Kingdom Chronicle

Teller County Welcomes BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI Kingdom Chronicle Staff

New Young Republicans Chapter

In a vibrant display of community spirit, patriotism, and political engagement, Teller County recently witnessed the birth of a new organization aimed at empowering young conservatives. On July 7th, a group of fellow Christian, conservative patriots gathered for an informal vision meeting of the newly established Teller Patriots. Among the attendees was Gabriela Robinson, a passionate 19-year-old from Woodland Park, who came with a clear vision to establish a Young Republicans chapter in Teller County. Encouraged by the supportive atmosphere, Robinson left the meeting with a full board of nine dedicated members, all of whom had their dues paid and sponsored within minutes by fellow attendees.



The newly formed Teller County Young
Republicans aim to provide a platform for young
conservatives aged between 18 and 40. Their mission is to
Continued on Page 2...

Patriots of Teller

BY AMANDA LOCKMAN

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

County: A Grassroots Movement

In a remarkable display of community mobilization, Teller County Patriots has grown from a modest gathering of seven people at its inception to a robust group of nearly seventy participants by its third meeting. This grassroots movement, rooted in conservative Christian values, is uniting individuals from all areas of Woodland Park and Teller County with a shared mission: to actively engage citizens in the political process. The group emphasizes building a strong team culture, focusing on tangible results, and having fun along the way.

A particularly inspiring aspect of the Teller County Patriots is the involvement of young adults. Gabriela Robinson, an impressive young leader, has taken the initiative to establish a chapter of the Young Republicans of Colorado in Teller County. During the July 7th meeting, nine other young adults enthusiastically joined to form the official board of this new chapter. With a major election year ahead, these passionate patriots are determined to ensure a fair and honest election by rolling up their sleeves and getting to work.

The group has already formed five established teams, with more in the pipeline, each focusing on different aspects of their mission:

Education and Engagement Team

This team aims to increase conservative Christian participation in local meetings such as city council, school board, GOP gatherings, and community forums at the police station. Their focus is on education and involvement, helping individuals become election watchers and judges. They plan to offer a variety of educational opportunities, including Patriot Academy Classes, Truth and Liberty events, public speaking workshops, and the Citizens Academy.

Election Integrity Team

Partnering with a national election integrity expert

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Teller County Welcomes BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI Kingdom Chronicle Staff New Young Republicans Chapter

foster political engagement, promote conservative values, and support local community initiatives. To celebrate their formation and introduce themselves to the community, the Teller County Young Republicans will be hosting a soft launch bonfire event on Sunday, July 14th, at the Painted Rocks Campground in Woodland Park. This event promises to be an opportunity for like-minded individuals to connect, share ideas, and engage in discussions about the future of conservatism in Teller County.



All interested community members are invited to join in celebrating this exciting new chapter and to learn more about how they can get involved. The launch of the Teller County Young Republicans represents a significant step towards fostering youth involvement in local politics and ensuring a strong future for conservative, Christian values in Teller County.

Patriots of Teller

BY AMANDA LOCKMAN

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

County: A Grassroots Movement

who has collaborated with figures like Mike Lindell and Dr. Frank, this team is dedicated to ensuring the accuracy and cleanliness of Teller County's voter rolls. Their work encompasses all aspects of election integrity, striving to protect the integrity of the voting process.

Social Media and Communications Team

This team is responsible for unifying and amplifying the conservative Christian message across social media platforms. They aim to build a strong online presence and organize communications between various groups, ensuring a coherent and impactful voice in the digital landscape.

Ballot Chasing and Harvesting Team

Understanding the importance of voter registration and participation, this team focuses on building relationships and registering unregistered voters. In Colorado, ballot harvesting is legal, and this team plans to engage in it with utmost integrity and diligence, ensuring every eligible vote is counted.

Strategy and Contingency Planning Team

This team is tasked with educating the group and developing strategies to maximize their effectiveness. They analyze the group's efforts and devise plans to address challenges, ensuring that the Teller County Patriots are always prepared and proactive.

