth Bible study content with this distribution technology. Capitol Ministries is the first to do this.

Continued on page 6

independent and quite rich when he came of age, but because he was sent, a year after his father's death, to live with his childless uncle and aunt, William and Hannah Wilberforce, at their Wimbledon villa in the Surrey countryside and their London house in St. James's Place. They put him to boarding school at Putney."<sup>12</sup>

As it turns out,

"These relatives were despised evangelicals, friends of the preacher George Whitefield, a leader in the first Great Awakening, and John Newton, best known today as the author of 'Amazing Grace.' Newton, an old seadog, ex-naval deserter, ex-lecher, and ex-slave-trader who had been converted slowly in and after a storm at sea, fascinated the boy with his yarns. And Newton showed little William 'how sweet the name of Iesus sounds' until his mother, horrified that he was turning 'Methodist,' took him away."13

An article by Steven Gertz on Wilberforce's relationship with Newton states, "As a boy of eight years [or nine!], he'd [Wilberforce] sat at the feet of the fascinating sea-captain [Newton], drinking in his colorful stories, jokes, songs — and perhaps most importantly, lessons of faith." Later in life:

"William remembered a younger Evangelical, John Newton, the parson of Olney in Buckinghamshire who often preached in London and was soon to be famous as a hymn-writer. A boy could hardly fail to be impressed by this jolly, affectionate ex-sea captain and slaver, who as a youth had been flogged in the Royal Navy for desertion and later suffered as the virtual slave of a white man's native mistress in West Africa. Wilberforce listened enthralled to his sermons and his stories, even 'reverencing him as a parent when I was a child.'"15

Seeds of faith may have been planted in young Wilberforce's life, yet the real fruit of true salvation was still years away. Wilberforce, Piper notes, "had admired George Whitefield, John Wesley, and John Newton as a child. But soon he left all the influence of the evangelicals behind."16 As noted previously, Wilberforce's "mother was more high church and was concerned her son was 'turning Methodist.' So she took him out of the boarding school where they had sent him and put him in another."17 "In the holidays the Wilberforce family began to scrub William's soul clear of Wimbledon and Clapham a slow process: he [William] wrote manfully to his uncle [who he was pulled away from] of endurance under persecution [from his family], and of increasing 'in the knowledge of God and Christ Jesus whom he sent, whom to know is life eternal.'18 In Wilberforce's life, the intervening time between his childhood exposure to Newton and his later conversion via Isaac Milner's ministry was one of spiritual deadness. Says one writer about Wilberforce's college years, he "lost any interest in biblical religion and loved circulating among the social elite."19 So far had he drifted, "Newton said sadly that nothing seemed left of his [Wilberforce's] faith except a more moral outlook than was usual among men of fashion."20 Being moral apart from regeneration was no more salvific back then than it is now . . . or ever will be!



## III. COMING TO FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

In the spiritual vacuum of his heart, Wilberforce made room for the popular religion of his day.

"In London, he [Wilberforce] had a sitting at the Essex Street chapel founded by Theopilius Lindsey, the 'father' of modern Unitarianism, one of the few clergy of the Church of England who had shown courage and principle enough to resign their livings on abandoning, like so many, a belief in the divinity of Jesus Christ. Lindsey still preached the Christian ethic and read the Church services, and his chapel attracted several eminent men: Wilberforce rated him London's only fervent preacher, since the Evangelical or 'methodistical' preachers he had enjoyed with the uncle and aunt were now outside his pale."21

But Wilberforce would eventually be saved from this anti-biblical notion of Jesus Christ.

"Wilberforce's subsequent accounts of his long drawn out Conversion or perhaps Re-dedication to the Christ of his boyhood faith—are somewhat contradictory but he gives a prime share to his reading Doddridge's book with Milner. They possibly looked up relevant passages in the Bible, for Wilberforce says he adopted his religious principles from the 'perusal of the Holy Scriptures and . . . the instruction I derived from a friend of very extraordinary natural and acquired powers."<sup>22</sup>

Wilberforce had come to salvation in

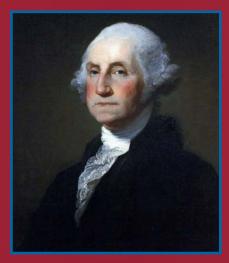
Jesus Christ at age twenty-five,<sup>23</sup> a few years before a life-changing meeting with Newton. According to one biographical sketch of Wilberforce's life, after he won his election to Parliament in 1784, he "agreed to take a tour of the continent . . . . When he happened to run into his old schoolmaster from Hull, Isaac Milner, Wilberforce impulsively invited him to join the traveling party. That invitation was to change Wilberforce's life."<sup>24</sup>

