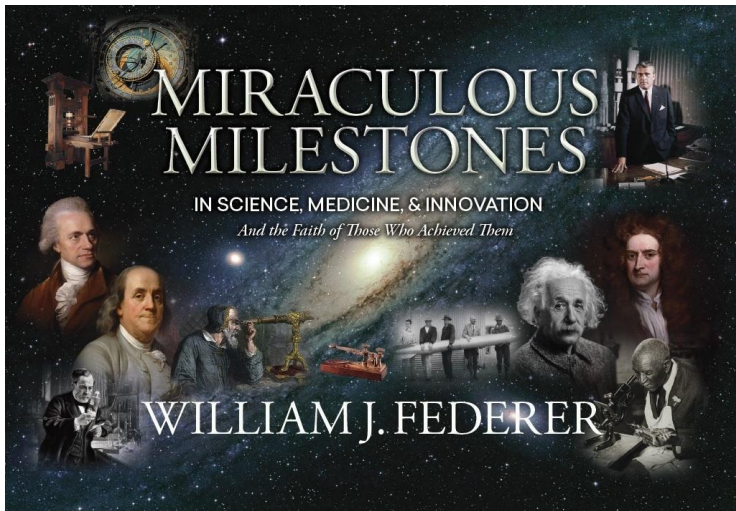


American Minute with Bill Federer
"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" - Charles Wesley;
and Classic Carols: "Joy to the World," "Messiah,"
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

From 1714 to 1718,
James Oglethorpe was
a military aide under the
command of **Prince**
Eugene of Savoy
fighting to drive the
Muslim Turks out of
Belgrade, Serbia.



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After the battle, at
the age of 22,
Oglethorpe
returned to
England, where he
entered
Parliament and

worked for prison reform after one of his friends died in debtors prison.



In 1732, **Oglethorpe** founded the **Colony of Georgia** in America for poor debtors and persecuted Christians.

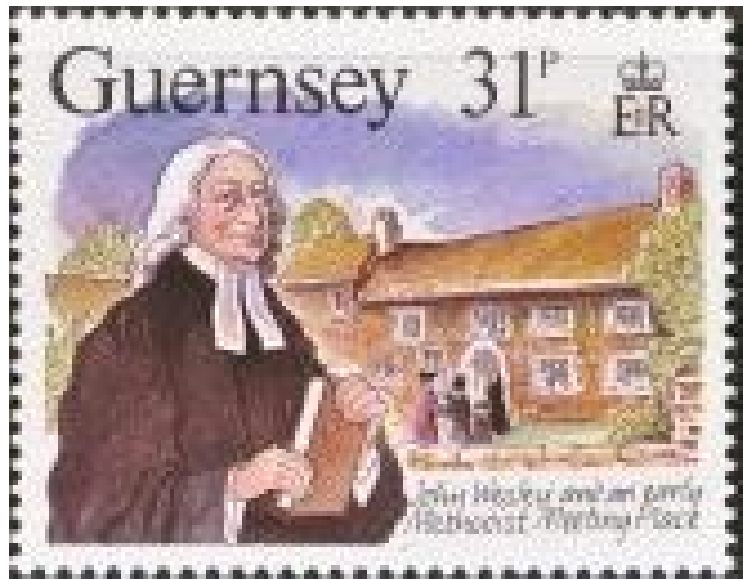
Oglethorpe defended **Georgia** from attacks launched out of **Spanish Florida**.



General James Oglethorpe's secretary was **Charles Wesley**.



Charles' brother, **John Wesley**, served as the colony's Anglican minister.



John Wesley's efforts to evangelize the Indians proved more difficult than anticipated, and his strict religiosity was resented by the colonists.

In 1737, **John and Charles Wesley**

returned to England where they were befriended by a **Moravian missionary** named **Peter Bohler**, who was waiting for a ship to sail to **Georgia**.



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Peter Bohler shared with the **Wesleys** regarding the **indwelling of the Holy Spirit**, which resulted in their **"Aldersgate experience"** in May of 1738.

John Wesley wrote:

"In the evening, I went very unwillingly to a Society in Aldersgate-Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans ...

