

from our viewpoint...

Why do we fear immigration?

So what is it people fear about immigration?
Is it jobs?
With employment running for years at record lows, it hardly seems like our jobs are threatened by immigrants. The jobs they take — in packing plants, in fields, on road crews — most Americans shun.
These have always been the lot of the last guy off the boat, Italian, Greek, Pole, Croatian, Cambodian or black. Those groups, and dozens of others, came to this country looking for a new life, and found it. Today, they are Americans. Today, if fact, some of their descendants probably are among those who rail against the new immigration.
Is it language?
Most immigrants came here speaking something other than English. They learned and adapted.
But there are towns in Kansas where German or French was the main language for two or three generations. Russian, Bohemian, Swedish. All were spoken here, though no longer.
It'll be the same with the current wave.
People come here to be Americans. That's what most want more than anything. They want what we have.
Is it the economy?
Our economy would grind to a halt without immigration. With all the outsourcing and importing, we still have jobs that go begging.
It's illegal?
Only because we say it's so.
But as with many things, you can't make illegal what people want badly.
Alcohol, a new life, whatever. People want something, and they'll get it.
If people want to come here so badly that they'll risk their lives, they'll come.
No fence will stop them.
Al Qaida will come in with them?
Please. Al Qaida comes in where al Qaida wants to come in. Most have come through major airports, right through Immigration and Customs.
Is it fear?
Fear of the unknown, fear of those who are a little different than most of us?
Maybe.
Maybe it's just plain old prejudice.
Call it what you will. It's not pretty, and it's not American.
All this is nothing new. Those who came before spat on the Irish, the Italians, the Armenians, the Poles. Today, you can't tell one from another. That is our heritage.
There are forces that would tear America apart and deny our traditions. Immigration is not one of them.
— Steve Haynes

The Goodland Star-News

(USPS No. 222-460. ISSN 0893-0562)
Member: Kansas Press Association
Inland Press Association Colorado Press Association
National Newspaper Association
e-mail: star-news@nwkanssas.com

Steve Haynes, President
Tom Betz, Editor
Pat Schiefen, Copy Editor
Sharon Corcoran, Society Editor
Kathryn Burke, Reporter
Doug Jackson, Advertising Coordinator
Mona Carver, Advertising Sales
Sheila Smith, Office Manager



Nor'west Press

Jim Bowker, General Manager
Richard Westfahl Ron VanLoenen Judy McKnight Betty Morris
Aaron Hickert Kris McCool Jerry Kirkpatrick Lana Westfahl

 nwkanssas.com

N.T. Betz, Director of Internet Services
(ntbetz@nwkanssas.com)
Evan Barnum, Systems Admin.(support@nwkanssas.com)

