

Abilene Christian University

Digital Commons @ ACU

Landon Saunders Documents

Landon Saunders Papers

1960

"Faith for the Changing Sixties"

Landon Brady Sanders

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.acu.edu/saunders_docs



Part of the [Film and Media Studies Commons](#), [Practical Theology Commons](#), [Radio Commons](#), and the [Religious Thought, Theology and Philosophy of Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

"Faith for the Changing Sixties", box 1, folder College Notes, Landon Brady Saunders Papers. Center for Restoration Studies MS #575. Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives, Brown Library. Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX.

This Manuscript is brought to you for free and open access by the Landon Saunders Papers at Digital Commons @ ACU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Landon Saunders Documents by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ ACU.

FAITH FOR THE CHANGING SIXTIES--

We hear much toalk today about the the exciting sixties! The challenging sixties! The xisties--the decade of change! The time fo transition.

Everything today is in the process of move. Emphasis is being laid upon the space age. We are engaged in a frightening race against time in our venture to the moon. From the national standpoint, we see a nation threatened with Communism--that godless power that would undermine democracry and destroy religion. That philasphy who produced a man who circled God's planet--returen because of the faithfulness of God's immutable natural laws--and then spake derisively of God, excaaiming that he d9d not see God out there!

Again, on the national scene, we face civil strife. Because of sins of the past, America suffers from civil disorder and disgrace in her treatement of the Negro. It is nothing to pick up our newspapergers and read of ~~bloodshed~~--r- riot, uprisi ngs, bloodshed--even murder--and all here in the so-called Christian nation of the world!

On the religious scene, we are witnessing the birth of new dogmas and religions every day. The number of religious organizations goes up every year. The eyes of todays world is toward Rome. We re wonderfing if they are sincere. Now, we are itnessing even today the crowning of the 262nd Pope! We see on the American front religions of evertpe and description. Secularism invades and destroys the mention of religion in scoold s today.

On the domestic scene, we are seeing grave malfunctioning. Homes are giving way to institutionalsim. Wives are abonding their children to work in the factory--just in order to bring in a few more filthy dollars!

In this world of unrest and discontent and transition and perplexity and bewilderment, man has resigned himself to just "get through somehow." Ours is an exciting world; but underneath a world of despair! The laughing faces are masks of frightened hearts! We try to laugh loud enough to drown the the cry of mourning. We are trying to stasfify our inner needs and longings by making more money, building better houses, having more education, plunging into more work of every type and description. Basic and fundamental principles of life are viewed as out-dated and impossible. We are being told on every hand--via newspaper, magazine, television, radion--that ours is a world of change; that we

must abandon the old fashioned methods of the past few decades in favor of new methods. We must rise to meet the challenge of the exciting sixties!

It is true that times do change. Style changes. Custom changes. Power changes. But, brethren, THE ENLIGHTENED PEOPLE OF GOD MUST NOT FEEL THAT THEY HAVE BEEN CHEATED, LOST, IN THIS RAPID WORLD CHANGE. I fear that the church, to a certain extent, has lost its moorings in this age of change. We, too, have forgotten where we are going. The international world has abandoned seemingly the quest to provide freedom and happiness for all. Now, the end is politics or the triumph of a political system. It is a question of who can out-manuever who, dog eat dog, political world. The national scene has abandoned the government "of the people, by the power, for the people." Now, the nation is ruled by a wealthy, politically-ambitious minority. Independence is a laugh. Freedom is rapidly being curtailed. Our national government has lost sight of their aim. Religion does not differ. The aim now is to have a social institution. As one famous evangelist put it. . . . (Graham) It is a matter of absolving differences on the basis of concessions, compromises, and other pacts. The exaltation of Christ and his doctrine are in the background. The domestic side of life, too, has lost its moorings. The family is little viewed today as the place where the children can receive the type of environment that would fit them to usefulness in the service of their fellowman and almighty God. The aim now is to get the most for self. How can we have the easiest, most luxurious life today? How can we get by with the least work? Where is the path of least resistance?

These provide faith for the sixties

The international world could well stop and take a new look at their goals; so could our national level; so could religion; so could the home; BUT, IT IS HIGH TIME WE SAT DOWN TO REAFFIRM THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST. THESE ARE CHANGELESS PRINCIPLES. THEY ARE ETERNAL. THERE IS NO CAUSE FOR CHRISTIANS TO BE GROPEING. HAVE WE LOST OUR AIM? HAVE WE JOINED THE RANKS OF HUMANITY IN THE LOSS OF VITAL GOALS? THE SIXTIES ARE THE TIME FOR A REAFFIRMATION OF THE OLD JERUSALEM PATHS.

THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHESED OF A WAY THAT WOULD BE FOREVER. Dan. 2:44; 7:13,14; Isa. 2:2,3; Zeph. 3.

The NEW TESTAMENT REVEALS THAT WAY.