About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the **change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ**, I felt my heart strangely warmed ...

I felt I did trust in Christ; Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me, that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.”

The **Wesleys'** began preaching that **God's grace was free for all.**

They influenced **George Whitefield**, who spread the **Great Awakening Revival** throughout the American colonies.



John Wesley founded the Methodist movement, and **Charles Wesley** wrote over **6,000 hymns** proclaimed the beauty of the Gospel.

God is just, and therefore He must judge every sin; but God is love, as He provided His Son to take the judgement for our sins.

The **Lamb** is God's way to love us without having to judge us!

This was foreshadowed when **Abraham** was taking his son, **Isaac**, to the top of Mount Moriah (Genesis 22:7-8):

Amazing love!
How can it be,
That Thou, my God,
shouldst die for me?

"Isaac spake unto **Abraham** ... My father ... behold the fire and the wood: but **where is the lamb** for a burnt offering?

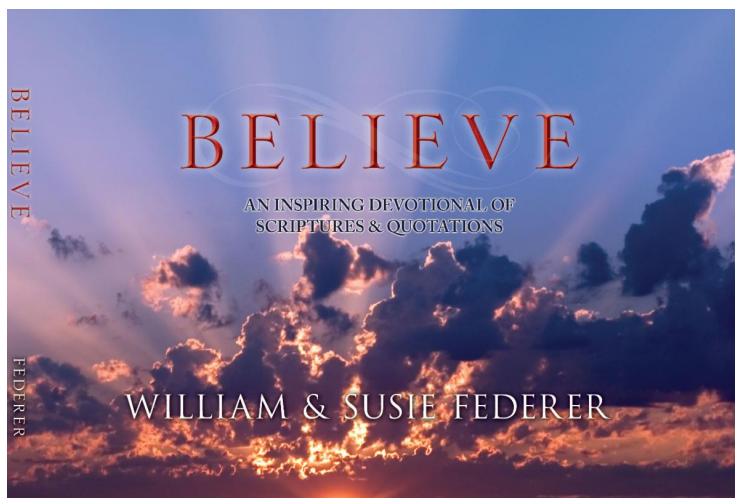
And **Abraham** said, **My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering."**

This passage has a **double meaning**:

First —that **God will provide a sacrifice**, a ram caught by its **head** in a **thorn bush** on top of Mount Moriah; and Second —that **God will provide a sacrifice**, His only begotten **Son**, upon whose **head** was a **crown of thorns**.

Charles Wesley wrote in a hymn published in 1738:

"Amazing love! How can it be, That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?"



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Charles Wesley

was the **18th child** of **Rev. Samuel and Susanna Wesley**, born December 18, 1707, in Epworth, England.

*When we cannot understand,
Lord, us to thy mercy lead,
Seize him for the mercy's sake
Bring our wandering Shepherd back.
We concerning this come
In thy Name to ask of Thee,
Give us thy Spirit's grace,
Show him what he needs to know.
Of his ignorance convince,
Of his heart's impurity,
Wash a name and heart to save,
Lend of power, and blood of grace
Mend by our united prayer
Shed thy Spirit out of the man,
Guide of our bewildered souls,
Save him from the snare of pride;
Rescue by thy Spirit's grace
Preaching in his praise,
Lift to his Redeemer's love
And the path of humbly love*



Susanna Wesley home-schooled all her 19 children, giving them a classical education which included learning **Latin and Greek**.

Charles Wesley excelled in his studies. He attended **Westminster School** and **Christ Church, Oxford**, where he came to the attention of **Garret Wesley, or Wellesley**, a member of the **British Parliament** with a large fortune in **Daugan, Ireland**.



Having no child, **Garret Wellesley** offered to adopt **Charles** as his heir, but **Charles declined**.

Garret Wellesley then decided to leave his estate to his cousin **Richard Colley Wellesly**, the father of **Arthur Wellesley-Duke of Wellington**, who became famous for his role in defeating Napoleon at the **Battle of Waterloo** in 1815.



