



# On The Frontier



“For The Glory of God and the furtherance of the Gospel”

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## I Surrender All

Mankind is basically aware, at least at some level, of the need to be made righteous. Consequently, man strives in many ways to satisfy this most urgent necessity as testified to by the children of Israel.

**Romans 10:1-4**

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Thankfully, God has provided richly for man in the person of His Son!

**Verse 4:**

For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

All we need do is have a little faith.

**Romans 3:22-28**

Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

So magnificently simple!!! We should be very, very, thankful. Consider the testimony of Paul as set forth by Divine revelation:

**Philippians 3:3-14**

For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the

Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing I *do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching

forth unto those things which are before,

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

I have faith in God's provision. Don't you? I have the utmost confidence in the prowess of Jesus Christ and the effectiveness of his sacrifice. Words fail to express my gratitude for such a loving God and fantastic Savior! Truly, they are unsurpassed in magnificence!!!

Hebrews 7:25

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

For such an high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

Isaiah 45:22-25

Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else.

I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Surely, shall *one* say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: *even* to him shall *men* come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.

In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

I sure am glad that He's God and not me! Although there are some who act as though they're God. Not to worry,

the day will come when they will find that they aren't, never were and never will be. The Lord He is God and that's good enough for me. Therefore, all I need to do is trust in Him and His promises and everything will be A-Okay! In other words, it's all about Him and what He has done, is doing and will do. It isn't about us or our accomplishments, praise God! What could be better?

Nevertheless, all men have an inner yearning for righteousness. Thus, they cannot help but express it in many ways. Some count material gain as the prize. Others make mental and physical perfection their goal.

The world certainly maintains its standards and though they are subject to change the general criteria is most often; beauty, brains and buck\$ (ideally all three, with a strong emphasis on \$\$\$\$). This leaves many of us "out in the cold" and the rest precariously perched on the brink of defeat (in a worldly sense, of course). Wealth can be lost at any time while both beauty and mental acuity may deteriorate with age. Of course none of us would ever fall for such a shallow rouse. Or would we?

Don't take any chances, when it comes to righteousness, accept no substitutes. The only righteousness of any true worth is that which is of faith!

So, should we live holy lives? Yes, of course! The spiritually minded must consider this mandatory or forfeit spiritual mindedness.

I Peter 1:13-16

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

Obedience to God's Word will ensure our living holy lives. This is a command, not a suggestion. It behooves us then to be obedient children and emulate our Holy Father. This is evidenced most effectively as we walk in love.

Ephesians 5:1,2

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;

And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

That sure sounds great, doesn't it? What a beautiful way to live! No God-fearing man or woman could deny the magnificent radiance of a holy walk.

Perhaps you've noticed that in more and more assemblies today, people are lifting their hands during worship. The question which the worshiper must ask himself is: "Why?" The question is not whether it's right or wrong to raise hands. Scripture shows that this was done by some of God's people. The real question is: Why are the hands being raised? Is it out of deep emotion which calls for this position or because one feels that this is a more holy position or is it to be seen of men? Is it deep spirituality which causes the hands to be raised or synthetic spirituality? Jesus warned against synthetic spirituality.

**Matthew 6:5**

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

He called these individuals hypocrites because what they did was in contradiction to their hearts.

**Matthew 15:7,8**

*Ye* hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me.

Obviously they acted in a fashion perceived by men as holy. However, God did not see it that way as He looks on the inside not the outside.

**I Samuel 16:7b**

... for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

Would this apply to the current trend of "raising holy hands?" Yes, and to any and all efforts both in and out of worship!

Is there any scriptural basis in the raising of one's hands and if so, what? Just why is it so popular?

It was an exciting day when Israel gathered for the dedication of the temple of God in Jerusalem. For about five or six hundred years their place of worship had been a tent. As one would think, this dedication involved prayer

**I Kings 8:22-26**

And Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven:

And he said, LORD God of Israel, *there is* no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart:

Who hast kept with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him: thou spakest also with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled *it* with thine hand, as *it is* this day.

Therefore now, LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me.

And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father.