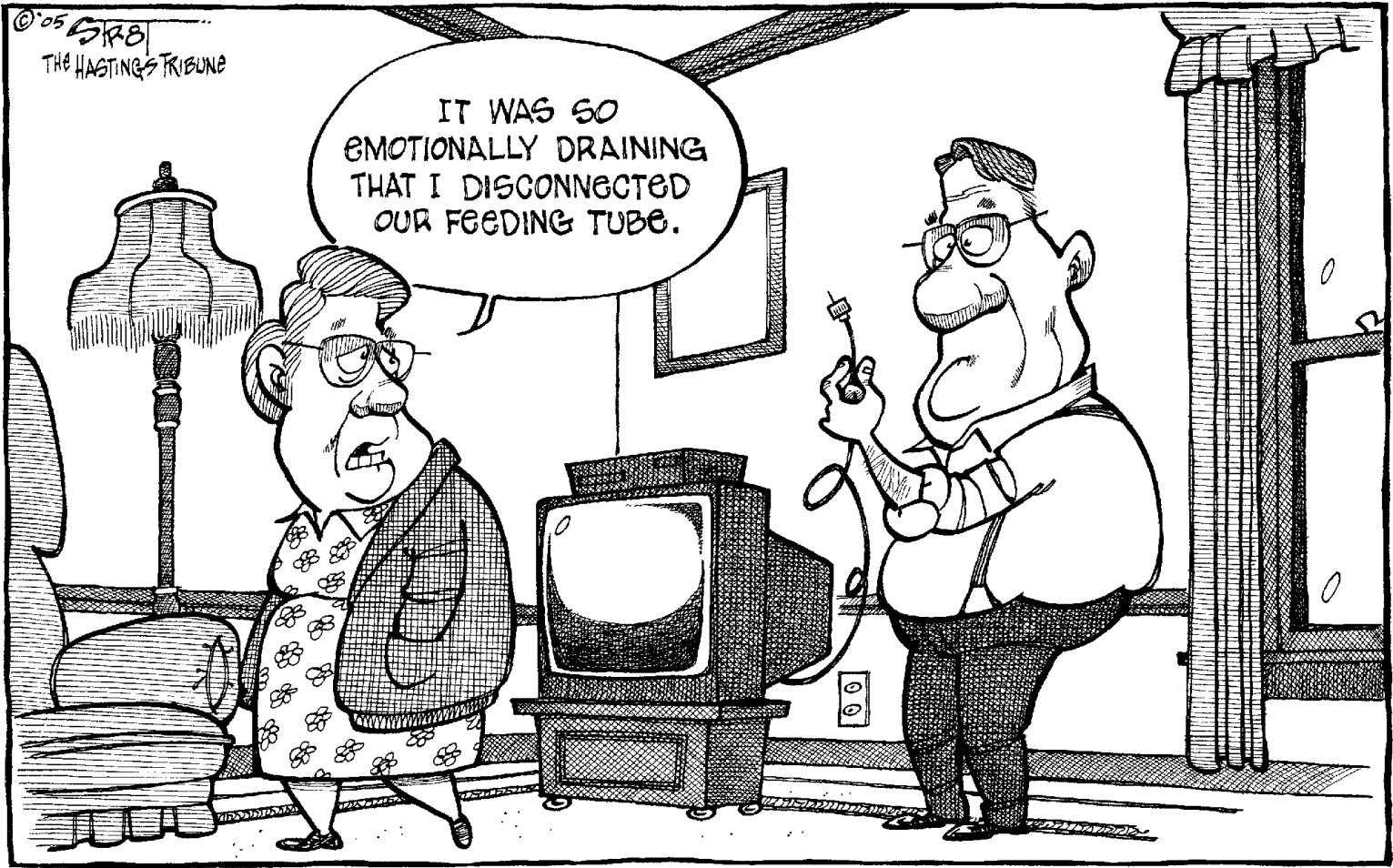
Published every Tuesday and Friday except the days observed for New Year's Day and Christmas Day, at 1205 Main Ave., Goodland, Kan. 67735. Periodicals postage paid at Goodland, Kan. 67735; entered at the Goodland, Kan., Post Office under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1878.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Goodland Star-News, 1205 Main Ave., Goodland, Kan. 67735.
TELEPHONE: (785) 899-2338. Editorial e-mail: star-news@nwkanssas.com. Advertising questions can be sent to: goodlandads@nwkanssas.com
The Goodland Star-News assumes no liability for mistakes or omissions in advertising or failure to publish beyond the actual cost of the ad.
SUBSCRIPTIONS: In Sherman County and adjacent counties: three months, \$24; six months, \$42; 12 months, \$76. Out of area, weekly mailing of two issues: three months, \$34; six months, \$49; 12 months, \$84. Mailed individually each day: 12 months, \$119. (All tax included.)

Incorporating:
The Goodland Daily News
1932-2003

The Sherman County Herald
Founded by Thomas McCants
1935-1989

THE SHERMAN COUNTY STAR
Founded by Eric and Roxie Yonkey
1994-2001

Nor'West Newspapers
Haynes Publishing Company



Bible stories are timeless

I don't know about you, but I love the Bible stories. They are timeless.
Sometimes I hear people complaining that they're heard that story over and over. Isn't that just an excuse?
Sometimes you have to listen beyond the facts of the story. And with an open mind, every time you hear it, you can learn something new.
For instance:
Did you know there are two creation stories in the Bible?
Did you know that when Eve gave in to the temptation of the serpent, Adam was standing right next to her? Why didn't he stop her?
Did you know that not just two of each kind of animal went on the Ark? Of some animals there were seven. (Read Genesis).
Do you know why some books of the Bible are called Major Prophets and why some are called Minor Prophets?
Do you know why your favorite Bible story is your favorite?
Do you know that Jonah could have saved



lorna g t
● commentary

himself a lot of trouble (so can we!) if he had just done what God told him instead of making excuses?
Human beings have the tendency to make excuses. "Just being human," we snicker. We want to be masters of our own fates, but when we get in trouble, we try to make it someone else's fault. God is a major target for such blame. Did God make that silly decision, or did you?
Here is some advice given to middle management people if they were ever caught sleeping at their desks:
"5. They told me at the blood bank that this might happen.
4. Whew! I must have left the top off that cleaning fluid. You got here just in time!