After graduating

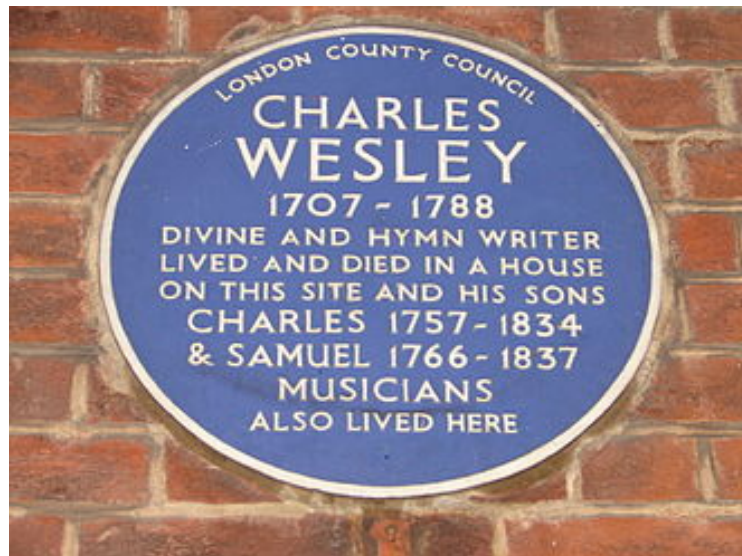


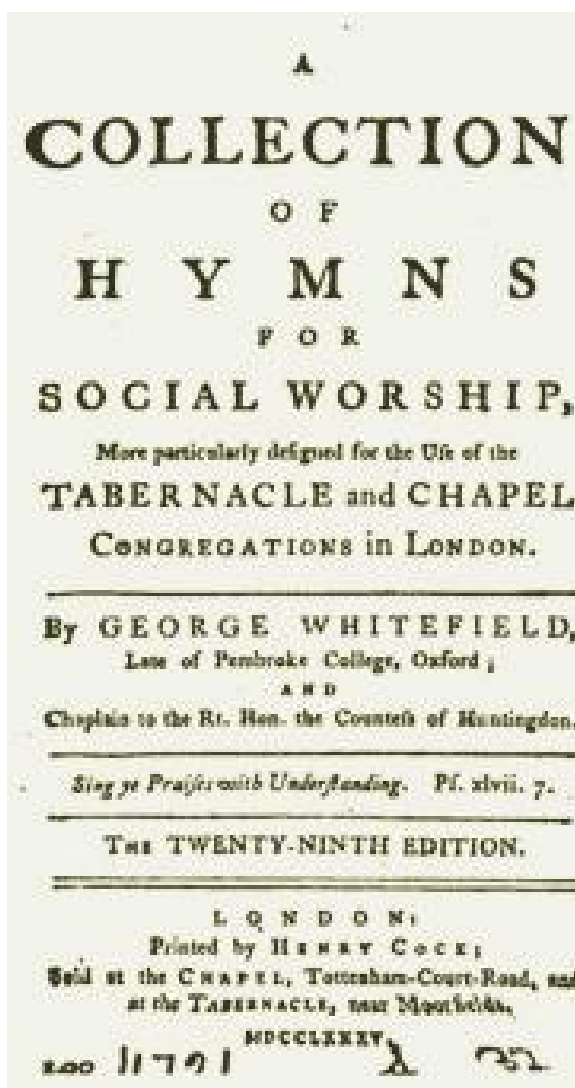
from Oxford,
Charles Wesley
sailed to the
Colony of Georgia
in 1732, serving as
secretary to the
colony's founder,
General James
Oglethorpe.

In 1739, **Charles Wesley** penned
"Hark! how all
the **Welkin**
(Heaven) rings."

George Whitefield
suggested the first
line be changed to
"Hark! The **Herald**
Angels Sing."

