



High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study "We Will Not Be Silenced" Series

Chapter 2: Rewrite the Past to Control the Future

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America turns further from Christian values and the core principles of liberty every day. It's frustrating when you feel like you can't assert Biblical truth without facing condemnation. It's sad that outrage and victimhood have replaced respect and reason. How can you stay rooted in your own faith and continue publicly testifying for Jesus?

In *We Will Not Be Silenced*, Dr. Erwin W. Lutzer gets us ready to live out our convictions against a growing spirit of hostility by obtaining a better understanding of non-believers' legitimate hurts and concerns regarding issues such as racism, sexism, and poverty, and identify the toxic responses secular culture disguises as solutions. In the process, we'll evaluate how we can witness, show compassion, and gentleness outside the faith without affirming their beliefs. *We Will Not Be Silenced* will prepare you to move beyond fear and boldly accept the challenge of representing Christ to a watching world that needs Him now more than ever before.

In tonight's lesson we'll be studying Chapter 2, *Rewrite the Past to Control the Future*, where Dr. Lutzer discusses the liberal agenda to re-write American history and replace it with anti-Christian sentiments.

1. Read about George Orwell's "Ministry of Truth" from his book, *1984*, on pages 41-42.
 - a. Why is controlling the narrative of the history so important to a culture or society?
 - b. We were all required to take history in school and in general most Americans do not enjoy studying history. Why is this the case?
 - c. In what ways are we observing the history of America being re-written?
2. While American is certainly not perfect, few rationale people would argue we have done more to help the world than any nation is the history of the world (e.g., one must look no further than WWI and WWII to make this observation). What are some sensible approaches we can take to help people get over past hurts?
3. On page 48 we read in the section "A Marxist History of the United States" about author and activist, Howard Zinn, who wrote *A People's History of the United States*. What are several ways the author takes an anti-American and pro-Marxist slant in his book?

4. There is clearly an attempt by the Marxists in this country to denounce “all things Western” that include many of the Judeo-Christian values that were central to our early history. What are some of the commendable and terrible things the following Western nations have done (feel free to go beyond those items listed in the book).

Nation	Commendable Accomplishments	Terrible Activities / Events
England		
Germany		
United States		

5. Read the quote from Eric Mason on the top of page 64. What attributes did Jesus embody that can be infused into the current debate to help diffuse the hostility we see in this nation?
6. Consider the sobering thought: **We are one generation away from the church dying in America.** Read Revelation 2:1-5 and consider this sobering thought.
- a. What were Jesus’ observations on the church in Ephesus?
 - b. List two or three good and bad traits we see in the modern American church.
 - c. What practical steps can we take to improve the image of Christians in society?
7. Read “A Prayer All of Us Must Pray” on pages 69 and 70.
- a. What stands out to you in this prayer?
 - b. How would you grade your prayer life (circle one)?

Vibrant Good Periodic Lukewarm Cold
 - c. I would imagine all of us would recognize that prayer is important in the life of the Believer; however, I imagine we all admit we could pray more. Is it possible our poor prayer life reflects what we really believe about prayer?