I'll allow you the privilege of reading the full context of this prayer at your leisure. For now what I would like for you to see in the above passage is the centrality of a reverent heart as evidenced by a holy walk. Solomon did raise his hands toward heaven but it was his heart that was of prime concern to God. Not his hands. Still, it's a posture he took when he prayed. Other records indicate he knelt at times as well. There are records where men stood to pray and there are records where men knelt. At times God's people would position their bodies toward Jerusalem or Israel itself when outside their

hometown. Often they would bow their heads and face the ground or prostrate themselves upon it. In fact, some Bible students claim as many as 15 different body positions (during prayer) may be found in the Scriptures including sitting.

Does the position of one's body really affect his prayer? Is kneeling more reverent than standing? Do the hands lifted to heaven draw God's attention more than when one lies face down on the ground? Is there a preferred position for public prayer? How about private prayer? Or is it as simple as what Solomon presented as recorded in the following verse?

**I Kings 8:39**

Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, *even* thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;)

It's not the position of the body but rather the position of one's heart and the life of the petitioner that counts! With all prayers, one should examine the heart rather than the position of the hands. Holiness is to be found in the heart and demonstrated in one's ways.

What then is the significance of raising ones hands? The practice is found in the Scriptures so it must have some meaning.

We must remember that the Bible is an Eastern book. That is, the men to whom God gave revelation were men of the East. God had to speak to them in terms they would understand. Consequently, His Word has many "Easternisms" in it. What is an Easternism? Nothing more than a cultural manner of speech. We here in America have our own peculiar

expressions and while they may be meaningful to us, they would seem foolish to an outsider. Cultural expressions may even differ from state to state. I live in Alaska where the elements differ greatly from the "lower 49." We here have our own idiosyncratic expressions which may serve as an example for your understanding. For instance, if I were to call up a fellow Alaskan and say, "The lights are out" they would perhaps go outside and look up in the sky expecting to see the Aurora Borealis. Elsewhere in our Nation the same expression would be understood quite differently. If I said to you, "The lights are out" you might think I was referring to things of an electrical nature. Or you might think I was a bit "touched." Even though you only spoke to me on the telephone and therefore made no physical "contact" (didn't touch) with me. Another commonly understood Alaskan expression is "termination dust." This refers to the dusting of snow on the mountain peaks signaling the final days of summer, i.e. "termination" of summer as announced by the dusting of snow. We call spring "break up" because of the melting ice and snow left over from winter. In South Carolina they would probably associate this term with their cell phone or failing relationship. In like manner, the men and women from the lands and times of the Bible had their own expressions. They are called by some Orientalisms because of geographic locale. Raising holy hands should be understood in this light, as an Easternism or Orientalism.

**Psalms 119:48**

My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.

What this means is: I will give myself completely to the Word. The closest American example I can think of is found in the old western stage coach robberies, i.e., stick 'em up! No fight, no argument, just surrender with or without the white flag. When an eastern man or woman lifted up their hands in prayer they were saying in essence, "I surrender all." They were abandoning their wishes and desires in lieu of God's. A wonderful outward expression of an exquisite inward reality of the heart.

**I Timothy 2:8**

I will therefore that men [husbands] pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath [anger] and doubting [questioning the Truth].

The above is one of the verses that are cited as argument for the "raising of holy hands." If we were to take this verse exclusively on face value we would also be required to limit the "raising of holy hands" to the men, particularly the married ones. However, there's much more to it than that. The idea is to surrender to God and His Word. No more anger and temper tantrums. Stop arguing with God, surrender to Him now. That's the type of prayerful attitude He demands! Admittedly the immediate context addresses husbands but without question this principle applies to all of us.

**Lamentations 2:19**

Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord: lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children, that faint for hunger in the top of every street.

**Pour out your heart before Him!  
Surrender all for you and yours, do it now!!!**

**II Corinthians 5:12-18**

For we commend not ourselves again unto you, but give you occasion to glory on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to *answer* them which glory in appearance, and not in heart.

For whether we be beside ourselves, *it is* to God: or whether we be sober, *it is* for your cause.

For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

And *that* he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.

Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

Raise your hands in prayer if you like but be sure to see to the position of your heart **FIRST**. Do it today, sell out and surrender to God! Ask Him to help you say, "Lord I surrender all to you. May all my kingdoms fall so I may serve you with everything that I am."