Get Involved

For those interested in learning more about these teams and how to get involved, the Teller County Patriots will be holding their next meeting on July 14th at the Edgewood Inn, located at 10975 Loy Creek Rd., Woodland Park, CO 80863. The meeting will begin at 3:30 pm and conclude at 6:00 pm. This gathering presents a perfect opportunity to join a dynamic and dedicated group committed to making a difference in our community. We look forward to seeing you there.

Join Us at City Council

BY AMANDA LOCKMAN

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Your presence makes a difference! As members of the Ekklesia and carriers of the Spirit of the living God, our presence can transform atmospheres. We invite you to



meet us at the flagpole in Memorial Park, next to the pond, at 5:45 PM on July 18th. We'll briefly review the evening's agenda and pray before heading over to the City Council meeting together. Seating is limited, and we anticipate a full house due to significant topics like 2nd Amendment rights and the 5G tower.

Editor's Note: This was an 11th hour addition to this issue. I am placing it here to inform those who may not know, but yesterday (07/13/2024) there was an attempt on President Donald Trump's life at a rally in Pennsylvania. He is currently recovering. We saw a promise from the Lord take place right before our eyes vesterday.

No weapon formed against you shall prosper, ... Isaiah 54:17

Please be in prayer for President Donald Trump, his family, the families of those impacted and for our nation.





Pray For

Our City Council to make the decisions that best represent the citizens of Woodland Park.

As an act of faith, many to come to the "Join Us at City Council" meeting and pray.

The divine guidance and safety of all presidential candidates, our leaders, and the families of those impacted by the events that occurred at the presidential rally in PA.

The complete, quick manifestation of healing for President Donald Trump.

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Agile Project management, apps, security audits, recruiting, etc. Contact us at info@bitcreed.us for a free initial consulting.

Your partner in all software matters

Pray Against

Divisive politics preventing our City Council from representing the citizens of Woodland Park.

The spirit of confusion that continues to lull believers into complacency, not wanting to be involved in government.

The enemy's plans for this nation, to include stirring up confusion and hatred of one another. We need to pray against the spirit of division.

The enemy's plans to use the attempt on President Donald Trump's life to further division.

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned **Business We'd Like To Highlight:**



Connecting You to Your Future Start your **cryptocurrency** journey today digitalassetsisters.com

Christian Involvement in Government

BY JON WILLIAMS

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

I wanted to take some time to continue to address Christians being involved in their government. The educational system in the United States, for the past several years, has ignored the fact that Christianity was the overwhelming spiritual influence on the founding of the United States. The founding fathers were very diligent to both call upon God for guidance in the nation's founding and using the Bible to base laws for the founding of the country. There are so many examples, confirmed by written records, that I will just cite a few for today.

Jonathan Trumbull, the Governor of Connecticut during the American Revolution, called for the people to "offer to our Almighty and all-gracious God, through our Great Mediator, our sincere and solemn prayers for His divine assistance and the influences of His Holy Spirit". Our country's early governors of the states had no problem calling upon God for guidance as they governed.

Samuel Adams said, "that with true repentance and contrition of heart we may unitedly implore the forgiveness of our sins through the merits of Jesus Christ and humbly supplicate our heavenly Father".

Patrick Henry said, "this is all the inheritance I can give them one thing which will make them rich indeed."

George Mason, called the father of the Bill of Rights, reminded delegates at the constitutional convention that, "By an inevitable chain of causes and effects, Providence punishes national sins by national calamities". Whether you believe this is good doctrine or not, the founding fathers clearly believed their actions in this life would be judged by God in the afterlife.

Here Is A Local, Christian YouTube Content Creator We'd Like To Highlight:



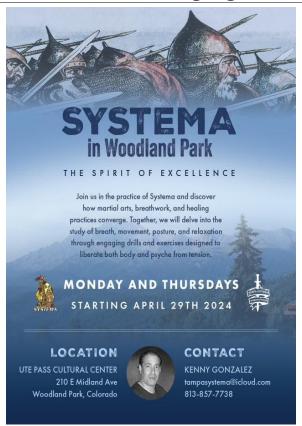
Place of Immersion@immersiontoday

Many of the states required oaths stating belief in God and eternal judgment for their leaders. In the constitution of Pennsylvania, the members had to declare "I do believe in one God, the Creator and Governor of the universe, the rewarder of the good and the punisher of the wicked." Many states had something similar to this quote. Take the constitution of South Carolina, as another example, which all the electors had to acknowledge the being of a God and that they believed in a future state of rewards and punishment. Finally, the constitution of Tennessee stated quite clearly in case there were doubts, "No person who denies the being of God, or a future state of rewards or punishments, shall hold any office in the civil department of this state."