"By the time Milner deposited him on 22 February 1785 at Number 10 Downing Street, Wilberforce had reached intellectual assent to the Biblical view of man, God and Christ. He thrust it to the back of his mind and resumed his social and political life."25 In the summer of that year, "slowly intellectual assent became profound conviction."26 But, still not a Christian by his own summation, it was not until "the third week of October 1785 the 'great change', as he afterwards termed it, had driven Wilberforce to rise early each morning to pray."27 The story goes that Milner spoke of his Christian faith to Wilberforce, and that the latter "initially treated the subject flippantly, but eventually agreed to read the scriptures daily."28

## IV. WILBERFORCE'S CRISIS OF FAITH

Faced with tremendous difficulty, "feeling weary and confused"<sup>29</sup> over how to reconcile his political career with his new life in Christ, Wilberforce "turned to his boyhood hero, John Newton, now sixty years old and Rector of St. Mary Woolnoth in the City."<sup>30</sup> Says Gertz of Wilberforce's 1785 meeting

George Washington



"I can only say that there is not a man living who wishes more sincerely than I do to see a plan adopted for the abolition of it [slavery]."

 George Washington, first President of the United States; Commander-In-Chief of the Continental Army; member of the Continental Congress; President of the Constitutional Convention; 'Father of His Country'; judge.

George Washington to Robert Morris, April 12, 1786; *America: A Narrative History*, 6th Edition, Chapter 7; Inventing America, Chapter 6; Give Me Liberty, Chapter 7.





#### Continued from page 4

Lastly, the other great advantage of niche, in-depth, attractive, written Bible studies is that they can be translated and distributed worldwide at very little cost — with both immediacy and efficiency. We are so excited about the recent developments that the Lord has enabled us to do in this way: you will notice on our www.capmin website that we are now publishing our D.C. Bible studies in Spanish, French, and Russian. This will greatly facilitate and enable the expansion of effective public servant discipleship ministries in other areas of the world.

In 1996, when I first began writing onepage Bible studies for Members of the California state legislature, I never imagined this ministry tool would gain such worldwide distribution. We praise God for this, for the team that takes my manuscripts and produces what you see, and for your partnership. All are necessary teammates to make it all happen.

As I contemplate the beauty of this technology that allows world-wide access to deep Bible studies, I think of how a handful of pastors introduced William Wilberforce to Christ, thereby changing his heart and enabling him to change the world.

The monumental effort and eventual success of Wilberforce's life work stands as an example of what can be accomplished when God's Word is planted deeply, nurtured faithfully, and strengthened consistently through biblical discipleship ministries to Public Servants. And as Capitol Ministries continues to plant ministries in foreign lands such as in the CIS (former Soviet Bloc) countries, Africa, and Central and South America, I marvel at what God will do with an increasing number of Public Servants who are mature in Christ.

Thank you and God bless you for your partnership. cm

— ralph

with Newton: "Now, in a moment of spiritual crisis, wondering whether his reborn faith in God required him to leave politics, Wilberforce knew who could help him most . . . he mustered his courage and strode to the front door to call on his old friend."<sup>31</sup> It is noteworthy that when it came to his political career, Wilberforce sought counsel from none other than a minister of the Word of God. Newton advised Wilberforce to stay in office and pursue Christ as well.

What We Can Learn From Newton and Wilberforce Pertaining To The Differing Roles of Church and State?

Newton and Wilberforce serve to magnificently model a clear, biblically correct understanding of the relationship between the institution of the Church and the institution of the State. The former is to disciple the latter versus trying to do its job! God appointed Wilberforce to lead in His institution of the State, whereas God appointed Newton to lead in His institution of the Church. The latter is called to make disciples; the former is called to moralize the unregenerate. As mentioned in the preamble, it is ineffective for leaders in the Church to assume the work of God's leaders in the State — especially while turning a blind eye relative to their call of making disciples of the State's leaders.

