

# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

### "The Right to Bear Arms"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

#### The 2nd Amendment Substantiated by Jesus Christ

The New Living Bible gives us this insight, "...And if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one!" (Luke 22:36)

Our Bill of Rights, the Second Amendment states, "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." The Founding Fathers of the United States of America knew the Word of God, and had a reverent fear of Him. I am convinced that God in His Sovereignty employed these men to use His truths to rightfully govern a Nation Under God. Men who said or wrote:

The constitutions of most of our States assert that all power is inherent in the people... that it is their right and duty to be at all times armed; (Thomas Jefferson to John Cartwright, 1824. Memorial Edition 16:45, Lipscomb and Bergh, editors.)

[W]hereas, to preserve liberty, it is essential that the whole body of the people always possess arms, and be taught alike, especially when young, how to use them..." (Richard Henry Lee, The Pennsylvania Gazette, Feb. 20, 1788.)

Zacharia Johnson argued that the new Constitution could never result in religious persecution or other oppression because, "[T]he people are not to be disarmed of their weapons.

They are left in full possession of them."

Roger Sherman, during House consideration of a militia bill (1790) said, "...It is to be the privilege of every citizen, and one of his most essential rights, to bear arms, and to resist every attack upon his liberty or property, by whomsoever made. The particular states, like private citizens, have a right to be armed, and to defend,

by force of arms, their rights, when invaded." (14 Debates in the House of Representatives, ed. Linda Grand De Pauw. (Balt., Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1972, 92-3.)

Others have understood the truth of needing people around us who take seriously the mandate of being able to protect themselves and others around them:

Robert Heinlein's observation

is "An armed society is a polite society. Manners are good when one may have to back up his actions with his life."

John R. Lott, Jr. states, "With the largest increase in gun ownership also have the largest drops in violent crimes..." "Criminals are deterred by higher penalties. Just as higher arrest and conviction rates deter crime, so does the risk that someone committing a crime will confront someone able to defend him or herself. As more law-abiding citizens obtain permits there is a greater decline in violent crime rates... Concealed handgun laws reduce violent crime for two reasons. First, they reduce the number of attempted crimes because criminals are uncertain which potential victims can defend themselves. Second, victims who have guns are in a much better position to defend themselves."

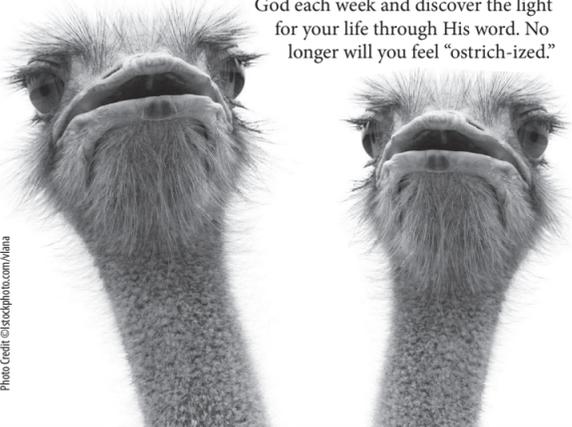
Take note of this voice from the past, "The right of self-defense is the first law of nature; ...when the right of the people to keep and bear arms is, under any color or pretext whatsoever, prohibited, liberty, if not already annihilated, is on the bank of destruction." (Henry St. George Tucker, in Blackstone 1768 'Commentaries on Laws of England.' Judge of the Virginia Supreme Court & U.S. Dist. Court of Virginia)

The fact is the words of Jesus Christ hold truths for us today.

### Are You "Ostrich-ized"?

Some days we feel discouraged, ostriched from the pleasures of life. Should we stick our head in the sand? The "ostrich method" doesn't really work - burying our problems only prolongs them. Unearth your head from the proverbial sand, shake off despair and step into the light.

"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts..." (2 Cor 4:6) Worship God each week and discover the light for your life through His word. No longer will you feel "ostrich-ized."



Weekly Scripture Reading						
Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Psalms
4	5	6	7	8	40	41

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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