Christians need to be involved in their communities and hold positions of civil service. Christians need to be involved in school boards and other political endeavors. They need to run for office so they can speak up and be heard to influence society. One can take solace

Continued on Page 6...

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Business We'd Like To Highlight:



Just Enough (Part Two)

BY JOY OTI

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Standing before the nurse at the reception and trying to catch her breath, she greeted, "Hello, I'm Mira and I have an appointment with Dr. Casey." The nurse smiled, welcomed her and told her to catch her breath and take a seat for a moment. Then the nurse said to her, "I'm so sorry, but Dr. Casey will be one hour late. She had an emergency at home, but will definitely be here in an hour. We tried reaching you, but for some reason your phone wouldn't connect. If there's anything I can do to assist you while you wait, it'll be my pleasure to help." Mira nodded her head affirmatively and asked, "It's okay! Can I wait outside, I need fresh air?"

"Oh sure, you can. I'll get someone to guide you to our beautiful park outside." said the nurse. Then she beckoned on one of the staff who walked Mira to the park.

The Park had a water fountain, with seats surrounding it. Beautiful flowers of different colors and species formed walls around the park. Even though there were seat arrangements in other areas of the park, Mira chose to sit facing the water fountain. The hospital assistant who led her to the park asked if she wanted something to drink, but Mira declined and thanked him. He thanked her for her patience and walked away. For fear that ugly thoughts would plague her mind, she brought out her phone to keep her busy. Just as she unlocked it and was about to start browsing, she heard a frail voice say to her, "this is a beautiful day." She turned and looked in the direction of the voice and saw a man of about eighty years old in pajamas who had taken a seat close to her. She thought he was a patient in the hospital.

"Good morning, sir." She said to him. he looked at her, smiled and repeated again, "this must be a beautiful day."

Mira figured he was waiting for a response and she quickly responded, "I hope so."

Again, the old man smiled and said, "Hope is very good. It's a good place to start. But don't get stuck on it. Why are you here?"

Disappointed that the quiet morning she anticipated was going to be disrupted, she hesitantly told the old man she had an appointment with a doctor. Then she asked him why he was there.

He told her he was visiting a friend who was sick and could use some support. Realizing she was wrong about him, Mira looked away. "You must have thought I was a patient because of my seeming frailty." said the old man.

Mira was shocked but couldn't deny it. She apologized but the old man told her it was okay. Then he asked Mira what was going on with her. Then Mira answered, "It's cancer and the doctor says I would need surgery. I have to run some tests so I can be scheduled for the surgery."

The old man was silent for a while, and then he asked her, "What are you hoping for?"Not sure where the conversation was going to, Mira hesitated to answer. The old man waited patiently for her and then asked again, "What are you hoping for?"

Seeing he was demanding an answer, she answered, "I hope the test comes out good so I can have the surgery."

The old man smiled, turned to her and asked, "is that the best you can hope for? A positive test for a surgery? I thought you would have said something like, 'I want this cancer to disappear."

Mira took a deep breath and said, "My faith is not that big enough to hope for that sort of outcome."

Then he asked her, "on a scale of ten to one hundred percent, how much faith do you have?" Again, not sure where this was going, Mira delayed to answer. Then the old man said to her, "take your time."

After what seemed like some seconds gone by, Mira reluctantly answered, "thirty percent."

"Well then, at least you've got something to work with." he said to her. **Continued on Page 6...**

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Business We'd Like To Highlight:



Yourmoneymakeover.com

Just Enough (Part Two) BY JOY OTI Kingdom Chronicle Staff

"Thirty percent is too little for the outcome you want me to hope for. We are talking about cancer, and not a flu." Mira argued.

"Yes, I know!" said the old man, as he cringed on his seat. "My legs need some lifting. I need something to put them on. Could you please help me with that little stone close to the red flowers over there? I could place my legs on them and get some relief."