### V. THE LIFE OF A SAVED POLITICIAN

ONCE SAVED AND SURE THAT

HE SHOULD STAY IN POLITICS, WILBERFORCE, "WORKED HARD TO STRENGTHEN NOT ONLY MENTAL BUT SPIRITUAL STAMINA." IN THE PROCESS, "THE BIBLE BECAME HIS BEST LOVED BOOK AND HE LEARNED STRETCHES BY HEART." 33

He did this "so that he could meditate at night, or should his eyes trouble him, or when needing guidance in his place in the Commons or at committees."<sup>34</sup> In other words, he *let the Word of Christ dwell richly* in him (Colossians 3:16). Perhaps most telling of the primacy he put on his salvation over his entire life is the following statement by Pollack:

"For Wilberforce wanted to subject not merely his appetites but his politics to Christ: 'A man who acts from the principle I profess,' he told a constituent three years after the conversion, 'reflects that he is to give an account of his political conduct at the Judgment seat of Christ."

Wilberforce's reliance and accountability to biblical precepts underlie the tremendous things he did as a legislator — namely, fighting a 20-year battle to abolish the African slave trade. It is unfortunate that the latter fact about Wilberforce is often trumpeted without a proper and necessary emphasis on the former. Like a faithful pastor-teacher is continually mindful of James 3:1, Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment; it seems that Wilberforce had similar sentiments about answering to the Lord Jesus Christ one day for his political endeavors as a



minister of God for good (Rom 13:4).

It was also only a few years after his conversion that Wilberforce's heart slowly became set on abolishing the slave trade. Much could be said from a historical perspective about the providential workings of God through specific people and circumstances that brought the issue to a rolling boil in Wilberforce's heart, but suffice to say

that God raised up the right person, at the right time, for the right task.

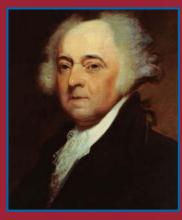
Next week, in Wilberforce: Insights on Successfully Persevering In Office, Part 2, we will examine the importance of evangelism and discipleship in Wilberforce's life, and how those influences resulted in his successful career-long political battle to change the world.



#### (ENDNOTES)

- <sup>1</sup> For more on this topic see: H. Shelton Smith, Robert T. Handy, and Lefferts A. Loetscher, *American Christianity: An Historical Interpretation with Representative Documents*, Vol. 2, 1820-1960 (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1963), 167-212.
- <sup>2</sup> George M. Marsden, *Religion and American Culture*, 2nd ed. (Fort Worth, Tex.: Harcourt College Publishers, 2001), 74.
- <sup>3</sup> As my preamble to this study concludes, that which germinated the overturn of slavery in America was not political activism, Abraham Lincoln, or the Civil War. It was the winning out of correct Bible interpretation, and that correct theology influenced the state. By way of application, that is why Bible study amongst Public Servants is so astronomically important because politics and policy, wars and actions, stem from the beliefs people hold close in their hearts. Actions are reflective, whereas beliefs are causal.
- <sup>4</sup> To get a sense of the political courage necessary to lead this charge, consider the following: "Britain two hundred years ago was the world's leading slave-trading nation; uprooting the vile practice threatened the annual trade of hundreds of ships, thousands of sailors, and hundreds of millions of pounds sterling." (John Pollock, "A Man Who Changed His Times," in *Character Counts: Leadership Qualities in Washington, Wilberforce, Lincoln, and Solzhenitsyn*, ed. by Os Guinness [Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Book House, 1999], 81.)
- <sup>5</sup> It is generally accepted that the goal of the religious right political movement in America is to increase societal morality. The method employed by this movement to reach this goal is political in nature, i.e. the passage and enforcement of laws that promote morality.
- <sup>6</sup> One of many examples is The Wilberforce Forum, which is a subsidiary of Prison Fellowship. The Annual Wilberforce Forum Award "recognizes an individual who has made a difference in the face of formidable societal problems and injustices." <a href="http://www.wilberforce.org/contentindex.asp?ID=188">http://www.wilberforce.org/contentindex.asp?ID=188</a>
- <sup>7</sup> Dear Reader, This same God-given wisdom is available to every Christian legislator today who believes in Jesus Christ and submits himself/herself to the Word of God.
- <sup>8</sup> William Wilberforce, *A Practical View of Christianity*, ed. Kevin Charles Belmonte, with an introduction by Charles Colson (Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1996), 5-6.
- <sup>9</sup> Respected author and Bible teacher John Piper wisely suggests, "To understand and appreciate the life and labor of William Wilberforce, one of the wisest things to do is to read his own book, *A Practical View of Christianity*, first, and then read biographies" (John Piper, *The Roots of Endurance: Invincible Perseverance in the Lives of John Newton, Charles Simeon, and William Wilberforce* (Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway Books, 2002), 117). Let the reader also read Piper's book, *The Roots of Endurance* for a cogent synthesis on the vibrant faith in Christ that fuelled Wilberforce's political efforts. The politician who is willing to study the life of William Wilberforce through his writings and those writings about him will be richer for the experience.