3. I wasn't sleeping. I was meditating on the vision statement and envisioning a new paradigm.
2. I was testing my keyboard for drool resistance.
1. "...in Jesus' name. Amen.""
It seems like our whole society is concerned with connocting, permitting, and encouraging us to make excuses instead of being responsible.
God calls us to try and be the best that we can be. It isn't as difficult as it sounds. Do you realize that "triumph" is just UMPH added to TRY? (Unknown author). Putting some umph into our efforts can make the difference between success and failure. It can make us more responsible and less prone to make excuses.
Many of the Bible stories depict people who make mistakes, who are not living up to their potential. But God uses them anyway. God loves them anyway, but changes them into the powerful people God needs at that moment.
Maybe we should make ourselves available, and stop making excuses.

Sin is really a learned behavior

To the Editor:
In answer to Sharon Corcoran's question in the Friday, March 18, *Goodland Star-News*, which apparently was directed to me, yes, sin is really learned behavior.
The apostle Paul tells us in Romans 7:9 that he was free from law at one time, but when the law came, sin came with it and he died. In other words, he was not born in sin — he learned it when he got older.
As for the ability to unlearn it, like any habit, it is hard. However, there is one man who lived a sinless life — Jesus Christ, who was both fully God and fully man. Titus chapter 2 says his sinless life was an example to us. In fact, if all are saddled with the sin of Adam, Jesus could no more be our savior than Adam, for both had the same sin problem.
Furthermore, Moses told the people of Israel in Deuteronomy 30:11 that sinless perfection in the law is possible.

Her question on Christ's death really isn't even part of the point. That all responsible human beings have sinned is true, whether or not one believes in original sin. The only ones to whom sin is not imputed are children and those whose minds never go beyond childhood. They are not saved — they are safe because they have no sin of which to be forgiven.
As for the rest of us, we all need Christ's blood for our salvation because of our own sin. Ms. Corcoran, however, would tell us that God stacked the deck against us. He allowed us to be saddled with sin for which we not only were not responsible, but there was no cure other than His.
Thank the God of the Bible that He is not like that. He is patient, kind and wants all men to be saved, I Peter 3:9; I Timothy 2:2-4. No, our God did something infinitely greater than providing a cure for a malady we inherited. He provided a cure for the sin we have brought upon ourselves.
Finally, I would like to comment on the paying of preachers. I don't know what that had to do with the rest of her column, but the apostle



from our readers
● to the editor

Paul is again very clear in I Corinthians 9 that churches are not only allowed to pay preachers, but have an obligation to do so to the best of their ability.
Even though I have supported myself by secular means through most of my ministry (I still provide about a third of my income through outside sources), I resent the implication against those who earn their living by the Gospel. It is not only unbiblical; it is demeaning to those who earn their keep as hard-working servants of the church.
Again, anyone wishing a more detailed discussion of the Bible may contact me in Colby or Brent Flanders at the Goodland Church of Christ.
A. Jay Kelley, evangelist
Colby Church of Christ

To the Editor:
Permit me to address a statement in the March 18 issue of *The Goodland Star-News* made by Evangelist A Jay Kelley. In response to an article by Sharon Corcoran he wrote, based on Rom. 5:12, "We are not born sinners; it is a learned behavior."
This understanding arises out of a view that Rom. 5:12 is anacolutha, meaning that a change in grammatical construction takes place in the same sentence.... This understanding is supported by Rom. 9:11 and John 9:2, which claims that no man can sin before he is born. This view is an attempt to deny Paul's meaning that all sin is connected to Adam's sin. The result is the separation of sin from Adam as the origin and makes the origin with every person born into the world.
The explanation is faulty because, as Paul

states, "All men did sin," and "death spread to all men." The verbs are historical aorists (in Greek, verbs of the past tense), indicating that sin and death is connected to Adam.
Moreover, "All" means the whole human race for all time. The aorists take us back to Eden, before any one was born, so that sin and death originated with Adam.
Both sin and death spread from Adam to "All." The sin of Adam was to be like God, to have the power and control of God, which because he tried to take, became a broken relationship with God. The desire for power and control has infected "All" and is in the nature of everyone born into the world. This understanding, held by the majority of Biblical scholars and churches, precludes the position referred to.
In addition, if we are born without sin, we would have the option to sin or not to sin. This takes our redemption out of God's hands and nullifies the cross. Salvation then becomes our responsibility, based on whether we sin or don't sin. Further, logically, we would have the power over death based on our choice.
I do not intend to change or correct what was stated, but only to challenge what was said about sin as a learned behavior.
Earl Martell, retired pastor
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Goodland

To the Editor:
Living in a small town has many good advantages, but it is also has crazy drawbacks.
For some reason, if you're seen at a show or out to lunch with a friend of the opposite sex, it is automatically concluded this must be a "BOYFRIEND." You can have many friends of the opposite sex and they are just that — FRIENDS. Also, going out to eat to try to get to know someone or help someone through hard times does not mean he is your "boyfriend."
Myra Watkins
Goodland

garfield