"Sure!" Mira answered. Mira walked to the stone and as she bent to lift it, she groaned. "My goodness, I can't lift it. It's too heavy." She told him.

"But it's just a little stone." the old man said.

"Yes, but it's heavy. I'm sorry I can't lift it. I need someone to help me." Mira responded.

"Well, that's the point," said the old man, "the stone is so little but you can't lift it because it's heavy. You cannot judge the weight of something by its size. Your faith may be small, but weighty enough to move a mountain. Come sit down." he told her.

Mira walked back and took her seat. "What's your favorite bible story?" he asked her.

Mira answered, "The splitting of the red sea." Impressed, he said to her, "it must be, because of the speed with which you answered. Do you know that God didn't need the faith of the children of Israel to split the red sea. The burden of that miracle was on Him. and so is the burden of every miracle. However, even though a miracle was right in front of them, they still needed faith to walk into it, because it was a terrifying miracle. To their left and right were walls of mighty oceans. They had never seen anything like that and it was normal to consider the possibility of the waters coming down on them. But they had no choice, because even though they feared the waters coming down on them them, going back was not an option. An angry army of Egyptians were right behind them. So, either way, death was imminent. All they needed was faith that was just enough to get them to take one frightened step after another onto the dry sea bed until they crossed over. You don't need big faith; you need faith that is just enough to make you take the first step to what you hope for. You probably haven't read the bible in a long time, but it's okay. Hear this; 'And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.' Continued on Page 7...

Christian Involvement in Government

BY JON WILLIAMS Kingdom Chronicle Staff

in the fact that many of our founding fathers not only believed in God, professed faith in Christianity, and professed faith in Jesus Christ, but they did so openly and actually shunned those who didn't from government service. Again, we live in a Christian nation that was founded on Christian principles. It was founded in honor of the teachings of Jesus Christ and there is no way around this fact. This claim is supported by many original handwritten documents from the founding fathers. With this knowledge of our founders, let us strengthen our resolve to do what we can to make this nation as great as possible in our generation. A nation that fears the Lord and honors His Holy Word.

Raise Your Voice! BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI Kingdom Chronicle Staff **Upcoming Community Dates:**

- ♦ 07/14/2024, 3:30-6 p.m.: Teller Patriots meeting at The Edgewood Inn.
- ♦ 07/14/2024, 7 p.m.: Teller County Young Republicans bonfire at the Painted Rocks Campground.
- ♦ 07/16/2024, 5.30 p.m.: Chambers Business After Hours (for members) hosted by the Colorado Wolf and Wildlife
- ♦ 07/18/2024, 6:30 p.m.: City Council meeting at City Hall, 220 W South Ave.
- ♦ 08/01/2024, 6:30 p.m.: City Council meeting at City Hall, 220 W South Ave.
- ♦08/13/2024, 6:30 p.m.: Teller County Republicans (GOP) monthly meeting at Pikes Peak Community Center in Divide.
- ♦08/14/2024, 6 p.m.: Regular School Board Meeting at the District Office, large conference room.
- ♦08/14/2024, 6 p.m.: Community Engagement Forum with the Woodland Park Police Department at the police station.
- ♦08/15/2024, 6:30 p.m.: City Council meeting at City Hall, 220 W South Ave.

Just Enough (Part Two)

BY JOY OTI

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Philippians 1:6. The good work is 'faith', and that 'faith' is God's work, not you or me. And only He can perfect it. So, if you have thirty percent, God will bring His seventy percent and complete it. My dear, big faith is relative. If you have thirty percent faith, and I have ten percent faith, then your faith is bigger than mine. And if I have someone who has one percent faith, then my faith is bigger than theirs. Faith at any level is just enough for what we need. Remember, the children of Israel were not in faith when God decided to split the red sea for them to cross. God gave them a promise that was not dependent on their faith. All they had to do was take a step. Never forget that! Faith is very good but God is not particular on the measure of our faith to give us a miracle. Whatever the measure of our faith, it is enough for Him to work with. So, what is it going to be? Are you going to cross the red sea, or will you go back the way of the Egyptian army?"

What the old man told Mira was profound, but she needed clarity. "May I ask who the Egyptian army represents in this analogy? I'm a bit confused." she asked him.