**I surrender!**

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## THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### The Buck Stops Here

The expression “the buck stops here” originates from a vernacular idiom of old. In frontier days a knife would often be used in the game of poker as a marker or counter. The blade would be slammed into the playing surface so as to stick in front of the person whose turn it was to deal. If that individual did not wish to deal, the responsibility could be placed upon the next player by passing the counter. A common material for fashioning knife handles (or scales as they are sometimes known) at that time was buck horn. Consequently, these knives came to be known as “bucks.” The procedure of passing a knife from player to player as a poker marker was soon called “passing the buck.” From this practice has sprung the Americanism used to describe the abdication of responsibility. More properly, placing blame upon others or transferring a personal problem to someone else. A person who “passes the buck” is one who refuses to accept personal responsibility on a given matter. Antithetically when I say “the buck stops here” I’m saying, “I’m responsible for what I do and no one else. I will not blame others for my faults and problems.”

Sadly, “passing the buck” has become a way of life for many Americans. In fact, *globally* it’s an epidemic. Daily it’s becoming more and more difficult to find someone willing to accept full responsibility for personal conduct. The exercise of duty has been exchanged for reasons and excuses. At some levels of culture irresponsibility is even fashionable. It’s hard to believe, but true nonetheless (I’ve often asked myself if the age of personal accountability passed me by when I wasn’t looking). At one time our Nation held honesty, integrity and

duty in the highest regard. Now, far too many view such things as only secondary or tertiary in importance. To further exacerbate matters blame has replaced character and is often the seed for reward. Of course, it’s safe to say that rewards of such a nature are at best temporal. Since we look for rewards of a more permanent nature (i.e., eternal) it behooves us to accept personal responsibilities for our words and deeds.

#### Romans 14:12

So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

#### Matthew 12:36

But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

#### II Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

#### I Samuel 2:2-3

*There is* none holy as the LORD: for *there is* none beside thee: neither *is there* any rock like our God.

Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let *not* arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD *is* a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

Obviously, God expects us to accept personal responsibility! It does not matter what the rest of society is doing, we must do our utmost to remain duty bound. This becomes slightly more involved when you are a parent or a teacher of God’s people.

#### James 3:1

My brethren, be not many masters [*didaskalos* =teachers], knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation [*krima*= judgement].

Weymouth renders the above as:

#### James 3:1

Do not be eager, my brethren, for many among you to become teachers; for you know that we teachers shall undergo severer judgement.

The ASV is:

#### James 3:1

Be not many of you teachers, my brethren, knowing that we shall receive heavier judgment.

I’ve grouped teachers in with parents because parents must (and do) teach their children. Of primary concern to God is that your children are taught His Word. While it’s true that the burden of learning is on the student, it’s also true that the burden of teaching is on the teacher. Judgement is more severe to those who teach because they are influencing the student who is expected to accept their credentials with humility. As a teacher of God’s Word, I influence many with my teachings. Therefore, they had better be based upon the Scriptures. In like manner, as a parent I’m responsible for teaching my children to revere God and His Word. In either case, my teachings will have an impact greater than could be produced solely by my personal walk. As a teacher or parent I multiply my potency through my children and/or the people who sit under my teachings. In both cases my responsibility lies in the content of my teaching and my faithfulness to teach. Once the information has been successfully disseminated, the recipients of same are responsible for the application. If they have been

taught properly they can act properly.

Notice what God expected of Israel in this regard:

**Deuteronomy 6:1-16**

Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do *them* in the land whither ye go to possess it:

That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do *it*; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:

And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they

shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not,

And houses full of all good *things*, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;

*Then* beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which *are* round about you;

(For the LORD thy God *is* a jealous God among you) lest the anger of the LORD thy God be kindled against thee, and destroy thee from off the face of the earth.

Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted *him* in Massah.

In other words, talk about the Lord your God ALL THE TIME! When you get up and before you go to bed, while you sit, stand and walk. Keep the Word of God in your heart at ALL times! Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength! And

teach your children diligently to do the same. Write it on the walls, on the door post and on the gate. The Word, the Word, the Word!!! This is a commandment of God.

YOU teach YOUR children about Him! The Scripture commands us to teach our children to revere and worship the One True God.