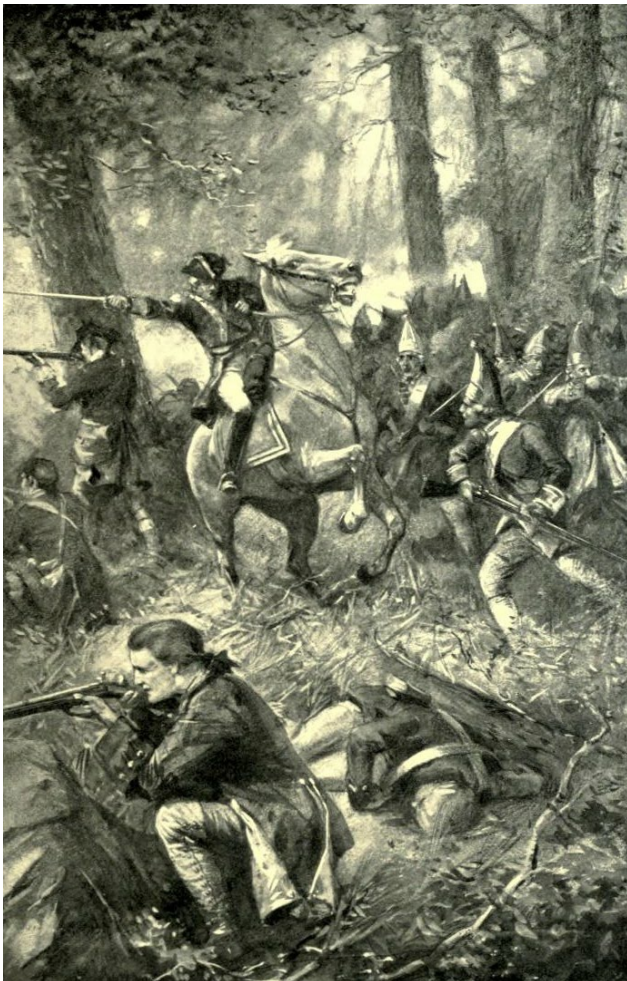
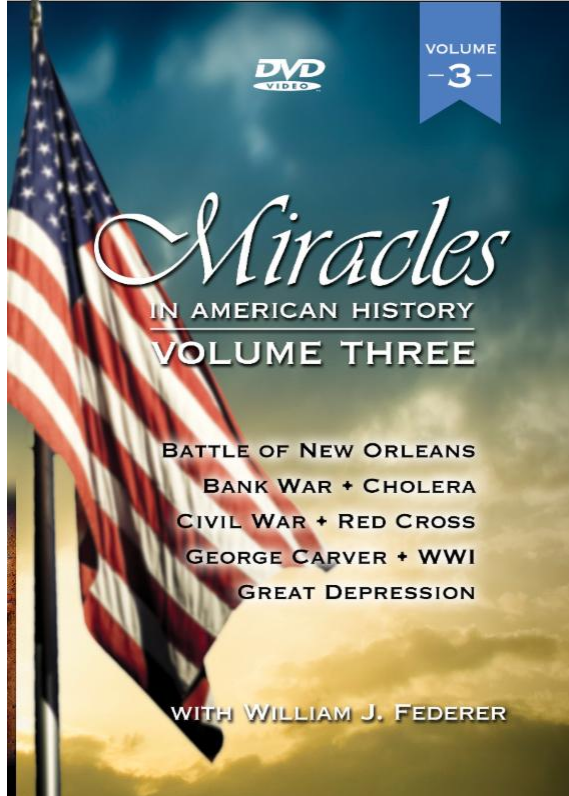
The song was put to the
music of Lutheran
composer **Felix**
Mendelssohn,
grandson of the notable
Jewish philosopher,
Moses Mendelssohn.





"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" was first published in 1739 in the collection *Hymns and Sacred Poems*. It was republished in **George Whitefield's *Collection of Hymns for Social Worship*** in 1754.

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In America, at this time, the **French and Indian War** was heating up.

British General Edward Braddock fought the **Battle of the Monongahela** in 1755, assisted by the young officer named **George Washington**, who was miraculously spared.

Also at the battle on the side of the British was 20-year-old wagon driver **Daniel**

Boone.



Colonial Americans would have found hope in singing **Charles Wesley's hymn:**

Hark, the Herald Angels sing,
Glory to the new-born King,
Peace on earth,
and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.

Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;

With th' angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb,

Veiled in flesh the



Godhead see,
**Hail the incarnate
Deity!**

Pleased as man
with man to dwell,

**Jesus, our
Emmanuel,**

Hark! The herald
angels sing,

"Glory to the newborn King!"



Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Son of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings,

Ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by,

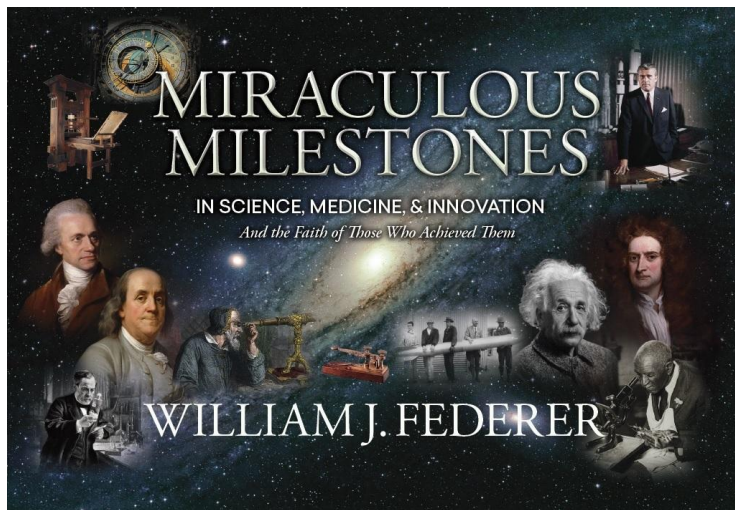
Born that man no more may die,

Born to raise the sons of earth,

Born to give them second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing,

"Glory to the newborn King!"



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MILESTONES in
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Who Achieved
Them](#)

The same year

Charles Wesley was

born, 1707, **Isaac**

Watts wrote the carol

"Joy to the World,"

which became **one of**

and grace,
And makes the
nations prove
The glories of His
righteousness,
**And wonders of
His love,
And wonders of
His love,
And wonders,
wonders, of His
love.**



At this time in
Europe, composer
**George Frideric
Handel** was at a
low point in his
career, having
suffered partial
paralysis on his
left side due to a stroke.



Incredibly,
beginning August
22, 1741, **George
Handel** composed
"Messiah" in only
21 days, as part of
a series of
concerts in Dublin
to benefit charities.

In **Messiah**,
Handel included a
line from the Book
of Job 19:25:

"I know that my
Redeemer liveth."

The premiere was met with overwhelming success.

When it was performed in London, **King George II** stood to his feet during the singing of the "**Hallelujah**" Chorus.

In reflecting on the "**Hallelujah** Chorus," 1742, **Handel** expressed:



"I did think I did see all heaven before me, and the great God Himself."

In 1751-52, with the onset of blindness, **Handel** retired.

Shortly before his death, he expressed he was:

"In hopes of meeting his good **God**, his sweet (precious) **Saviour**, on the day of His resurrection."

Another popular Christmas carol first published in 1751 was "**O Come, All Ye Faithful**," originally written in **Latin** as "**Adeste Fideles**"

(attributed to Portugal's King John IV, and later John F. Wade, with music by John Reading):

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye,
to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels! (Chorus)



O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-umphant, O
2. Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion, O
3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap-py morn-ing,

come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem! Come and be-hold Him,
sing, all ye cit-i-zens of heav'n a-bove! Glo-ry to God, all
Je-sus, to Thee be all glo-ry giv'n; Word of the Fa-ther,

REFRAIN.
born the King of an-gels!
glo-ry in the high-est! O come, let us a-dore Him, O
now in flesh ap-pear-ing!

come, let us a-dore Him, O come, let us a-dore Him, Christ, the Lord!