He held her hands and answered, "Well, maybe not exactly the Egyptian army; Egypt is more appropriate. Egypt was a place of convenience for them. They would rather slave for the Egyptians and eat garlic, than cross the red sea to freedom of a promised land. The surgery is your Egypt, very convenient. But divine healing is the red sea, a tough choice."

Looking into the old man's eyes with anxiousness and fear, Mira said to him, "Help me choose. Help me!"

Looking into the old man's eyes with anxiousness and fear, Mira said to him, "Help me choose. Help me!"

CALL TO ACTION

Walking on uncharted waters can be scary, which is why we choose the place of convenience; it's safer and somewhat certain. But safety is not an attribute of faith. In the final part of the story, we will find out what Mira chose to do and how it turned out. But for you, having come this far in Mira's story, what would you do? Will you stay in Egypt or cross the sea? Whatever you decide, remember He promises never to leave or forsake us.

Freedom Church Upcoming Events

BY KYLE GONZALEZ

Kingdom Chronicle Editor-in-Chief

♦08/25/2024: Freedom Summer Bash at Memorial Park. Looking for some wholesome family fun? Join us for food and games for the whole family.



- ♦ 09/28/2024: Jerry Garcia is coming to Freedom Church for a lively Saturday Night Service.
- ♦ 10/09/2024: Richard Harris is coming to Freedom Church for our Saturday Night Service from the front-lines of what God is doing in the political realm.

DC MALL, OCTOBER 12, 2024

A MILLION WOMEN

CALLING A MILLION ESTHERS AND MORDECAIS TO PRAY, FAST, STAND ON THE DAY OF ATONEMENT.

A million Esthers gather on the DC mall, to cry out for the children for death has climbed through our windows. There we take a stand for truth and mercy. There we lift up the blood of Jesus declaring the victory of the cross over the powers. Gather the mothers and the daughters and the Mordecais and sons on the Day of Atonement. A day that must not be missed, who knows if you have come into the kingdom for such a time as this!



REGISTER NOW AND JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Businesses We'd Like To Highlight:



Faithchai.com

Successful 22nd Annual Citywide Cleanup Day in Woodland Park

BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

Woodland Park residents came together on June 29th for the 22nd Annual Citywide Cleanup Day, a community-driven initiative aimed at beautifying our beloved town by picking up trash on major roadsides. Organized by the Keep Woodland Park Beautiful Committee, the event drew in a nice group of volunteers, ranging from local groups to individual community members eager to serve.

The day kicked off bright and early at 8:30 AM at Memorial Park, where volunteers young and old(er) gathered to receive supplies (including donuts) and assignments. It was heartening to see the enthusiasm and commitment of so many individuals willing to dedicate their time to cleaning up our city. At the same time, it was hard to miss that the majority of volunteers were associated with three prominent groups: Freedom Church, Victory Life Church, and Charis Bible College, underscoring their dedication to community service.



Armed with gloves, trash bags, visibility vests, grabbers, and determination, volunteers fanned out across the city, tackling litter and debris in parks, along streets, and in other public areas. Volunteers later returned to Memorial Park, where they were treated to well-deserved refreshments and pizza generously provided by AJ's, Cafe Leo, Java Haus, and Natural Grocers. Here's to many more years of keeping Woodland Park beautiful!

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Businesses We'd Like To Highlight:

Your Success is Our Success Quarataconsulting.com



Coming Up At Your City Council Meeting

BY NICOLE BRAUCHLI

Kingdom Chronicle Staff

The next City Council meeting on July 18th is packed with important topics that have the potential to attract a crowd and probably more than one heated discussion.

Repeal of the 1.09% sales tax for the WP School District

As the culmination of the animosity between the City Council and the Woodland Park School Board, the City Council will finally take a vote on the proposed ordinance that would repeal the 1.09% sales tax the city collects for the benefit of the Woodland Park School District. Although the city and the school board recently agreed and signed a revised IGA regulating the special sales tax, the tensions between the council and the conservative school board have only grown stronger with wild accusations of fraud, indoctrination, and financial mismanagement being thrown around. The sales tax was introduced by the citizens in a large majority vote in 2016. It's repeal would result in a detrimental budget cut for the school district.