Clearly then, this is a parental obligation. Parents are required by God to teach their children proper behavior toward God AND man. For the sake of simplicity let's consider the ten commandments as recorded in Deuteronomy 5.

**Deuteronomy 5:6-22**

*I am* the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

Thou shalt not make thee *any* graven image, *or* any likeness of *any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the waters beneath the earth:

Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me,

And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold *him* guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.

Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:

But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the LORD thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou.

And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and *that* the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Neither shalt thou commit adultery.

Neither shalt thou steal.

Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or

any *thing* that *is* thy neighbour's.

These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me.

You will notice that the Ten Commandments address both God and man. The first four address conduct toward God while the remaining six are devoted to man. The following demonstrates how simply this is summed up in love:

Matthew 22:36-40

Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law?

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Love God and man! These are the commandments of God and they are summed up in love!!!

Romans 13:7-10

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and *if there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.

Teaching this to our children then must be paramount. It is not the obligation of your local minister or pastor. It's your job! It is not the responsibility of your Sunday School teacher or Children's Fellowship coordinator to train your child. Neither is it the responsibility of your child's teachers or school administrators. God will not hold the local basketball coach responsible for an irreverent, disrespectful child, unless the basketball coach is that child's father! Yet today it's all too common to "pass the buck" to others. We blame the government, the educational system and even our churches for failing to do what is in fact our own burden. We must stop blaming everyone else and immediately take full responsibility for personal obligations.

God expects parents to be the disciplinarians of their own children. It's in the home that a child first begins to learn. Therefore, the first thing taught ought to be reverence for God. This must be "rubbed" into the child by repetition. The child is "honed" by the parent to an exquisite finish, much like the sharpened steel of a Damascus sword. Along with this must be taught respect and love for one's fellow man (especially for elders and those in positions of authority). It's the parent who must teach the fundamentals of social productivity.

These things are NOT the responsibility of the child's educators. You cannot give an out of control child to others and expect them to remedy your malfeasance.

Ephesians 6:4

And, ye fathers [parents], provoke not your children to wrath [don't exasperate them]; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

It's the parents responsibility to bring up THEIR OWN children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The Bible does not say this of any of the other adults in the child's life. The child that's "dragged up" and "dropped off" is going to prove by example what the parents have and have not taught. Our penal institutions lend testimony to this truth.

Proverbs 20:11

Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work *be* pure, and whether *it be* right.

A child's doings are the product of his beliefs which are in turn a reflection of his teaching and training. While it's true that we have many teachers in life, it's the primary ones that influence the rest. What you write in your child's heart today will (to a great measure) direct where he or she is led in the future. This's not an obligation I would want to delegate to another, especially since God will hold me accountable for the outcome. Make up your mind today that, when it comes to your children, the "buck stops here!" In fact, why not adopt this attitude in everything you do? And should your child become a reprobate adult, which is highly unlikely, it will not be your doing.

Former U.S. President Harry S. Truman had a sign "The Buck Stops

Here" on his desk in his White House office. Oddly, it was made for him in the Federal Reformatory at El Reno, Oklahoma. Fred M. Canfil, then United States Marshal for the Western District of Missouri and a friend of Mr. Truman, saw a similar sign while visiting the Reformatory and asked the Warden if a sign like it could be made for President Truman. The sign was made and mailed to the President on October 2, 1945. Approximately 2-1/2" x 13" in size and mounted on walnut base, the painted glass sign has the words "I'm From Missouri" on the reverse side. It appeared at different times on his desk until late in his administration. The sign has been displayed at the Library since 1957.

On more than one occasion President Truman referred to the desk sign in public statements. For example, in an address at the National War College on December 19, 1952 Mr. Truman said, "You know, it's easy for the Monday morning quarterback to say what the coach should have done, after the game is over. But when the decision is up before you -- and on my desk I have a motto which says 'The Buck Stops Here' -- the decision has to be made." In his farewell address to the American people given in January 1953, President Truman referred to this concept very specifically in asserting that, "The President -- whoever he is -- has to decide. He can't pass the buck to anybody. No one else can do the deciding for him. That's his job.

If you are a parent, raising YOUR children is YOUR job! As for me and my obligations, I wish to go on record as having said:

**"THE BUCK STOPS HERE!"**

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## NOTES