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not
the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten not
created. (Chorus)



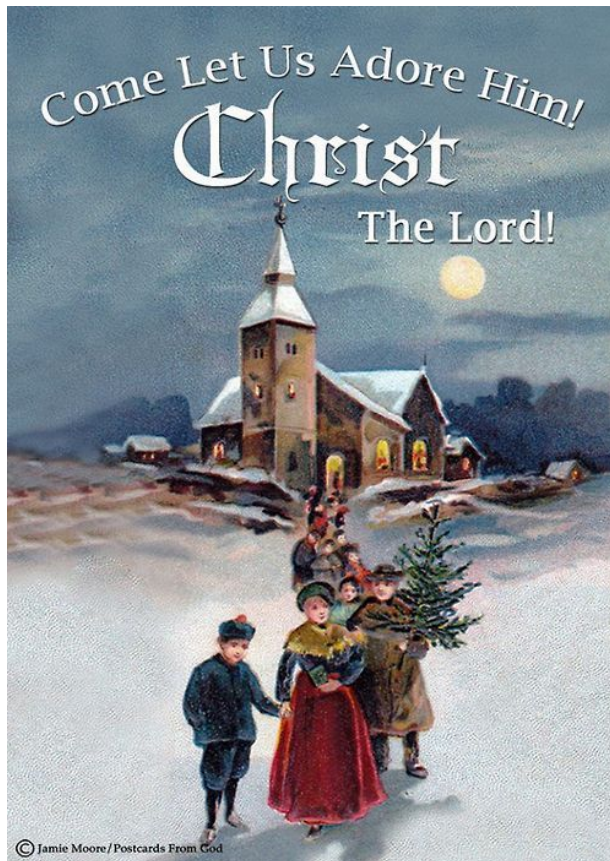
**O COME
ALL YE
FAITHFUL**

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, In the highest; (Chorus)

**O come, let us adore
Him,**
O come, let us adore
Him,
O come, let us adore
Him,
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet
Thee,
Born this happy morning;
**Jesu, to Thee be glory
given;**
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing.
(Chorus)



O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

--

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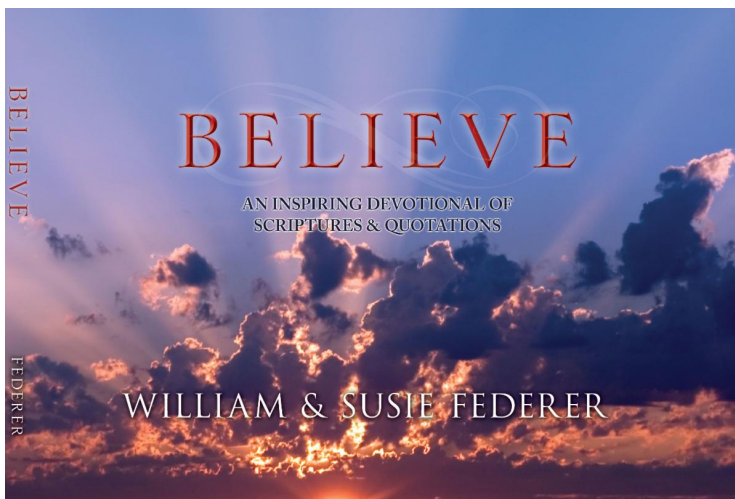
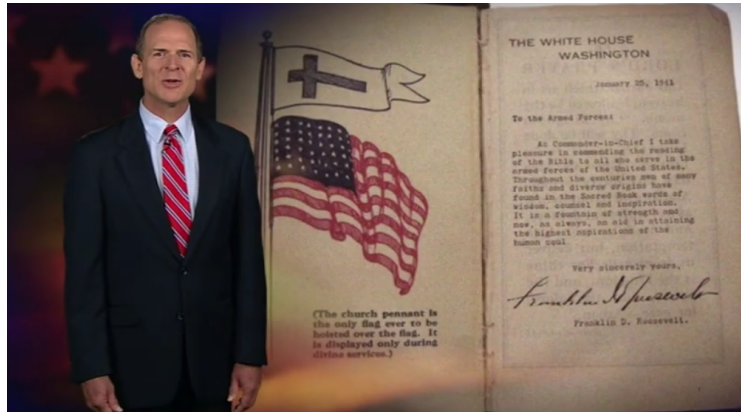
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