Amendment of the Model Traffic Code

According to Chief Deisler at the July Police Community Engagement Forum, the revised 2024 Model Traffic Code merely introduces small changes of procedure that would allow more minor cases to be tried locally at the Municipal Court instead of at the County Courthouse in Cripple Creek. It is expected that the change would only result in a small, manageable increase in case-load in Woodland Park but benefit our local officers who would not have to travel all the way to

Cripple Creek for appearances in these cases.

Regulation of Wireless Communication Facilities – aka 5G Towers

Various citizens and interest groups have appealed to the City Council in the last few months with their concerns regarding the installation of 5G towers in our town and specifically in close proximity to high risk areas such as schools and senior homes. The topic is not new, however, the citizens' concerns have so far fallen on deaf ears as the council-members are specifically advised by the city's attorney that they are not legally allowed to entertain any considerations that contradict the FCC's and FDA's conclusion that 5G towers are safe and do not endanger the public health. In other words, the city is legally prohibited from questioning the safety of 5G towers. For lack of regulation, the city's attorneys have now drafted an ordinance that would regulate the installation of 5G towers in Woodland Park. However, no provision would allow the City Council to consider the citizens' concerns or regulate locations of towers based on such. Council-member Geer even commented on the draft ordinance at its initial posting requesting that the sole provision, that would allow the council to at least request compliance documentation from the respective provider, be deleted from the draft as that was in his words "the FCC's job, not the council's".

All three of these topics are scheduled for public hearing at the upcoming City Council meeting on July 18. Citizens are encouraged to voice their concerns during public comment or email their council-members.

Here Are Some Local, Christian-Owned Businesses We'd Like To Highlight:



Contact Daniel Silva via
Facebook Direct Message to
Place an
Order: https://www.facebook.com/reel/1117226659701115

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Qualityclothing.co

Concerns Arise Over Proposed 5G Tower Relocation

BY ERIC LOCKMAN

Kingdom Chronicle Contributor

In our serene mountain town, discussions have surfaced surrounding the planned relocation of a 5G tower to the city aquatic center near the high school. This has sparked significant concern among residents regarding the potential health implications of RF radiation exposure, particularly for children and those living, working, and studying near the proposed tower.

5G technology operates on two primary frequency ranges known as FR1 (410 MHz to 7125 MHz) and FR2 (24.25 GHz to 71.0 GHz). The tower in question is slated to operate within FR1, with a specified maximum frequency around 3.98 GHz. This places it within the spectrum range commonly used by home Wi-Fi networks (2.4 GHz to 5 GHz), but with considerably higher power outputs.

For context, while a typical home Wi-Fi router emits approximately 0.1 watt of power, one of the nine radios on the proposed 5G tower is capable of emitting up to 480 watts of radiated power. Microwave ovens also operate in the 2.4GHz range, but they take measures to contain the radiation within the appliance. Think about running your microwave in your home with the door open 24 hours a day. The stark contrast in power levels raises concerns among residents about potential health risks associated with long-term exposure to RF radiation.

Informed consent is a critical issue in this discussion. Many members of the general public may not fully understand the technological specifications of the 5G tower or the potential health risks associated with its installation near areas where children frequently congregate. While you can decide to opt out of wireless routers and microwaves in your home, the high powered wireless tower may trespass in your space without your consent, and it does not take into account your risk level. While acute illness from such exposure may be uncommon, my concern lies in the potential for chronic health issues due to the cumulative effects of radiation over time. The EPA states on their website that "Chronic exposure is continuous or intermittent exposure to radiation over a long period of time. With chronic exposure, there is a delay between the exposure and the observed health effect. These effects can include cancer and other health outcomes such as benign tumors, cataracts, and potentially harmful genetic changes." At best, most sites admit that more studies need to be done. I

suggest that you investigate the effects of radiation exposure on your own to form your own conclusions.

The previous city council's approval of the tower was limited by the absence of specific ordinances regulating such installations. In response to community feedback, the current council is in the process of drafting Ordinance 1477 to provide guidelines and protections for future decisions regarding similar projects.