John Adams



"Every measure of prudence, therefore, ought to be assumed for the eventual total extirpation of slavery from the United States . . . . I have, throughout my whole life, held the practice of slavery in . . . abhorrence."

 John Adams, second President of the United States; signer of the Declaration of Independence; judge; diplomat; one of two signers of the Bill of Rights.

Letter to Robert I. Evans, June 8, 1819, in Selected Writings of John and John Quincy Adams ed. Adrienne Koch et al. (New York: Knopf, 1946), 209-10.





#### Wilberforce: Insights on Successfully Persevering in Office, PART 1

- <sup>10</sup> Though Wilberforce was personally encouraged by both Wesley and Newton, he "almost certainly he never heard Whitefield, who in the early autumn of 1769, at about the time of William's coming south, left for his sixth and last visit to America, where he died." (John Pollock, *Wilberforce* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1977), 5.)
- Contra, Charles Colson, "Introduction," in Wilberforce, A Practical View of Christianity, xxii. Colson writes, "By the time Wilberforce knew of him, Newton was a clergyman in the Church of England, renowned for his outspokenness on spiritual matters."
- <sup>12</sup> John Pollock, Wilberforce (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1977), 4.
- <sup>13</sup> John Pollock, "A Man Who Changed His Times," 79.
- <sup>14</sup> Steven Gertz, "Pastor to the Nation: Newton responded to thousands of requests for spiritual counsel with letters advising the lowly and the great," in *Christian History & Biography*, Issue 81, Winter 2004, p. 37.
- <sup>15</sup> Pollock, Wilberforce, 5.
- <sup>16</sup> Piper, 123.
- <sup>17</sup> Piper, 123.
- <sup>18</sup> Pollock, Wilberforce, 6.
- <sup>19</sup> Piper, 123.
- <sup>20</sup> Pollock, "A Man Who Changed His Times," 79.
- <sup>21</sup> Pollock, *Wilberforce*, 33. Pollack further states of Wilberforce's spiritual instruction at that time: "In no sense was he an atheist. Lindsey's disciples at Essex Street worshipped the Deity, a benevolent Providence in some way also the judge of man's actions, but they rejected Christ's divinity, the Christian view of the Atonement, and the authority of Scripture." (Pollack, *Wilberforce*, 33-4). Wilberforce may have been no atheist, yet nor was he a Bible-believing Christian!
- <sup>22</sup> Pollock, Wilberforce, 35.
- <sup>23</sup> J. D. Douglas, "William Wilberforce"
- <sup>24</sup> Charles Colson, "Introduction," xxi. Pollack writes of the situation: "Wilberforce was looking for a traveling companion. He "had no one else in mind when the family went to Scarborough, Yorkshire's fashionable watering place, for the summer season. Here he fell in with the huge Isaac Milner, his former usher at Hull Grammar School who now was a tutor of Queen's College, Cambridge. On impulse, apparently, Wilberforce invited Milner, all expenses paid." (Pollock, *Wilberforce*, 32.) Notes Pollack of Wilberforce's and Milner's initial acquaintance, "Isaac [Milner] would one day influence William Wilberforce profoundly, but their paths crossed only briefly at Hull Grammar School." (Pollock, *Wilberforce*, 4.)
- <sup>25</sup> Pollock, Wilberforce, 35.
- <sup>26</sup> Pollock, Wilberforce, 36.
- <sup>27</sup> Pollock, Wilberforce, 37.
- <sup>28</sup> Colson, "Introduction," xxi.
- <sup>29</sup> Colson, "Introduction," xxi.
- 30 Pollock, Wilberforce, 38.
- <sup>31</sup> Gertz, 37.
- <sup>32</sup> Pollock, Wilberforce, 44.
- 33 Pollock, Wilberforce, 44.
- 34 Pollock, Wilberforce, 146.
- 35 Pollock, Wilberforce, 46. Wow!



Making Disciples of Jesus Christ in the Political Arena Throughout the World

**CAPITOL MINISTRIES** is a ministry organization that provides Bible studies, evangelism and discipleship to political leaders. Capitol Ministries was founded in 1996 and has started ministries in 40 state capitols and dozens of foreign federal capitols. **Cm** 



@capmin





/capitolministries

#### CAPITOL MINISTRIES

Mail Processing Center Post Office 30994, Phoenix, AZ 85046 661.288.2622 www.capmin.org