The general public's lack of understanding about what is being installed in our city underscores the importance of community education and engagement. It is crucial that residents are informed and able to voice their concerns to the council in a constructive and respectful manner. The goal is not to cast blame, but to share positions and concerns to move policy in the right direction. Residents are encouraged to participate by emailing city council members and preparing to deliver concise three-minute public comments in the public meeting scheduled for July 18th. This meeting offers a valuable opportunity for community members to express their views and concerns regarding 5G tower installations while the ordinance is being decided on.

Here Is A Local, Christian-Owned Businesses We'd Like To Highlight:



My Free Water Store

200 South Chestnut Street Woodland Park, CO 80863 719-687-8732

Bitcoin, The Digital Mammon?

BY ANDREAS BRAUCHLI

Kingdom Chronicle Contributor

Cryptocurrencies are a groundbreaking digital innovation that have been around since 2009 when Bitcoin was introduced. Over the past decade and a half, the world of cryptocurrencies has exploded in popularity and value. Today, the combined market capitalization of cryptocurrencies is in the trillions of dollars, comparable to a significant portion of the United States' Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which stands at approximately \$23 trillion. Bitcoin currently holds a share of just over 40% among all cryptocurrencies.

These digital assets have garnered praise for their potential to revolutionize finance by providing decentralized, secure, and low-cost transactions. Advocates highlight the transparency and immutability offered by blockchain technology, as well as the financial inclusion of unbanked populations. However, cryptocurrencies also face significant criticism, including extreme price volatility, regulatory uncertainty, security vulnerabilities, and environmental concerns.

The crypo in cryptocurrencies comes from the cryptographic algorithms used to produce the immutable Block Chain, the digital ledger. The Greek word "kryptós" (κρυπτός) means "hidden" or "secret" and is amply used in the New Testament.

How Bitcoin Retains its Value

Bitcoin was originally envisioned to be traded 1:1 with the US Dollar. Little did the early adopters know about it's value when they bought a pizza for a handful of BTC, the current value of a small house. What has always been clear, is that the supply of BTC is finite. By now, 95% of the total supply or just below 20Mio BTCs have been "mined" and the last Bitcoin is expected to be mined in the year 2140.

Mining is the process of finding bitcoins: an energy-intensive task requiring specialized computers. The only way to cheat the Bitcoin Network is to have a majority share of the computing power, which would not only require half the specialized computers but also be able to run them and thus buy and supply over half the energy invested into the Network (about the energy usage of Chile or the Netherlands) at the time of the attack.

To illustrate: Dr. Peter Stoner came to the conclusion that the probability of one person fulfilling a

select eight prophecies by chance alone is around 1 in 10^17 (1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000), not likely by any human means. Now the chances of creating a mathematically valid but illicit Bitcoin transaction to replace a legit transaction is very roughly 2^256. That is even 10^239 (or virtually infinite) times less likely than even Jesus fulfilling eight prophecies by coincidence. Not even the number of estimated atoms (10^69) in our galaxy comes close to that number. Quite astonishing, right?

Back to the topic of value: Although the stock is finite, the value is not tethered to any currency and is thus mainly derived by the global market's supply and demand. Just like with shares, the short-term value can be strongly influenced by major holders of the currency but is much less regulated, as rules surrounding Bitcoin trading are impossible to set outside of an incorporated exchange. A hot topic in itself.

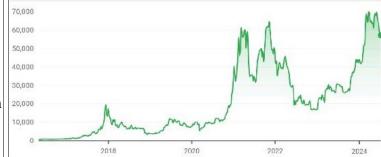


Figure 1: BTC-USD from 2016 to today

Bitcoin and The End Times

Let's fast forward to the tribulation, when according to Rev 13:17, "no one may [legally?] buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." Christians are expected to be excluded from the public economic life. Knowing that no one with internet access can be excluded from the Bitcoin network, it should become apparent that Bitcoin cannot be the actual Mark of the Beast as some have claimed but may actually be the solution by using it in a parallel economy. If there is to be any truth behind the mark and cryptocurrencies, it seems more likely that a similar but centrally controllable technology such as CBDCs (Central Bank Digital Currencies – a current topic of research) will be used.

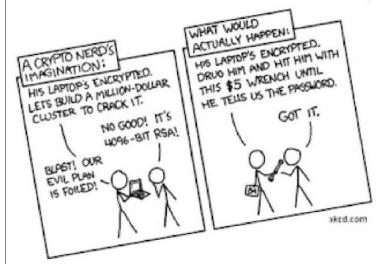
If no one can prevent me from owning a Bitcoin continued on Page 12...

Bitcoin, The Digital Mammon?

BY ANDREAS BRAUCHLI

Kingdom Chronicle Contributor

address ("account") from a technological standpoint, it bids the question whether my Bitcoins could theoretically be confiscated. The answer is slightly more complex: Just like with traditional digital banking, you only have a number of dollars on your account and you trust your bank to be able to produce that money on request when withdrawing. In Bitcoin, you only hold a mathematical proof, hidden behind a typical password, that some fraction of coins in the block chain are yours. By tracing all transactions from the blockchain, a picture can be drawn showing which account holds how many Bitcoins. If you can prove to the network that an address is yours (using that password encrypted proof), you're free to spend the coins as you like. Thus, the only way to take away someone's coins, is to coerce them into giving up their password (see cartoon).



If you lose it, your coins are inaccessible, i.e. gone – sad fact: about 20% of Bitcoins are assumed to have been lost.

Bitcoin's Dark Side

Critics have labeled Bitcoin as The Money of the Dark Web with the intent of associating immoral behavior with the technology – ignoring the fact that before Bitcoin, those same activities were conducted in USD or some other hard currency. The core Bitcoin Network is actually astonishingly transparent [some other cryptocurrencies have stronger privacy guarantees]. On the Bitcoin Network, all transactions are public and once you know a Bitcoin address (comparable to a numbered bank account), it can be traced back all the way to the very first

Transaction. It is therefore really hard to hide large sums in such a transparent network. While Bitcoin has naturally been used for illegal activities, I personally see a lot of potential for tracing organized crime, and dismissing Bitcoin as solely a tool of evil, overlooks its potential for positive impact and innovation in the global financial landscape.

As with any technology, it is important to become reasonably well informed of the risks involved. Here's a quick FAQ:

- Can I retract a transaction I made to a wrong address? No, Bitcoin transactions are irreversible.
 If the account is valid, the recipient can transfer them back at their discretion.
- What happens if I leave my coins at a Bitcoin exchange and the owners run away with the coins? They're most likely gone.
- Is Bitcoin susceptible to fraud or scams? Yes, very much so even do to users' lack of technical understanding. Although Bitcoin has received the unfounded criticism of being a Ponzi scheme, it can certainly be used for such. Other cryptocurrencies are indeed built as Ponzi schemes with varying degrees of transparency like the satirical PonziCoin that did gain some interest.
- Can government regulations affect my Bitcoin holdings? Yes, while Bitcoin operates independently of central banking systems, it is still subject to the laws and regulations of the countries where it is used.
- Can bitcoin ever be broken? Bitcoin is designed by humans and it is very hard to certify that all components used in the system are unbreakable. The human operator will likely always remain the weakest link. However, advances in Quantum Computing have revealed theoretical approaches to an attack yes, as research advances, so does the hardening of the network. There's enough at stake to invest in the protection thereof. If Bitcoin is broken, expect the vast majority of currently used cryptographic measures to secure banks and secure communications to also be broken.

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Bitcoin, The Digital Mammon?

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Biblical Handling

Once Bitcoin is treated as an asset, it becomes clear that all financial advice given in the Bible applies equally: Be a wise steward. Treat it as the Lord's, pay your dues, tithe on its increase and you will reap the proclaimed blessings.

Compared to other established technologies, Bitcoin is a brand-new and disruptive technology, not just to Christians but to regulators, established banks etc. Humans are naturally skeptical of new things they do not understand. How was TV received by the Christian crowd in the 20th century? So, is Bitcoin the digital Mammon? My goal is to give you a base on the understanding necessary to draw your own conclusions as to how it can be used in ways that are wholly compatible with the Bible's teachings.

About the Author

Andreas Brauchli is a software consultant at his company bitcreed. He taught on the topic of Bitcoin at the University of Hawaii in 2014 as part of an Information Security class to Computer Science students.

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Disclaimer: No part of this article is financial advice to invest in Bitcoin or other cryptocurrencies.

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